

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Fifth at state



Photo provided

Jay County High School's Just Treble show choir finished in the top five at the Indiana State School Music Association Small School State Finals for the second consecutive year during Saturday's competition at Franklin Central.

### Just Treble finishes among top five again; Patriot Edition takes eighth in mixed division

For the second year in a row, Just Treble is a top-five show choir in the state.

Patriot Edition was also a state finalist.

In what they hope will become a habit, the Jay County High School show choirs finished their year Saturday at the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) Small School Finals at Franklin Central in Indianapolis.

Just Treble, the school's all-girl group, finished fifth in the women's division. They trailed the champion Starlights of Northridge, runner-up Viking Volume of Huntington North and groups from New Palestine and Pendleton Heights that were tied for third.

It had finished in fourth place last season.

Patriot Edition, Jay County's co-ed show choir, was eighth out of the nine state qualifying groups in the mixed division. It finished ahead of the Jubilaires of Beech Grove while Northern Lights of Northridge won the championship.

The group had finished sixth last season and was also eighth in 2019. (The 2021 and '22 ISSMA state events were



Photo provided

Patriot Edition, Jay County High School's co-ed show choir, placed eighth at Saturday's state finals. In order to qualify for the ISSMA state competition, a group had to have a top-nine score at a sanctioned qualifying event during the season.

called off because of the coronavirus pandemic.)

Saturday's efforts capped strong seasons for both groups, as Just Treble and Patriot Edition both earned championships at East Noble Knight Edition on March 4.

Just Treble was also the runner-up at the Bishop Luers Midwest Show Choir Invitational and the Columbia City Cup while Patriot Edition finished second at the Carroll Classic and Homestead Classic Showcase.

The JCHS indoor percussion ensemble also finished its season in the Indiana Percussion Association state preliminaries at Avon.

It scored 66.875 points for last out of 21 groups in Scholastic A.

## Street project moving forward

### FR plans to reconstruct part of Wiggs, Gwendolyn

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

**FORT RECOVERY** — The village is looking into reconstructing a few streets.

Fort Recovery Village Council gave the OK to move forward with seeking bids for reconstructing portions of Gwendolyn and Wiggs streets.

Village administrator Randy Diller shared updated costs for reconstructing parts of Gwendolyn and Wiggs streets or two blocks of Main Street. The former project is estimated at \$488,767, with the latter at \$322,985. Those estimates include engineering costs and estimated construction costs.

Diller noted that it could be as early as next year until the work is completed. He suggested moving forward with work to reconstruct Gwendolyn Street between Milligan and Wiggs streets and Wiggs Street between Gwendolyn and Wayne streets.

Council agreed to move forward with the process for the reconstruction project.

Also Monday, council agreed to bump the village's health savings account (HSA) contribution for employees by \$500, bringing it to \$3,000. Council members learned the village will be switching to Medical Mutual health insurance in order to avoid rising costs in the current plan with Anthem, brokered by McGohan Brabender out of Dayton, Ohio. Renewal came with a 28% price increase, or annually about \$30,000.

See FR page 2

## 911 bill advances

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Five minutes, 10 minutes, even upwards of 18 minutes — that's how long some Hoosiers said they've recently waited on hold before getting through to a 911 operator. Now, state lawmakers are taking action.

A bill authored by Sen. Jack Sandlin, R-Indianapolis, would remove residency requirements for 911 operators across the state. Sandlin said the bill should help increase the number of employed operators at a time when 911 centers are "very" in need.

The proposal advanced unanimously Monday from the House public safety committee and now heads to the full chamber.

"Because of the competitive nature that we're in today for 911 employees and public safety

### Legislation aims to increase staffing

employees, this would help by allowing them to apply across boundaries and would prohibit an entity from establishing a residency requirement," Sandlin said.

The rule change mirrors a similar bill turned-law in the 2021 legislative session that nixed the residency requirements for police officers and firefighters.

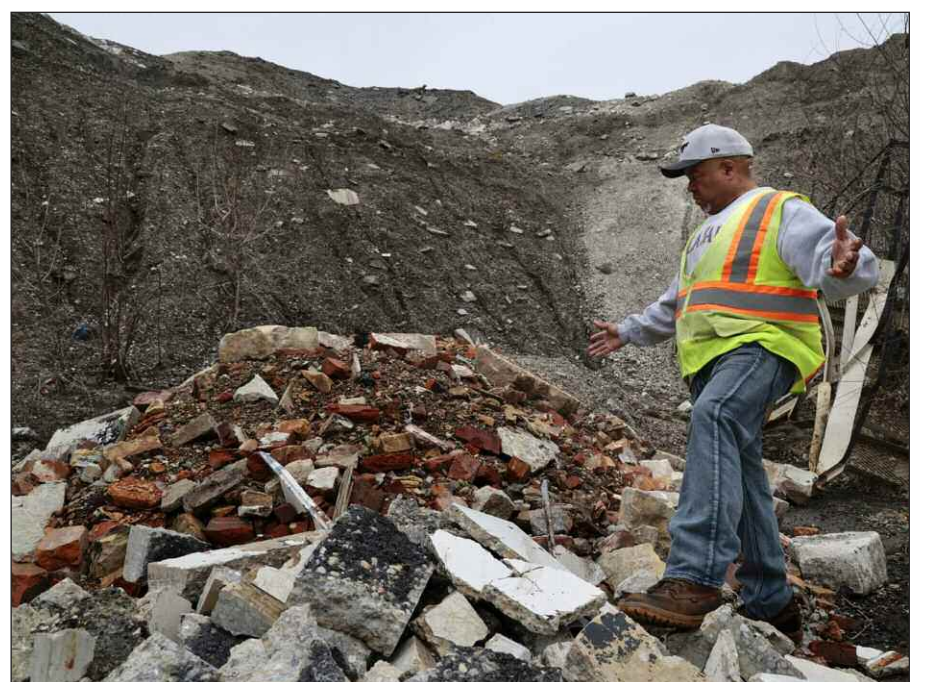
Existing residency requirements in Marion County, for example, stipulate that 911 dispatchers must live in the county in order to work there, unless they accept a waiver.

In committee, Sandlin said it's already "difficult" to maintain personnel in all areas of public safety — including at dispatch centers. He noted that staffing shortages continue to plague local law enforcement and emergency operators in Marion County, especially, leading to long 911 wait times.

If passed, the senator said he hopes the change will help with retention.

Sandlin also pointed to recent concerns expressed by Beech Grove Mayor Dennis Buckley.

See 911 page 2



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Antonio Perez

### Pursuing plans

Bob Isreal walks on a mound of debris Thursday along Normal Boulevard near 57th Street in Chicago. Norfolk Southern has been pursuing its \$150 million plan to double the size of its intermodal freight yard at 47th Street and the Dan Ryan.

#### Deaths

Larry VanSkyock, 84,  
Portland  
Jerry Wilson, 83,  
Ridgeville  
Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 50 degrees Monday. The low was 27.

Tonight's low will be 41 with rain expected. More rain is possible Wednesday with a high of 55 and winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Rain is in the forecast through Saturday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Jay County Public Library will continue its week of spring break activities with a cupcake decorating and judging contest from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Wednesday. Children in third through sixth grade are invited to decorate cupcakes and vote on the winning cupcakes. The cupcake designer with the most votes in each round gets a prize.

#### Coming up

Wednesday — Portland woman is celebrating her 100th birthday.

Friday — Our Fort Recovery High School spring sports special section.





# Obituaries

## Larry VanSkyock

Sept. 13, 1938-March 18, 2023  
Larry VanSkyock, age 84, of Portland passed away on Saturday, March 18, 2023, at his residence.

He was born in Portland on Sept. 13, 1938, the son of Norval and Ruth (Bush) VanSkyock. He was married March 3, 1973, to Judith Lewis who survives.



Larry was a 1956 Portland High School graduate and member of Fellowship Baptist Church. He worked for Naas Foods after graduation. He later started carpentry work and just had his 50th year as L. VanSkyock and Sons as his sons joined him after graduation.

