

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Early voting set for primary election

Early voting will be limited to two weeks for the primary election.

Jay County Election Board met Monday and set early voting hours for the primaries in this year's municipal elections to begin April 17.

The board also approved eliminating primary elections in Redkey and Bryant as there are no contested races in those towns. Primary elections will be held in Portland, Dunkirk and Pennville.

Early voting is now set for 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday from April 17 through April 28. It will also be available from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays April 22 and April 29, and from 8:30 a.m. to noon May 1.

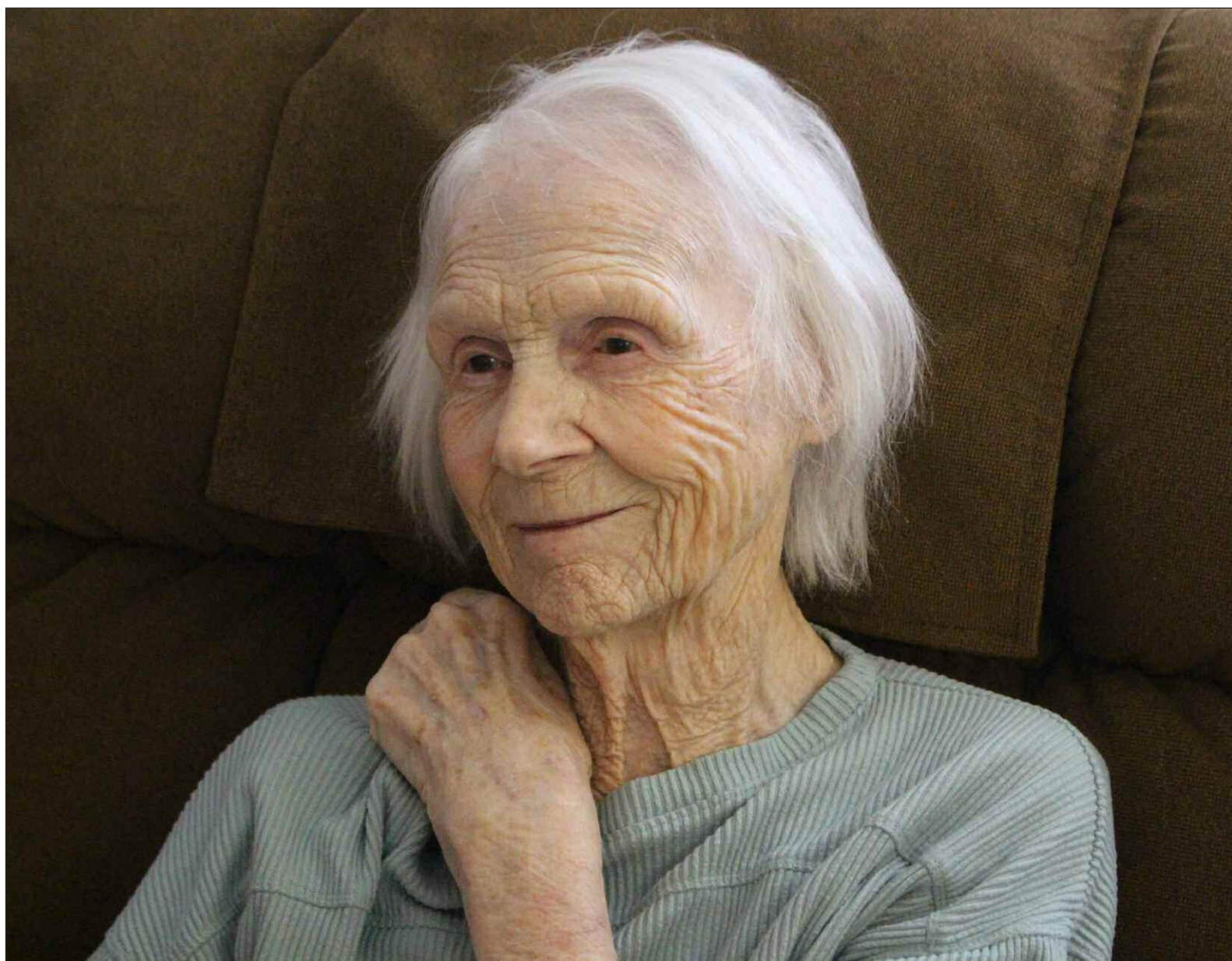
Primary election day is Tuesday, May 2, with voting available from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Polling locations for the primary election will be finalized at Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.

Contested elections for May include races for the Republican nomination for mayor in the county's two cities. In Portland, incumbent John Boggs is facing three challengers — Todd Wickey, Jeff Westlake and Joel Smitley. In Dunkirk, Jay Miller and Alden Glessner are squaring off in hopes of taking on incumbent Democrat Jack Robbins in the general election.

The only other contested race in Dunkirk pits incumbent Republican Kevin Hamilton against Randy Murphy for the nomination for the District 1 seat on city council.

In Pennville, incumbent Republican clerk-treasurer Krista Scholer is facing a challenge for the party's nomination from Lindsay Wright.

Celebrating 100



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Nellie West, a resident of Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre in Portland, is celebrating her 100th birthday today. She grew up in Arkansas and moved to Indiana after meeting her future husband, Wayne West, while he was in boot camp in Mississippi.

West takes it one day at a time

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

An area resident is celebrating her 100th birthday today.

Nellie West was born March 22, 1923, in Batesville, Arkansas, to Jewell and Bada Scott.

Gary West, her son, recalled stories his mother told about growing up in Arkansas. A product of the time, Nellie's education stopped at sixth grade.

"When she was born, she

grew up during the Depression, so being in Arkansas down there, they were very, very poor when they were little girls, and that's about all she would ever talk to us about," he said.

The longtime Montpelier resident who now lives at Persimmon Ridge Rehabilitation Centre in Portland had two sisters and two brothers. Clairene Clements, the oldest sister, died at 102 last year, and both Jay and Walter Scott died sev-

eral years prior. Rosie King, Nellie's youngest sister at 98, lives in Hartford City.

Nellie met Wayne West, an Indiana native, while he was at boot camp in Mississippi. She moved to Indiana and briefly worked at Farnsworth Television and Radio Corporation in Bluffton while Wayne served in the Army infantry division during World War II. He was medically discharged from active duty after three years and awarded a Purple Heart.

The couple wed on Sept. 27, 1946, and spent most of their years together in Montpelier. They had two children, Gary and Larry West, as well as four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Nellie maintained the house, and Wayne worked for 42 years at J&B Chevrolet in Montpelier. He died in 2006.

Nellie's hobbies included sewing, crocheting and making items out of plastic canvas.

See 100 page 2



Tribune News Service/Los Angeles Times/Irfan Khan

On strike

Mary Claire-Little, right, an English teacher, joins a rally by striking Los Angeles Unified School District employees, including bus drivers, teachers and custodians, in front of Robert F. Kennedy Community School on Tuesday in Los Angeles.

Ban passes committee

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A House health committee advanced a bill Tuesday that would ban gender-affirming care for minors over the pleas of parents, doctors and transgender youth.

"My child is 16 and I can tell you before he started in hormone therapy he was withdrawn, he didn't have friends... there was a point when he didn't leave the house," Westville parent Alisha Hunter told the committee. "This (ban) will be life altering for my child... He's happy and that will all change."

Hunter shared her son's multi-year journey, saying that her family was considering leaving the state — a sentiment shared by multiple other families who testified against the proposal.

The bill would ban the use of puberty blockers, hormone replacement

therapies and surgical procedures — but only if the minor is diagnosed with gender dysphoria. Bill author Sen. Tyler Johnson said other children could continue to get those "irreversible, unproven and life-altering" treatments under other medical diagnoses.

Rep. Brad Barrett, R-Richmond — who chairs the committee — didn't allow amendments to the bill, saying those decisions would be made in front of the full House Chamber.

"I hear stories from adults about their regrets and some of the harms

done to them as minors," said Johnson, a Republican doctor from Leo. "A child cannot understand the weight and permanency of these decisions."

Counseling and mental health services would still be allowed.

The bill passed 8-5, with one Republican joining the four Democrats to vote no.

Few of the GOP lawmakers justified their vote, though Rep. Ann Vermilion, of Marion, said she felt there were too many unknowns to support the bill.

See Ban page 2

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Tuesday. The low was 34.