Larry is survived by his wife of 50 years, Judy; two sons,

Andy Vanskyock (wife: Jenni) of Portland and Laramie Vanskyock (wife: Brandy) of Portland; five daughters, Kim Vanskyock (wife: Cathy) of Kokomo, Monna Vanskyock (wife: Sheila) of Selma, Lonna Vanskyock of Muncie, Becky Wellman (husband: Rick) of Selma and Alisa Blount of Portland; one sister, Jean Laughman (husband: Ed) of Winchester; eight grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by brothers Dick and Jerry Vanskyock; and sister Beverly Weaver.

Funeral services will be Thursday, March 23, 2023, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Hugh Kelly presiding. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation will be Thursday from noon to 2 p.m.

Memorials can be made to Fellowship Baptist Church.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

## Jerry Lowrance

Aug. 2, 1939-March 17, 2023  
Jerry Wilson Lowrance, 83, of Ridgeville, passed away Friday, March 17, 2023, at Randolph Nursing Home in Winchester surrounded by family.



Jerry was born Aug. 2, 1939, in Lynn Garden, Tennessee, to George and Floy Mildred Hunt. He married Waynetta (Rita) Goodhew on July 12, 1975. She preceded him in death on April 13, 2017.

Jerry worked at Sheller Globe Union City for 27 years and retired from Sterling Casting, Bluffton. He was a member of Sons of American Legion Post 507, Ridgeville.

Jerry enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and listening to the Gaither's Band, as well as other southern gospel music.

Jerry is survived by three sons, Dallas Lowrance (wife: Kyong) of Pearl City, Hawaii, J.R. Acker (wife: Charmin) of Fort Wayne and Jerry S. Lowrance of Portland; brothers Frank Lowrance (wife: Carolyn) of Winchester and George W. Hunt (wife: Angie) of Beaumont, Texas; sisters Pat Tillson (husband: Darrell) of Union City, Betty Owens, Wyoming and Ann Bowers (husband: James) of Houston; aunt Hilda Bracey; sister-in-law Carolyn Lowrance of Fall Branch, Tennessee; grandchildren April Acker, Vicki Lowrance, Mikki Lowrance, Gabriella Lowrance and Grant Lowrance; and great-grandchild Braxton Bieck.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death

by a daughter, Kathleen Leverette; brothers Gordon Lowrance and Tom Lowrance; and a granddaughter, Cassondra Lowrance.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at MJS Mortuaries, Ridgeville. Calling will be two hours prior to the funeral from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Burial will follow in Lawndale Cemetery in Ridgeville.

Arrangements have been entrusted to MJS Mortuaries - Ridgeville Chapel.

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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

Wednesday 3/22	Thursday 3/23	Friday 3/24	Saturday 3/25	Sunday 3/26
<b>55/51</b>	<b>63/40</b>	<b>47/37</b>	<b>49/33</b>	<b>56/43</b>
Cloudy, with a chance of rain in the morning and afternoon. Wind gusts may hit 25 mph.	There's an 80% chance of showers with a possible thunderstorm in the forecast for Thursday.	More rain is on the horizon for Friday with a 60% chance of showers or a thunderstorm.	A slight chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high of 49 degrees.	Sunday's weather looks to be mostly sunny with a 60% chance of rain at night.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 1-27-32-47-67 Powerball: 14 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$96 million	21-28-32-38-39-46-48-52-54-56-57-59-68-74-78-80 Cash 5: 3-9-15-30-31 Estimated jackpot: \$90,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$272 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 3-2-7 Pick 4: 9-7-0-2 Pick 5: 4-7-3-5-8 Evening Pick 3: 5-4-8 Pick 4: 8-8-5-3 Pick 5: 1-0-8-4-7 Rolling Cash 5: 1-7-26-28-30 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000 Classic Lotto: 2-7-23-27-37-45 Kicker: 5-5-6-6-2-6 Jackpot: \$6.8 million
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 6-9-2 Daily Four: 5-1-4-5 Quick Draw: 2-4-9-12-14-15-17-20-22-24-35-47-55-56-60-66-69-73-75-77 Evening Daily Three: 3-3-5 Daily Four: 5-8-1-4 Quick Draw: 1-7-8-12-	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.43 April corn.....6.43 Wheat.....6.25	Wheat.....6.35 July wheat.....6.78
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.49 April corn.....6.51 May corn.....6.53	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.31 May corn.....6.35 Beans.....14.83 April beans.....14.85 Wheat.....6.78
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.33 April corn.....6.33 Beans.....14.78 April beans.....14.78	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.13 April corn.....6.13 Beans.....14.68 April beans.....14.68 Wheat.....6.39

## Today in history

In 1928, Fred Rogers, better known as Mister Rogers, was born in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. He hosted the educational children's show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" for about 33 years.

In 2013, the Allen County Athletic Conference voted to invite Jay County High School to become its ninth member. JCHS had been independent since the Olympic Athletic Conference folded at the close of the 2009-10 school year.

The school had been invited a month earlier to join the North Central Conference.

In 2022, a group of Portland residents visited a city council meeting to express concern about a proposed Indiana Department of Transportation project in downtown Portland. INDOT had proposed a variety of changes, including reducing lanes. Most of those changes have since been removed from the project.

—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Wednesday</b> 4:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.	Service Center, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
<b>Monday</b> 6 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA	9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

# President signs Braun's bill

By DAN CARDEN

The Times (Munster)  
Tribune News Service

President Joe Biden has signed into law a measure sponsored by an Indiana senator requiring the declassification of data and records on the origins of the 2019 coronavirus disease, also known as COVID-19.

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Indiana, led the effort to direct U.S. intelligence agencies to publicly release what they know about how the COVID-19 pandemic began.

Braun repeatedly has claimed the virus started infecting humans following a "lab leak" in China, where Braun contends researchers were

conducting experiments involving coronaviruses, possibly on behalf of China's People's Liberation Army.

The new law specifically mandates release of all information relating to potential links between the Wuhan Institute of Virology and COVID-19, including details on the health status of individual researchers in late 2019.

# FR ...

Continued from page 1  
Medical Mutual will cost the village around the same it is currently paying at about \$7,800 per month.

Council agreed to bump the HSA contribution in order to match the new \$3,000/\$6,000 — \$3,000 for individuals and \$6,000 for families — deductible plan. (Previously employees had a \$2,500/\$5,000 deductible plan.)

In other business, council members Greg

Schmitz, Scott Pearson, Al Post, Erik Fiely and Luke Knapke, absent Cliff Wendel:

•OK'd closing a portion of Wayne Street from 1 p.m. to midnight June 14 for the Taste of Recovery, an event that offers beer and wine samplings as well as food trucks and free entertainment.

•Discussed the village's wastewater lagoons, with Diller pointing out the change in temperature in

coming months will be a determining factor as to whether or not the product from Kainos Ag is effective at removing sludge and maintaining low levels of hydrogen sulfide and other contaminants. Although the company has been working for the village since last year, it has not been paid yet for its work. (The contract states Kainos Ag will be paid for sludge removal, Diller explained, and the compa-

ny has not yet documented that it has removed a significant amount of sludge.)

•Learned a ribbon-cutting for Fort Recovery High School's new baseball and softball complex is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. March 31, with both baseball and softball games set to follow.

•Heard the village's new asset management system for its utilities will be operational by sometime this week.

# Felony arrests

### Obstruction

A Portland man was arrested Monday for obstruction of justice. Nathan M. Ross, 40, 702 S. Western Ave., is charged in Jay Circuit Court with a Level 6 felony for obstruction of justice. He was also booked into Jay County Jail for violating his bond on a case in

which he is charged with child molestation, a Level 1 felony.

He's being held without bond in jail.

### Drunk driving

An Albany man was arrested Monday for drunk driving. John M. Vest, 52, 1932 E. Cardi-

nal Drive, was charged Friday in Jay Superior Court with operating a vehicle while intoxicated and operating a vehicle with a blood alcohol level of 0.15% or more, both Level 6 felonies dating back to November.

Vest is being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

# 911 ...

Continued from page 1  
In a WISH TV interview, the Democratic mayor referenced 13 callers to 911 over the weekend who were put on hold for "over 18 minutes."