There is a chance of rain and thunderstorms tonight with winds gusting to 30 miles per hour and a low of 51. Expect a

high of 61 Thursday with more rain, a possible thunderstorm and continued windy conditions. Rain is in the forecast through Saturday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The Natural Resources Commission on Tuesday approved the dedication of Limberlost Swamp Nature Preserve in northern Jay County and southern Adams County.

For additional details on the dedication, see The Commercial Review later this week.

Coming up

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

Saturday — A feature on a new business opening for canine and equine services.



100 ...

Continued from page 1
She created many quilts for family members over the years with her sister-in-law.
She also had a green thumb. Nellie loved the outdoors and maintained a garden every year, harvesting and canning her vegetables, which included green beans, beets and turnips, among others.
At 95 years old, Nellie was

still mowing her own lawn, Gary recalled.
“Not too many people can say that,” he said, noting that he only lived five blocks away from her at that time. “She’d get mad at me (if I mowed for her) ... everything that Mom did, she’d do it for herself. That’s just the type of person she was.”
Several years back, Nellie fell while taking her trash can to

the curb. Two hip surgeries later, she moved to an assisted living facility in Hartford City. In May 2018, she settled in at Persimmon Ridge and she’s been there ever since.
Staff at Persimmon Ridge have a sweet spot for the centenarian, who will be celebrating her birthday with a party at 4 p.m. today.
“Nellie is just one of our sweetest residents. You can

almost always get a smile out of her, even if she’s having a bad day,” said Alisha Watters, admissions and marketing director at Persimmon Ridge. “It’s impossible not to love her.”
A lot has changed about Nellie since her dementia began progressing. She has some good days, some bad days, according to her caretakers.
During a visit to her room in

the east wing Monday, Nellie rested her eyes while sitting in her recliner, a blanket wrapped snugly around her upper body. When she heard a nurse’s voice, her eyes flew open and lit up almost instantly.
And although she wasn’t in the mood to talk much, Nellie’s smile at the nurse said it all.
After 100 years, you learn to take life one day at a time.

CR almanac

Thursday 3/23	Friday 3/24	Saturday 3/25	Sunday 3/26	Monday 3/27
61/38	43/39	56/33	55/40	52/34
There’s a 90% chance of showers with a possible thunderstorm in the forecast for Thursday.	More rain is on the horizon for Friday with an 80% chance of showers or a thunderstorm.	A 70% chance of showers. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high of 56 degrees.	Sunday’s weather looks to be mostly sunny with a 40% chance of rain at night.	There’s a 30% chance of showers Sunday after 2 a.m. Otherwise, mostly cloudy.

Lotteries

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$96 million
Quick Draw: 2-7-11-18-20-28-31-32-33-37-43-45-51-53-64-68-70-74-76-78
Cash 5: 1-20-27-31-37
Estimated jackpot: \$95,000

Mega Millions
1-21-25-27-40
Mega Ball: 11
Megaplier: 2
Estimated jackpot: \$302 million

Hoosier
Midday
Daily Three: 8-6-4
Daily Four: 2-1-6-9
Quick Draw: 1-5-13-15-16-29-39-40-41-48-51-52-54-58-61-63-65-69-72-74
Evening
Daily Three: 7-4-2
Daily Four: 3-9-7-8

Ohio
Midday
Pick 3: 8-5-3
Pick 4: 7-2-2-2
Pick 5: 6-2-6-1-9
Evening
Pick 3: 9-9-4
Pick 4: 2-2-8-4
Pick 5: 8-6-3-7-0
Rolling Cash: 11-19-23-29-36
Estimated jackpot: \$130,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....6.36
April corn.....6.38
Wheat.....6.39

Central States Montpelier
Corn.....6.25
May corn.....6.29
Beans.....14.44
April beans.....14.46
July wheat.....6.48

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....6.44
April corn.....6.46
May corn.....6.48

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....6.28
April corn.....6.28
Beans.....14.38
April beans.....14.38

Wheat.....6.03
July wheat.....6.48

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....6.09
April corn.....6.09
Beans.....14.29
April beans.....14.29
Wheat.....6.10