The National Emergency Number Association has established the national standard that 90% of all 911 calls be answered within 15 seconds and 95% answered within 20 seconds.

Michael Hubbs, Hamilton County 911 director

and former head of the Marion County 911 communication center, said roughly 1.2 million calls are made to emergency dispatchers in Marion County each year. Sometimes, one incident can result in 10 or 15 calls, making it easy for call operators to get overwhelmed, he said.

Hubbs held that Sandler's bill will help.

"This is a definite need ... we have to have people in those seats to do the

job," he told the House committee Monday. "The public safety spoke or hub starts at a 911 center. So, the bottom line is a police officer, an EMT, a firefighter — they don't respond unless we have those calls answered."

If enacted, the bill would take effect July 1.

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

# Capsule Reports

### Hosting session

Dunkirk Police Department and Dunkirk Neighborhood Crime Watch will partner to host a program on identity theft and scams at 6:30 p.m. April 18 at West Jay Community Center.

The program will include tips on protecting from identity theft, education regarding scam trends and information regarding how to recognize identity theft and scams. The event is free and open to the public.

## New Program by JCSWMD

# Paper Shredding Service

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## SERVICES

### Wednesday

**Baxter**, Nelson: 11 a.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St., Portland.

### Thursday

**Lowrance**, Jerry: 1 p.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 N. Walnut St., Ridgeville.

**VanSkyock**, Larry: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

### May 13

**Warrick**, Clarice: 11 a.m., West Richmond Friends Meeting, 609 W. Main St., Richmond.

Service listings provided by

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# New energy comes with spring

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

According to the calendar, winter is officially over. It is springtime.

Winter went out like the proverbial lion at our house. Last week we had three different people, a plumber, a repair person and a computer guy out to fix various problems. We are hoping that is the last of that for a good long while.

Now that it is officially spring we are anxious to get outside and play. As always, there is a ton of trash that the bushes have collected over the past few months. All the wind we have had lately has torn branches and

## As I See It



twigs from the trees and distributed them all over the place. They all need to be picked up before the lawn gets mowed for the first time this season.

The snowdrops are still in bloom. Usually they come up early and disappear in a week or so. This year they have held onto their nodding blossoms for a month. The little flowers that bloom early are currently shivering

and have their petals tightly closed in wait for warmer weather. The pussy willow's catkins sparkle in the sunlight whenever the sun peeks out from the snow clouds that hover up above.

The dead clematis that my neighbor gave me is still blooming and all of the indoor plants are anxious to get some real sun on their leaves instead of the filtered light they get while they are indoors. It is still too early for them to go outside for the summer.

Spring comes with a burst of energy and a determination to finally complete various projects that have been start-

ed but never finished. The warmer weather inspires us to clean all the nooks and crannies that were neglected over the last few months.

The return of warmer days and sunshine are more effective than any other medicine in giving us a burst of energy and a more pleasant outlook on life.

Our middle grandson, Jacob, just turned 14. I find that hard to believe. How is it possible that 14 years have passed since we first saw him? I look closely at his picture and am surprised to see the beginning of a mustache. Our little grandson is growing up fast. It seems

like yesterday that he and I were hiding from monsters while huddling in an empty refrigerator box.

It seems like yesterday that he was mad at me because I wouldn't stick my hand into a dark tree stump to get the frog he knew was inside it. He doesn't remember that and says he forgives me.

Sometimes I wonder how time can be so flexible. One minute we are impatient with time going so slowly and the next minute we have a grandson capable of growing his first mustache.

Springtime brings many changes. It is not

just because it isn't as cold as it has been. The air itself changes. The early flowers spread their perfume in hopes of attracting a pollinator or two. The world smells sweeter in the spring. The birds also are different from the ones that brave the winter. We wake to the tune of the doves calling. We watch for the hawk that comes for a fresh meal every once in a while.

Winter may be officially over but it will take another month or so before the warm weather returns for good.

In the meantime there are chores calling my name.

# Partner worried about family drama

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend of two years and I just bought our first house. It is truly magical — everything we've ever wanted. We plan to live together for another two years before getting engaged or married.

My parents and his parents have met only once. We'll be having our housewarming party soon and I am SO nervous! His family has a drama problem and so does mine. His sisters and father don't get along with his mother due to problems that happened years ago. There are a few sticky situations on my side as well.

I want my boyfriend to be able to invite his mother, but if we do, half of his family won't show up. And I'm super nervous about the rest of his family meeting mine. Our family members hold grudges. What should we do? — NERVOUS IN INDIANA

DEAR NERVOUS: You are not responsible for the behavior of your extended family members. Accept that you can't please everyone in

## Dear Abby



a family that clings to grudges. Invite whom you wish to your housewarming. If some folks choose to leave or skip the event, that's their choice and their loss. In your home, you should entertain whomever you want.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a medical student. I don't have kids or a family of my own yet, but I'd like it to happen one day. When I have kids of my own, I intend to push them to be the very best in whatever they want to do. I will ingrain in them "tough love" and demand excellence from them.

My classmates, friends and I grew up similarly. We did well enough in high school to get into a good college and have

successful lives after that. My friends and I did all the same things in college we did in high school. We joined clubs, volunteered, took leadership roles, earned good grades and got good recommendation letters in order to outcompete our peers and get where we wanted to go.

When I have kids, I want them to emulate what I did, achieve the same way academically and succeed. Am I wrong? I know it will be challenging to raise kids to outcompete their peers for things they want to do or are passionate about. I know I won't have complete control over them because they are human beings and not robots. Maybe I won't have kids at all. I'm not sure yet. Any thoughts? — EYE ON FUTURE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR EYE: There may be some variables you aren't taking into consideration. If and when you finally meet someone and embark upon starting a family, you will find it to be a joint effort. You cannot dictate someone else's parenting style.

Also, children do not all learn in the same way. Some thrive by being pushed by a demanding parent. Others rebel or wilt. It's fine to use your own upbringing as a model, but allow some flexibility because, as you stated, children are not robots. Remember that.

DEAR ABBY: I have two daughters, ages 29 and 24. Both are married and on their own. Recently, there was an issue between them. I always try to remain neutral in these situations because I love my girls equally.

The older one is hurt and angry and has every right to feel that way. She doesn't want to even look at her sister at this point, and I completely understand.

(By the way, this has nothing to do with a man; both are happily married.) The younger one is embarrassed and ashamed and doesn't want to face her sister right now. Again, I understand.

On holidays and special occasions, I always cook a huge meal, and the girls come to my house. How do I handle this? I refuse to cook separate dinners or choose which one I eat my meal with. — CHALLENGED MOM IN TENNESSEE

DEAR MOM: Tell your younger daughter that regardless of her "embarrassment," it's time to offer her sister a sincere apology. Then explain that you have no intention of having holidays and special occasions ruined because of what she did and you want things patched up before those events start happening. Period. After that, proceed as usual and let the girls work things out between themselves.

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

# Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as space is available. To submit an item, email [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com).

## Today

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

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

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the

third Tuesday of each month at the library.

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONY-

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

## Wednesday

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

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

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

EUCHRE CLUB — Will meet at 2 p.m. the fourth Wednesday of each month at Chalet Village Health and Rehabilitation in the North Lounge.

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

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

## 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.

# Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

## Saturday's Solution

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

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

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# SVB failure adds to greedy image

The Mercury News  
Tribune News Service

Day by day, month by month, year by year, greed is ruining the tech industry's image.

This time it was tech's response to the failure of its primary financial institution, Silicon Valley Bank. When it comes to privacy, child internet protections, curbing misinformation or, now, protecting our banking system, tech companies repeatedly put profit before the public good.

The federal government bailed out tech this time, but the public's patience with the industry is running thin, threatening its future.

Silicon Valley Bank was a

## Guest Editorial

niche institution catering to financing for the tech industry. Two weeks before its collapse, the bank's CEO, Greg Becker, reportedly sold \$3.6 million in company shares. That's right. Becker apparently made sure he got his money knowing the potential that others could be caught holding the bag.

It was Becker who helped bring about the crisis. In 2015, he

pleaded with Congress to weaken the Dodd-Frank Act regulations, created after the 2007-08 financial meltdown, that were specifically designed to stave off a bank run as we witnessed last week.

Becker called the regulations "regulatory scope creep." He whined about the hours of staff time it took to comply with them, saying they would stifle SVB's ability to provide credit to its technology clients "without any meaningful corresponding reduction in risk."

Don't blame the Bay Area congressional delegation for SVB's ensuing collapse. No Bay Area senator or representative voted for a bill to weaken the regula-

tions. But enough Democrats elsewhere joined with Republicans to pass it, and President Donald Trump signed it into law in 2018.

Silicon Valley Bank's failure threatened disaster for its 40,000 customers because most had deposits of more than the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's insured limit of \$250,000.

The vast majority of SVB's customers are tech companies that generally take pride in their libertarian approach to government. They resist government efforts to protect consumer privacy, shield children from data collection and hold internet companies accountable for what's posted on their websites.

But there they were last week-end begging the federal government for a bailout to protect their assets and using social media to successfully fuel fears of a full-blown national banking crisis if they didn't get their way.

To be sure, Silicon Valley Bank's failure was a major threat to the tech industry, which relies on funding for thousands of innovative startups. That's one of the reasons why the federal government bailed out Silicon Valley Bank's customers this time. But there might not be a next time if tech industry leaders fail to find the proper balance between profits and the public good.

## Fearmongering diverts attention

By NAOMI ISHISAKA  
The Seattle Times  
Tribune News Service

Over the past few months, the level of manufactured outrage over kids at drag shows and teaching about gender in schools seems to have reached a fever pitch.

Across the country, bills are being pushed to restrict drag performances in the presence of children and limit in-school discussions about gender and sexual orientation, all under the guise of protecting our next generation.

The whipped-up fear-mongering has been good for conservative media and politicians. But it has been terrifying for trans and gender diverse people and has kept eyes off the very real ways that actual gender oppression persists.

March 8 was International Women's Day, an opportunity to celebrate women's achievements and reflect on where we should actually be focusing our attention.

If people are really worried about our children's future, they should care that half our children can expect to earn less based on their gender. The gender pay gap is real, and, according to Pew, has remained virtually static for decades. In 2022, women overall earned 82% of what men earned, a tiny improvement from 80% in 2002.

For Black, Native and Latina women, the picture is even bleaker.

According to jobs platform Idealist, Black women earn 58 cents on the dollar compared with white, non-Hispanic men. Latinas earn 4 cents less than that and Native women, 51 cents. That means it won't be until Nov. 30, 2023, that Native women will earn as much as a white man made the previous year, a measurement known as Equal Pay Day. And according to the Human Rights Campaign, trans men overall earn only 70 cents on the dollar and trans women 60 cents, compared to the average worker.

If we really cared about protecting our children, we would ensure their ability to control their own reproductive future. Access to abortion is an economic issue as well as a human rights issue. A study set to publish this year in the Indiana Law Journal found women of childbearing age saw their wages fall 5% when abortions were restricted in their states, as they stop working or take lower-paying jobs, according to Axios.

It's easy to feel like the

Naomi Ishisaka



wave of abortion bans in states like Texas doesn't affect us in Seattle, where abortion rights are protected and measures to protect abortion providers from out-of-state investigations are moving through the state legislature. But as my colleague Nina Shapiro wrote last month, an increasing number of patients seeking abortion care are coming to Washington, many from Texas, where performing an abortion is now a felony punishable by up to life in prison.

And zooming out, the picture is even more concerning. Last week, U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres said gender equality worldwide is now 300 years away and "vanishing before our eyes."

He cited women and girls being "erased from public life" in Afghanistan after the resurgence of the Taliban, as well as the rollback of sexual and reproductive rights around the globe.

Women are fighting back worldwide, but at a terrible cost. In Iran, protesters are fighting against the theocracy and restrictions on their human rights. The Iranian government acknowledged in November more than 300 people had been killed in protests. Activist groups say the number is much higher and many thousands have been detained. In the Seattle area, Iranian Americans have been protesting for "Woman, Life, Freedom" in solidarity for months, nearly weekly.

In order to shorten that horrifying 300-year prediction, we have to keep our eyes on the ball and — even though it's complex and challenging — keep fighting for a world that doesn't raise arbitrary barriers based on gender or identity.

Having a story read to a child by a person in drag will not affect that child's ability to fulfill their potential. We should forcefully reject that implication.

We can make progress on the many things holding women, girls and gender diverse people back in the U.S. and around the world, but only if we stop focusing on faux threats and start focusing on real problems.



## BMV is exploiting Hoosiers

By LEO MORRIS  
Indiana Policy Review  
HSPA Infonet

It is time to announce the winner of the prestigious and soon-to-be coveted Reno Prize, which, starting this year, will be awarded to honor the most creative theft from citizens by their government.

It should have been an easy choice, since the Indiana General Assembly is in full swing. As the saying goes, "No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session."

But lawmakers have let us down, conducting a humdrum session filled mostly with business as usual.

A budget that will spend much more than the last one, with the usual padding for fraud, abuse and incompetence built in. Billions held in reserve instead of being returned to the taxpayers it was taken from. Backroom deals with well-heeled lobbyists that will benefit small groups of Hoosiers at the expense of the overall citizenry.

Theft, certainly, legal if sometimes sneaky and often audacious, but nothing truly unusual. Nothing creative enough to merit the Reno Prize.

So we must turn to the executive branch, in whose many divisions faceless and nameless bureaucrats work tirelessly without the harsh glare of scrutiny to demonstrate that "public service" means showing the pesky public just who's boss. They know what they can get away with, and they can cite chapter and verse of the state laws allowing them to do it.

And so we have a winner. The first annual Reno Prize goes to ... imagine drumroll here ... The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

According to an investigation by WRTV of Indianapolis, the BMV makes millions by selling Hoosiers' personal information, and it is not

Leo Morris



required by law to tell us they are doing it. In a practice that's been going on for years, the bureau offers up information to the highest bidders for our birth dates, addresses and past addresses, odometer readings, what kinds of cars we drive and even our license plate numbers.

In the last 10 years, the bureau has realized nearly \$240 million from the sales, and in 2022 alone it made \$25 million.

People who can buy the information include lawyers, bail bondsmen, private investigators, insurance agents and debt collection agencies. There are supposed to be restrictions on how the information is used — third-party marketers aren't supposed to use it to directly solicit us, for example. But we all know that once our information is out there, it is out there forever.

So the BMV is exploiting the state's citizens by joining in the theft of their precious privacy, so fragile in the digital age. And it is profiting from giving out those citizens' information, which can then be used against them in myriad ways.

Truly breathtaking, eminently worthy of recognition.

If you are thinking about Googling more information about the Reno Prize, by the way, don't bother. I made it up.

It pays tribute to the Reno brothers, a hardy band of innovators from Rockford, in southern Indiana's Jackson County, whose band of robbers terrorized the Midwest shortly

after the Civil War by perfecting the concept of train robbery.

There were train robberies before the Renos, of course, but the crooks were stupid about it. Not as stupid as what you might have seen in old Westerns in which the scoundrels chased down the train on horseback, but thoughtless nonetheless.

Before the Renos, robbers did their deeds while the trains were idling at their stations. This soon became problematic, what with all the people, including law enforcement representatives, milling about.

The Reno brothers' brilliant twist was to buy tickets and ride on the trains until they got to the middle of nowhere, which trains tend to do, then go quickly about their nefarious business with no pushy interventions by the law. The simple elegance of their plan quickly caught on and was emulated by train robbers across the country.

What an inspired modification it was. Riding the train as ordinary passengers, looking just like all the other ordinary passengers until it was time to strike. Not unlike today's government workers, who look just like the rest of us until — well, you get the idea.

Alas, criminals who repeat the same patterns often get caught. Aided by Pinkerton agents hired by the railroads, authorities kept arresting members of the Reno brothers' gang. But outraged mobs kept taking them away from authorities and hanging them from the nearest tree, 10 of them in three separate incidents, all in 1868. True genius is seldom appreciated in its own time.