Today in history

In 1556, Thomas Cranmer, the first Protestant archbishop of Canterbury, was burned at the stake for his violation of heresy laws that were revised under Queen Mary I. A Roman Catholic, she had revised the laws.
In 1685, Johann Sebastian Bach was born in Eisenach, Thuringia, Ernestine Saxson Duchies, Germany. He is one of the most celebrated composers of all time, famous for pieces including the “Brandenburg Concertos,” “The Well-Tempered Clavier” and the “Mass in B Minor.”
In 1963, the federal prison on Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay was closed. It had

housed some of the most notorious prisoners, including Al Capone.
In 2007, Portland Board of Works chose Cincinnati-based Rumpke as its new provider for curbside recycling collection services.
In 2018, Chloe Trisessel of Jay County High School signed to continue her volleyball career at Indiana University – Kokomo.
In 2022, during his State of the City address, Dunkirk Mayor Jack Robbins cited various project including new businesses, events and flood mitigation efforts. “There’s quite a bit happening,” he said.
—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Today
4:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
6 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Monday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commis-

sioners’ room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Jay County EDIT Advisory Committee, Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St.
6:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.
7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.



Photo provided

Speech awards

Jay County Optimist Clubs held their oratorical contest March 9 at Jay County Christian Academy. Pictured are the top performers from the contest. From left are Matthew Disinger, alternate, Isabelle Wall, winner, Kiera Nibarger, winner, Maria Laux, winner, Gabby Gibson, winner, Kendall Schemenaur, winner, and Jace Vance, winner. Not pictured are Sydia Castillo, alternate, and Angelina Geesaman, alternate.

CEO to respond to proposal

By **KELLY YAMANOUCI**
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Tribune News Service

Amid a push for more stringent rail safety regulations in the wake of the toxic derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, Norfolk Southern CEO Alan Shaw will respond to the proposed tightening of safety measures in Congressional testimony on Wednesday.

Shaw is set to testify before the U.S. Senate commerce committee, the second time he has been called to answer questions from a Congressional committee in the last two weeks.

In his written testimony released in advance of the hearing, Shaw again apologizes for the impact of the derailment, which disrupted the lives of area residents and caused fears about long-term health impact of the chemicals released from hazardous materials cars that burned.
“I’ve met with community lead-

ers, business owners, school officials, clergy, and others to begin to identify ways we can invest in the future prosperity of the residents in the area and support the long-term needs of its people,” Shaw says.

The hearing is expected to have remarks by Ohio’s U.S. senators, Sherrod Brown, a Democrat, and J.D. Vance, a Republican, both harsh critics of Norfolk Southern, who have introduced rail safety legislation. Also expected to speak are Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine and a resident from East Palestine, Misti Allison.

The proposed Senate legislation would increase inspection requirements for rail cars carrying hazardous materials and increase fines for safety violations. Shaw said he supports reviews of regulations for rail car inspections, and increased fines and penalties for people who tamper with rail facilities and safety equipment. Rail safety legislation

has also been introduced in the House.

“There are also areas in which we believe Congress could go further with safety legislation,” Shaw’s prepared testimony continues. “We encourage even stricter standards for tank car design. There are significant opportunities for advanced technology to enhance rail safety, and we encourage Congress to consider additional research into on-board rail car defect detection technology.”

Shaw also says that his company is “committed to learning from this accident and working with public officials and industry to make railroads even safer.”

But Norfolk Southern and the rail industry have come under fire for lobbying against certain rail safety regulations over the years, and Shaw has not made a full-throated endorsement of rail safety legislation currently in Congress.

Ban ...

Continued from page 1
“Quite frankly this is a difficult topic and I think it needs a legislative study,” Vermilion said. “I just don’t think I’m getting the full picture, that we’re getting a full picture.”

Rep. Dennis Zent, R-Angola, also shared his thoughts, saying testimony about changing ideals in Europe influenced his affirmative vote.

Other representatives asked pointed questions during testimony but didn’t ultimately disclose the reasoning behind their vote.

The bill split physicians and is part of a nationwide effort to dictate how parents raise their transgender children. However, the number of children pursuing this treatment is small – 0.001% according to one measure.

According to an analysis of insurance claims between 2017 and 2021 for 40 million children, just 1,390 youth between 6 and 17 used puberty blockers while 4,231 used hormone therapies.