A sad fact that it is hoped the Reno Prize will help us avoid in this time.

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VOLUME 149-NUMBER 231  
TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 21, 2023

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Scott Olson

Former President Donald Trump arrives for an event at the Adler Theatre on March 13 in Davenport, Iowa. Trump is facing a possible criminal indictment in New York in connection with a grand jury investigation regarding Trump's hush money deal with a porn star.

## Possible charges

By **MOLLY CRANE-NEWMAN**

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — A criminal indictment against Donald Trump could drop in the Manhattan district attorney's criminal investigation into the former president's hush money deal with a porn star — after the panel hears from who is likely the final witness.

The grand jury was scheduled to hear testimony from Bob Costello Monday afternoon — a veteran New York City defense lawyer who's represented former Mayor Rudy Giuliani and right-wing strategist Steve Bannon. He's appearing as a witness for Trump, a source with direct knowledge who asked to remain anonymous told the New York Daily News.

Costello is expected to offer testimony intended to undermine Michael Cohen's credibility. Trump's former fixer and now foe, who testified before the grand jury twice last week, on Sunday said during an MSNBC appearance that he had been called back to meet with DA investigators. He expects to rebut Costello's testimony.

Trump last week declined to testi-

fy before the grand jury, The News reported. Prosecutors commonly extend such an invitation in the final stages of a probe.

Once the DA has finished calling witnesses, the grand jury, which has been hearing evidence since January, will be tasked with deciding whether or not to return an indictment. Depending on the pace of proceedings, the vote could happen Monday or when the panel returns on Wednesday. One source involved in the case said they did not think it would come on Monday.

No charges have been filed against Trump. But local and federal authorities were preparing Monday for possible unrest at the lower Manhattan courthouses should there be an indictment after Trump called for

his supporters to "protest" his arrest.

Costello acted as a legal adviser to Cohen in 2018 before their relationship soured. Their communications were outlined in special counsel Robert Mueller's report into Russia's attack on the 2016 election. The report said Costello began advising Cohen after the FBI raided his office and hotel room in 2018.

As Trump tweeted that he was confident his fixer wouldn't flip on him, Costello emailed Cohen words of comfort, saying he had a "Very Very Positive" conversation with Giuliani.

"You are 'loved,'" Costello wrote in an email to Cohen, according to the Mueller report. "They are in our corner. ... Sleep well tonight, you have friends in high places."

### Grand jury heard testimony from Trump lawyer Monday

## Xi hails ties with Russia

Bloomberg News  
Tribune News Service

Chinese President Xi Jinping touted close ties with Russia on the second day of his state visit to Moscow Tuesday, inviting Vladimir Putin to make a return visit later this year.

"It fits the historical logic that Chinese leaders take Russia as a primary choice for their overseas visits, Xi said, adding that China and Russia are each other's biggest neighbor and comprehensive strategic partner," the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Russia's invasion of Ukraine was a major topic for the leaders in more than four hours of talks Monday, according to both sides, with Putin saying before the meeting that he's ready to discuss China's initiative for ending the war. Putin welcomed Xi to the Kremlin Tuesday afternoon for

more discussions. Russian state television showed the two men walking the long red carpets of the Kremlin to shake hands before joining their delegations.

The U.S. and its allies have rejected China's proposals as biased toward Russia, and Ukraine has been cool, as well. Xi is expected to speak to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for the first time since the February 2022 invasion after his Russia visit.

Xi's three-day visit, his first trip abroad since claiming a third term earlier this month, sends a strong signal of support for Putin amid efforts by the U.S. and its allies to isolate the Russian president over his invasion. Russia has become increasingly dependent on China for trade with other markets cut off, but there were few indications that this visit would bring new deals.

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Anyone can nominate a teacher. The award is open to anyone who:

- Teaches at a school in our coverage area
- Is a teacher who lives in our coverage area
- Is a teacher who previously lived in our coverage area



**The deadline is March 31.**

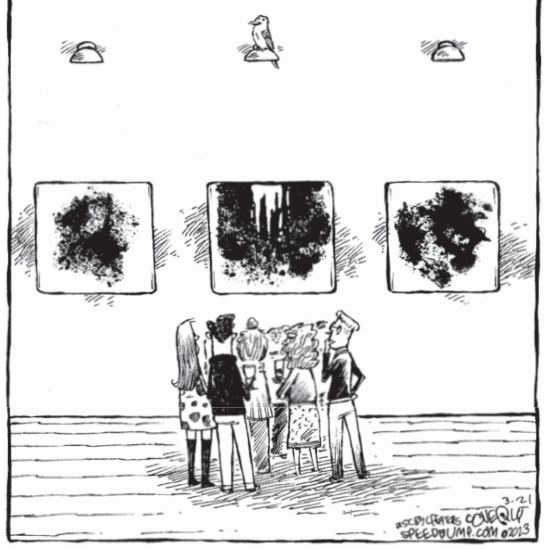
To nominate, send us a letter that includes your name, the name of the teacher being nominated, their school, the grade(s) and subject(s) they teach and your reasons for nominating them.

You can send it to [news@thecr.com](mailto:news@thecr.com) (preferred) or The Commercial Review, Teacher of the Year nomination, P.O. Box 1049, Portland, IN 47371





SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Substitute cartoonist for Daddy is seven-year-old Billy.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Keep your eye on the ball
South dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH: K 10 4, 9 8 7 2, 9 4, A 9 6 3. WEST: 5, A K Q 10 3, K J 10 2, J 4 2. EAST: 8 7 6 2, 6 4, 7 5 3, Q 10 8 5. SOUTH: A Q J 9 3, J 5, A Q 8 6, K 7. The bidding: South 1, West 2, North 2, East Pass. Opening lead - king of hearts. Many mistakes in declarer play can be traced to a failure by declarer to count his winners or losers at the start of play. South was guilty of that omission in this deal, and it cost him his contract. West led the K-A-Q of hearts, declarer ruffing the third round as East discarded a diamond. South led a club to dummy's ace and finessed the queen of diamonds, losing to the king. West returned the ten of hearts, on which East shed his last diamond. South was now in serious trouble. When he played the ace of diamonds, planning next to trump his two diamond losers in dummy, East ruffed, and that was that - down one. When the play is examined, it can be seen that the diamond finesse was totally unnecessary. True, it might have gained declarer an over-trick if East held the king, but South should have been far more concerned with making four spades than five. After West's third heart lead, South could count five trump tricks plus the ace of diamonds and A-K of clubs. Therefore, all he needed to do to assure the contract was to ruff two diamonds in dummy. The K-10 of trump guaranteed that East could not overruff dummy at any point, so the diamond finesse constituted an unnecessary risk. South should simply have cashed the ace of diamonds at trick four, then played another diamond to pave the way for two subsequent diamond ruffs. Had he done this, he would have finished with 10 tricks. It pays to count your tricks and/or losers at the outset before beginning to play. If you do, you are much less likely to stray from the straight and narrow.

Tomorrow: Keep your eye on the ball ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc.

CRYPTOQUIP

L Z Y S Q H Q E X B V X V Q
WBSAQNHBHBCG UZLLXVF YZHZNBVA
DBH DBCH WZBWSZ: "UXET
ETXG HXVF X ETHZZ UZL."

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN ARTIST SALVADOR WANTED TO CONVERSE WITH PEOPLE, DID HE PLACE CALLS ON THE DALL-PHONE? Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS: 1 Grade school basics, 5 Domino spot, 8 Beagle's bane, 12 Unspoken feeling, 13 Top card, 14 Campus mil. group, 15 Furniture brand, 16 Martini ingredient, 18 Dutch painter Jan, 20 Ill-deserved, 21 Early hrs., 22 Morsel, 23 Sunrises, 26 Rendering, 30 Perón of Argentina, 31 Succor letters, 33 Porch, 36 Destined, 38 Old Olds, 39 Sinbad's bird. DOWN: 40 Wedding setting, 43 Hitchcock thriller, 47 Taboo, 49 "The Lion King", 50 And others (Lat.), 51 Hollywood's mil. group, 52 Actor Epps, 53 Deal (with), 54 Nev. neighbor, 55 Bank-rolls, 22 Garden area, 23 "Lion" star Patel, 24 "Hail!", 25 Series of battles, 26 Itinerary word, 27 Follower (Suff.), 28 Vein yield, 29 Auction signal, 8 Facades, 9 Sten-torian, 10 Words to Brutus, 11 Dull pain, 17 Naturalist John, 19 Type measures, 40 Opposite of "sans", 41 Actor Jared, 42 Snare, 43 Sacred Hindu text, 44 "— Rock", 45 Pleased, 46 Rowboat needs, 48 Spasm.

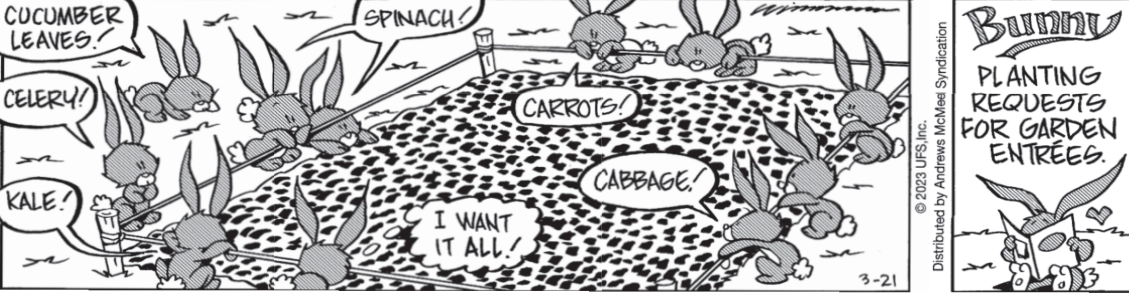
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TORT FEZ STYE
ALOU URI PROG
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Grid for crossword puzzle with numbers 1-55.

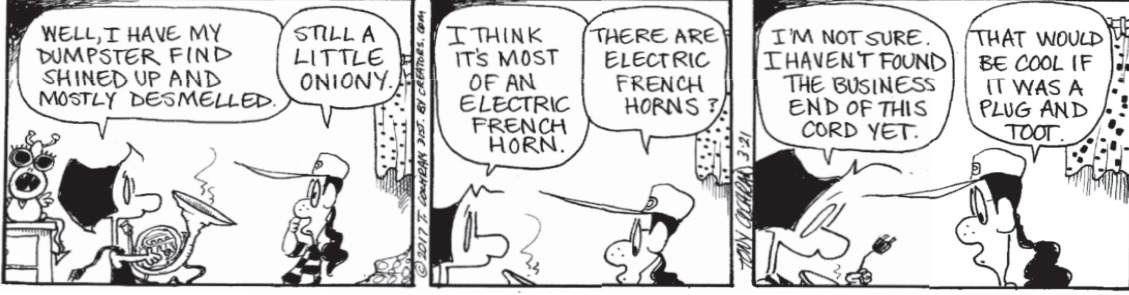
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



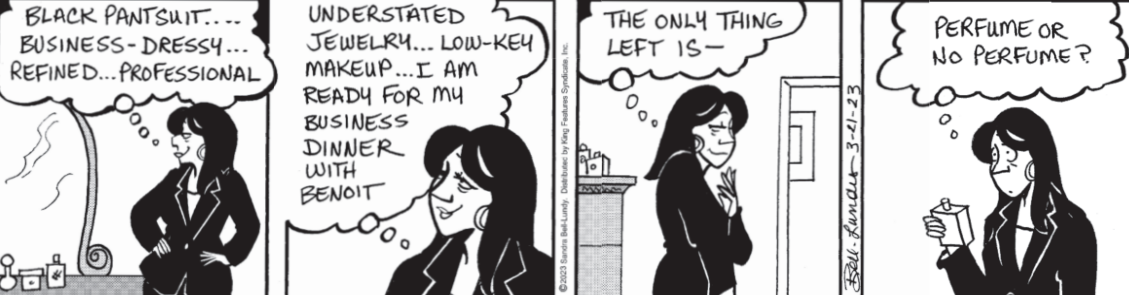
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Hi and Lois



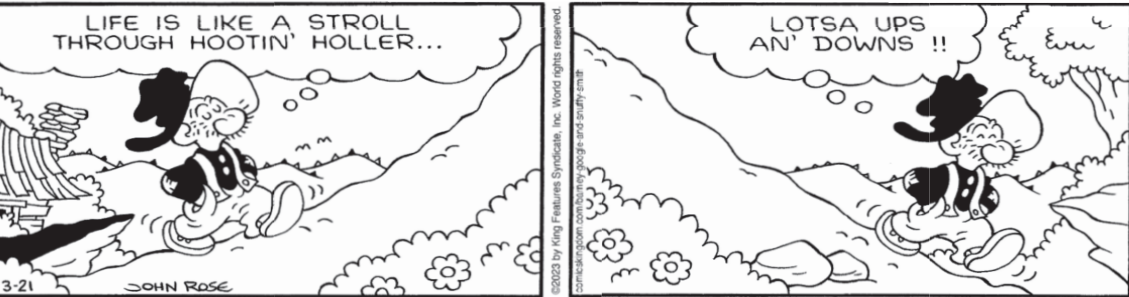
Between Friends



Blondie



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# Idols ...

Continued from page 1  
Crown City Lanes's youth program runs for 20 weeks on Saturday mornings. The program has about 45 children who participate, making it one of the biggest youth programs for the area according to co-owner Duane Marcum.

Monday night's event was designed to give participants in the youth program the opportunity to meet professionals, get inspired and learn a thing or two.

"When you have a youth group as big as ours, we had to do something," Marcum said.

Marcum and co-owner Tim Ritchie received a lot of help from the community to make the event happen. While they were willing to pay for the event out of pocket, explained Marcum, they

received enough support from the community and local sponsors to cover the cost. They even received help from Marcum's aunt and uncle who helped put together flyers and banners for the event.

They also got some important help from local community member Anthony Robbins. Robbins had been emailing different PBA members for three months before he found Rash to make the event happen.

"We didn't get these kinds of opportunities for clinics like this growing up," Rash said. "This is just something that has come really dear to my heart to give back to the next generation."

Before the clinic, the group was in Akron, Ohio, for the PBA Tournament of Champions and stopped in Dunkirk before going

to Kokomo for the PBA Kokomo Classic PTQ.

The event kicked off with a meet and greet during which the youth bowlers could talk to the pros, take pictures and get autographs. There was then an hour-long question and answer session that included attendees asking about the professionals' habits, favorite memories on tour and specifics on the mechanics of bowling. The event rounded out with the opportunity for the children to bowl with the pros to and receive instruction and tips.

Rash sets up a bunch of these events throughout the year, even expanding outside of the country. Ultimately, his goal for these events is to inspire kids to continue bowling and grow the sport.

"I hope they come and practice

tomorrow and that they come and practice in a week and that they bowl for the rest of their life," Rash said. "They just continue and enjoy the sport that we all love. I hope it grows and when they get older and start their own families that they get them to bowl."

For 14-year-old Leighton Brown, Rash achieved his goal of bringing the sport to life and sparking passion.

"When I see them on TV they just look like paper characters, but I got to meet them today and realize these people have been through a similar bowling alley experience and lived their story," Brown said. "I play a lot of other sports. Bowling is what I do as a hobby almost, but this has made want to get better at bowling and concentrate on the sport more."

# Oust ...

Continued from page 8  
Miami never trailed the Hoosiers (28-4) and answered all four times they tied the game in the fourth quarter.

When Indiana knotted the score at 60-60 and missed a potential go-ahead free throw with 3:06 remaining, the Hurricanes answered with five straight points on a layup by forward Lola Pendande and a three-pointer by guard Haley Cavinder. When the Hoosiers tied the game at 65-65 in the last minute, Harden got to the free-throw line and went 1 of 2 to put Miami back up 66-65.