In terms of surgical interventions, 282 patients underwent a mastectomy and just 56 youth between the ages of 13 and 17 over the course of three years. Testimony has affirmed that surgeries on minors don’t occur in Indiana.

Democrat Rep. Rita Fleming, a retired OBGYN, shared the story of a distant family member whose daughter committed suicide after her family responded with vitriol, rather than acceptance to her identity questions.
“There was not opportunity for counseling or treatment,” Fleming said before voting no.

In response to testimony, she noted that puberty blockers have been considered reversible since their introduction in the 1980s to treat “precocious puberty,” or early on-set puberty.

“They’re prescribed knowing that a child will be taken off of these drugs at a certain age or certain stage of puberty,” Fleming, D-Jeffersonville, said.

SERVICES

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.

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Donations given

Cincinnati League awarded funds to three organizations in February. Arts Place received \$750, John Jay Center for Learning received \$1,000, with \$250 of the amount allotted for the senior living center, and Jay Community Center received \$900, with \$150 of the total for a banner in the gym. Pictured, from left, are Julia Schwomeyer, philanthropic chair for the Cincinnati League, Allison Smiley of Arts Place, Rusty Inman of John Jay Center for Learning and Kyle Cook of Jay Community Center.

Woman considers dating a gambler

DEAR ABBY: My ex-husband and I separated two months after our wedding. Our divorce was final five months ago. After I left him, I started talking to a younger guy I had a lot in common with. However, he has a gambling problem and ended up stealing money from my cash app.

He eventually paid me back and has done everything in his power to get me to trust him again. We are both VERY attracted to each other. After he repaid the money, he told me he was in a very dark place and felt horrible about doing it. He says he loves me, and even though I tried fighting it, I love him too. But there are issues — the trust, the gambling and the age gap. I'm 15 years older. He's still very young, and I know when I was his age, I wanted different things than I want now. I'm worried he'll lose interest in me because we are at different points in our lives.

We aren't exactly labeled a couple but we act like we are. No one but very close friends of mine knows

Dear Abby



about our situation. Should I cut ties before my heart gets broken? — TENTATIVE IN WISCONSIN

DEAR TENTATIVE: The age difference may not be a deal-breaker, but the fact that he stole from you should be. How is he dealing with his gambling addiction? Is he still gambling? Has he joined a support group such as Gamblers Anonymous to help him cope with it? Because you divorced after only two months of marriage — and now this — there may be something wrong with your "manpicker." Before you make any more big decisions about men, I suggest you talk to a psychologist about why you seem to be rushing in and out of relationships.

Program allows gardeners to share their food

Consider donating your extra produce this year.

Gardeners are invited to consider sharing their bounty with community organizations through Grow-a-Row, a campaign

connecting folks in need of fresh food.

The national program focuses on planting, picking, rescuing, and delivering free, fresh garden produce to community partners

who will then distribute it to neighbors, according to a press release from the organization. Gardeners may deliver goods to sites in Delaware, Blackford, Jay and Grant counties.

Sites in Jay County include Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, 100 N. Meridian St., Portland, and Jay Community Center, 115 E. Water St., Portland. For a complete list of donation sites,

check out the donation site list at healthycommunityalliance.org.

To learn more information, contact John Disher at jdisher1@iuhealth.org or (765) 747-3915.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Thursday

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

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

MISSISSINEWA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 23, at Jay County Historical Museum in Portland. Women interested in

joining the NSDAR are invited to attend. Contact Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Susan Sommers at (260) 726-2678 for more information.

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.

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. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