It was the start of a roller-coaster final minute for Harden. On Indiana's next possession, Moore-McNeil missed a wide-open layup, but Harden then missed two free throws. The Hoosiers got another chance at a potential game-winning shot and Indiana guard Grace Berger missed. Finally, Cavinder hit two free throws to push the Hurricanes' lead to 68-65 and they needed them because Hoosiers guard Yarden Garzon drilled a step-back three with 6.6 seconds left to tie the game at 68-68.

Miami took a timeout and went right to Harden in the post. The senior pump faked, then went up and under to send the Hurricanes into the third round.

Harden finished with 18 points and five rebounds, despite battling foul trouble in the second half. Pendande had 19 points, seven rebounds and two blocks. Guard Jasmyne Moore-McNeil added 16 points and six rebounds, and stripped Moore-McNeil on the last possession to clinch the win.

Mackenzie Holmes led Indiana with 22 points on 10-of-19 shooting and grabbed a game-high nine rebounds. Grace Berger and Yarden Garzon joined her in double figures with 17 and 10 points, respectively.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Leitner at the line

Jarrett Leitner prepares to shoot a free throw during the seventh grade intersquad scrimmage during a Midwest Explosion media day Saturday at Jay Community Center in Portland. The AAU basketball program based in Portland has more than 110 participants.

# Sports on tap

## Local schedule

**Today**  
Fort Recovery — Baseball scrimmage vs. Wayne Trace — 5 p.m.; Softball scrimmage at Van Wert — 5 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Fort Recovery — Softball scrimmage at Newton — 5 p.m.

## TV sports

**Today**  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT quarterfinal — North Texas vs. Oklahoma State (ESPN); CBI (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT quarterfinal — Wisconsin vs. Oregon (ESPN); CBI (ESPN2)

**Wednesday**  
1 p.m. — Tennis: Miami Open (Bally Indiana)  
5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: CBI (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT quarterfinal UAB vs. Vanderbilt (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Toronto Raptors (Bally Indiana); Golden State Warriors at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — NHL hockey: Pittsburgh Pirates at Colorado Avalanche (TNT)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NIT quarterfinal — Cincinnati vs. Utah Valley (ESPN2)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)

10:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Arizona Coyotes at Edmonton Oilers (TNT)  
**Thursday**  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Kansas State vs. Michigan State (TBS)  
6:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Minnesota Wild at Philadelphia Flyers (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Boston Celtics (Bally Indiana)  
7:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Connecticut vs. Arkansas (CBS)  
8 p.m. — Soccer: CONCACAF Nations League — United States vs. Grenada (TNT)  
8:30 p.m. — Professional Fighting League (ESPN2)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball:

NCAA Tournament — Tennessee vs. Florida Atlantic (TBS)  
9 p.m. — NHL hockey: Pittsburgh Penguins at Dallas Stars (ESPN)  
9:45 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — UCLA vs. Gonzaga (CBS)  
**Friday**  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Alabama vs. San Diego State (TBS)  
7:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Houston vs. Miami (CBS)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Creighton vs. Princeton (TBS)  
9:45 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Texas vs. Xavier (CBS)

## Local notes

**Wrestling club hosting event**  
Jay County Wrestling Club will host Delaware County Championship Wrestling for professional wrestling event April 8. The DCCW show scheduled for 7 p.m. April 8 at Jay Community Center will feature an appearance by Olympic gold medalist and WWE Hall of Famer Kurt Angle. The card also features an appearance by WWE Hall of Famer Rikishi.  
Tickets start at \$20 for general admission. To purchase tickets, call James Myers at (260) 726-5088 or Andy Frasher at (260) 251-2842, or visit Jacks & Associates, 954 Industrial Drive, Portland.

**T-Ball/coach-pitch registration open**  
Registration is open for Jay Community

Center's Boomer t-ball and coach-pitch leagues.  
The leagues are open to players ages 3 through 6. The registration fee is \$60 and the deadline is May 22.  
For more information, visit jaycc.org.  
**5K circuit registration underway**  
Registration is open for the Run Jay County 5K Circuit.  
The circuit features eight races running from April through August. Awards are presented in nine divisions.  
The opening race in the circuit is the Sprint to Spring 5K at 9 a.m. April 22. Registration is \$20. For more information, visit runjaycounty.com.  
.....  
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@thecr.com.

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: 8909 S 1150 W REDKEY, IN  
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023

10:00 A.M.  
VEHICLES—UTV—TRAILER—EQUIPMENT

2019 Buick Envision 40,380 miles (nice), 2005 Chevy Monte Carlo Tony Stewart edition 93,640 miles (1 of 1100 made), 2020 5ft x 8ft utility trailer w/ ramp gate.

PEDAL—TRACTORS—TOYS—ANTIQUES JD 4440, JD 720, AC D17, JD 10 w/ 3 holes and engine compartment pedal tractors, Standard oil glass crown for premium fuel, 7-up cans w/advertisement from the Anderson. COINS—FURNITURE—HOUSEHOLD

4 troy ounce clown silver bar, JD 5 coin collection .999 silver, gold and silver jewelry, much more. LAWN AND GARDEN—SHOP TOOLS—MISC. JD X590 riding mower 54in cut 305hrs, DR 28in brush cutter self-propelled w/ 3hrs, Craftsman roll away tool boxes, Craftsman shop and hand tools. OWNERS: Thomas B. & Phyllis J. Johnson Trust

Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229 Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

## 90 SALE CALENDAR

**PUBLIC AUCTION**  
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN

Saturday Morning MARCH 25, 2023 9:30 A.M.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS-OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS

Pepsi Bottle machine; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF SALT & PEPPERS OVER 500+ SETS; wrought iron rocker; wrought iron garden table; wicker chair; cedar chest; wood pulleys; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF JEWELRY, includes necklaces, bracelets, earrings, 1st edition Flash Comic, comic books; and many others items not listed.

TOOLS

Remington electric chain saw; metal sign holders w/signs; hose; wheel barrow; socket sets; plastic garden pots; shepherds hooks; air compressor; cooler; pet carrier; and many other items not mentioned. ROXANNE JONES Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131

## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of the City of Portland, Jay County, Indiana that the proper legal officers of the City of Portland at their meeting place at the City of Portland Council Chambers, 1616 North Franklin Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, on April 3 at 5:30 p.m. will consider the following additional appropriation in excess of the budget for the current year. 4423-001-326

Cum Cap Imp (Rate) - Other Contractual \$318,758.32 Taxpayers appearing at the meeting shall have a right to be heard. The additional appropriations as finally made will be referred to the Department of Local Government Finance. The DLGF will make a written determination as to the sufficiency of funds to support the appropriations made within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a Certified copy of action taken. Lori Phillips Clerk-Treasurer, City of Portland CR 3-21-2023-HSPAXLP

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## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA JAY COUNTY, SS: IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF LOIS A. KELLER, DECEASED. IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT NO. 1 CAUSE NUMBER: 38C01-2303-EU-000012 NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION. Notice is hereby given that Michael G. Keller was on 3/8/2023 appointed personal representative of the estate of Lois A. Keller, deceased, who died on the 3rd day of February, 2023. This personal representative is authorized to administer said estate without Court supervision.

All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred. Dated at Portland, Indiana, on 3/7/2023 Jon Eads Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court BALES and ALEXANDER Chip A. Alexander 116 North Walnut Street Muncie, IN 47305 CR 3-14-21-2023-HSPAXLP

## 110 HELP WANTED

cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

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## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2023 TERM IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF KEVIN PIERCE ZIMMERMAN, DECEASED MARCIA ANN LEE, Personal Representative ESTATE NO.: 38C01-1803-ES-000003 NOTICE OF HEARING ON FINAL ACCOUNT AND AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE DISTRIBUTION Notice is hereby given to all interested persons that Marcia Ann Lee as Personal Representative of the Estate of Kevin Pierce Zimmerman, deceased has filed the Final Account and Petition for Authorization to Make Distribution, and that the same has been set for hearing in the Jay Circuit Court in the City of Portland, on the 4th day of April, 2023, @ 10:30 a.m. Any objections to such final account and petition for distribution must be filed with the Court in writing on or before the 4th day of April, 2023. Dated this 6th day of March, 2023. Jon Eads Clerk, Jay Circuit Court Jason E. Welch, #19617-49 111 North Main Street Winchester, IN 47394 ATTORNEY FOR ESTATE CR 3-14-21-2023-HSPAXLP

READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE

## 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

## Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JAY COUNTY PORTLAND, INDIANA PLAINTIFF

Vs CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; OLIVER JACKSON, MINOR HEIR OF CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; A YLA JACKSON, MINOR HEIR OF CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; UNKNOWN HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; ESTATE OF CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED DEFENDANTS

CAUSE NO: 38C01-2211-MF-000026 NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of an Order of Sale, directed to me from the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court and pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on 02/08/2023, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the office of the Sheriff of Jay County, in Jay County, Indiana, located at Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Portland, IN 47371 on April 6, 2023, at 10:00 AM Local Time, the fee simple title together with the rents, profits, issues and income or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, interest, costs and accruing costs of the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana, to-wit: Lot Number Eighteen (18) in Thomas Addition to the Town, now City of Dunkirk, Indiana, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Record A, page 63 in the Office of the Recorder of Jay County, Indiana. Commonly known as: 603 South Franklin Street, Dunkirk, IN 47336

State Parcel Number: 38-09-08-402-013.000-014

This sale is to be made in all respects pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, approved March 7, 1931, and entitled An act concerning proceedings in actions to foreclose real estate mortgages, providing for the sale and custody of the mortgaged premises and repealing all laws conflicting therewith (see Indiana Code).

It is further provided by law that there shall be no redemption from such sale, and the purchaser at such sale, upon complying with the terms of his purchase, shall be entitled to immediately receive from the undersigned, Sheriff of Jay County, a deed conveying to him, the purchaser, the fee simple title in and to said real estate.

Taken as the property of the Defendant(s) stated above at the suit of CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC. Said sale to be without relief from valuation and/or appraisal laws.

Larry R. Newton, Jr., Sheriff of Jay County Attorney for Plaintiff Codilis Law, LLC 8050 Cleveland Place Merrillville, IN 46410 15-22-01498

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE DOES NOT WARRANT THE ACCURACY OF THE STREET ADDRESS PUBLISHED HEREIN.

NOTE: This law firm is a debt collector. CR 3-7,14,21-2023-HSPAXLP

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## Bilbrey 1st in shot again

ANDERSON — Gabi Bilbrey was dominant again. Bilbrey, a Jay County High School senior, earned another victory in the shot put Saturday as the Patriots competed in the Blue and White Relays hosted by Hamilton Southeastern at Anderson University.

Thanks to her efforts the last two weeks, Bilbrey has qualified for and will compete Saturday in the Hoosier State Relays large school division at Indiana University's Gladstein Fieldhouse. (The top 24 competitors across all qualifying meets earned a berth.)

Saturday's result gave Bilbrey her second consecutive shot put win for the indoor season following last week's victory in the Golden Eagle Relays at Anderson. She again was essentially unchallenged, launching the shot put 37 feet, 8.25 inches. That put her more than two feet ahead of the 40-competitor field as Jenna Lawler of Rushville finished second at 35 feet, 7 1/4 inches.

Isaac Kunkler had the top finish for the Jay County boys as he posted a time of 9.2 seconds for fifth place in the 60-meter hurdles. Adam Alig followed in 12th place at 9.42 seconds.

Natalie Wehrly turned in a 13th-place finish for the girls team as she crossed the line in 8.32 seconds in the 60 dash.

## Bowling idols



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Professional Bowlers Association members E.J. Tackett (left), Jesper Svensson (center) and Kyle Troup (right) answer questions during an instructional clinic Monday at Crown City Lanes in Dunkirk.

## PBA members visit youth clinic

By ANDREW BALKO  
The Commercial Review

"Holy cow! I never thought I'd be here."

That's what 14-year-old Ayden Teer thought to himself when meeting his idol, E.J. Tackett.

A native Hoosier, Tackett was one of five members of the Professional Bowlers Association who visited Crown City Lanes in Dunkirk on Monday night. Joining Tackett were Sean Rash, Matt Ogle, Jesper

Svensson and Kyle Troup. Between the five of them, they have earned 50 PBA standard titles and seven PBA major titles.

"It'll give me some experience and when I talk to them

they give me tips so it'll make me a lot better," Teer said. "Hopefully I can watch them and learn something from them because some day I want to be (competing) with them."

See **Idols** page 7

## Three earn berths

### Champ, Sarver, Shannon advance to regional

BLOOMINGTON — Three local gymnasts are advancing to the next level.

Jordyn Champ, Isabella Sarver and Aubree Shannon of JC Tumbling and Gymnastics all qualified for the Xcel Silver Regionals in May thanks to their all-around scores at Saturday's Indiana Xcel State Championships at Twin Lakes Recreational Center in Bloomington.

Champ was the top performer for JC Tumbling and Gymnastics, located north of Portland in rural Jay County, earning her regional berth with a 37.65 all-around score for fourth place in Level XS Division Senior A. Sarver posted a 36.775 for eighth in Level XS Division Junior E, and Shannon was tied for ninth at 36.925 in Level XS Division Senior C.

In order to advance to the silver regional — it is scheduled for May 5 through 7 at Summit County Fairgrounds in Tallmadge, Ohio — a gymnast needed to have an all-around score of 36.5 or higher at their state meet.

In addition to her regional-qualifying all-around score, Champ earned one of her team's two championships at the meet as she won her division on the vault with a 9.425. She was also fourth on the bars (9.6) and tied for fifth on the balance beam (9.525).

Eden Lee gave the team its other first-place finish with her score of 9.475 on the bars in Level XB Division Child B. She also placed fourth on the vault (9.025) and beam (9.225), taking fifth in the all-around at 36.825.

Aria Miller added a runner-up finish as she posted a score of 9.2 on the vault in Level XB Division Junior C.

Sarver was fourth in her division on the beam with a 9.55 while Shannon was sixth on the beam with a 9.325.

In Level XB Division Child A, Brinley Steury was fifth on the balance beam (9.2) and sixth on the vault (9.05). Charli Stephens finished sixth on the vault (8.975) in Level XS Division Junior A and Willow McCallister was ninth on the beam (9.2) in Level XS Division Senior B.

## Hurricanes oust IU

By DAVID WILSON  
Miami Herald  
Tribune News Service

After their 12-point half-time lead vanished for the fourth time in the fourth quarter, the Miami Hurricanes had one more chance to avoid overtime and finish off a historic upset of the top-seeded Indiana Hoosiers in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

Miami's game plan was simple: The Hurricanes would throw the ball to Destiny Harden in the post. Fitzroy Anthony gave the guard simple, yet colorful, instructions:

"He told me to face up and win the [expletive] game," Harden told ESPN, too quickly for the censors to stop it.

She faked once to get Indiana guard Grace Berger in the air, then went up and under for a game-winning shot with 3.3 seconds left. Miami stripped the ball

from Hoosiers guard Chloe Moore-McNeil on the other end and then stormed onto the court to celebrate a 70-68 stunner in front of 14,480 at Simon Skjodt Assembly Hall in Bloomington, Indiana.

The Hoosiers, who closed the regular-season ranked second in the nation, had throttled Tennessee Tech by 30 in Saturday's opening round. (They had lost 79-75 to Ohio State in the semifinal round of the Big Ten Tournament.)

The win for Miami (21-12) marked the first time since 1992 and the first time ever with coach Katie Meier at



the helm that it is headed to the Sweet 16 after taking down the No. 1 seed in Greenville regional 1.

In its only other trip to the second weekend of the NCAA tourney, Miami only had to win one game because the tournament field was smaller and it had a first-round bye. This time, the No. 9-seed Hurricanes had to rally from 17 down to upset No. 8-seed Oklahoma State in Round 1 on Saturday, then survive a relentless second-half push from Indiana on its home floor in the Round of 32.

See **Oust** page 7

**Portland's Largest Selection of**

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