Sudoku

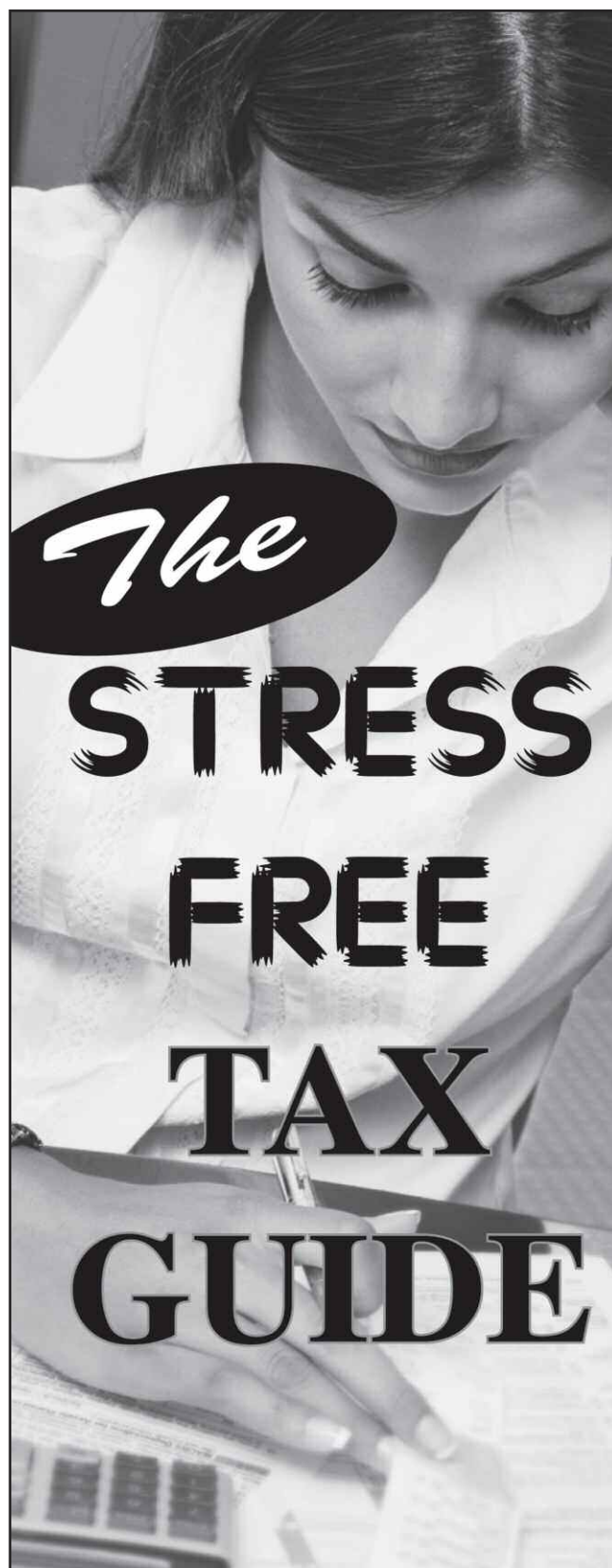
				9		1	2	
	8							9
3		9					6	
5				8		6		
	7		6	1	4			
	1	4		3				8
	5		3	4				
				9				5
7		1						

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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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Path came down to 'wait and see'

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from March 23, 2022. While employees and close friends already knew, this is how Jack told the community he had cancer. At the time, he was optimistic. We all were. A month later, he was gone. As we re-run this column, it is had to believe a year has gone by and at the same time seems even longer. His presence has been, and continues to be, missed.

By JACK RONALD

The Commercial Review

I have cancer.

There, I said it.

Specifically, I have cancer of the liver, caused — at least in part — by “mild abuse of alcohol” over my adult years.

Not too many years ago, that

Back in the Saddle



diagnosis would have given doctors little choice but to tell the patient to go home and get his or her affairs in order.

But today there are options for treatment.

And when there are options for treatment, there is hope going forward.

A couple of my best friends are cancer survivors, and they're

quick to remind me that the notion of a “cancer survivor” didn't exist when we were growing up. They're also quick to remind me that it's important to emphasize the positive as my family and I deal with this new reality.

So I'm getting good counsel.

I'm also getting great care.

When this popped up — very suddenly — early this month, Dr. Frank Vormohr took one look at my test results and initial CAT scan and stepped on the accelerator. I was checked into IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie the same afternoon and spent a dizzying six days of tests and procedures.

Back home now, I've met with my oncologist, Dr. Mark Pajeau,

and gone over the options. I'll have my first immunotherapy infusion the day after this column runs in The Commercial Review.

So what happens to this column? That's a good question.

Much depends upon how I feel after treatments and how well I can focus.

Writing a weekly column like this for more than 25 years requires time to reflect, to daydream, to stare out the window, to wool-gather a bit and to reminisce.

All of those are hard to do when there's one big challenge watching me from the shadows.

Surviving cancer is work, hard work. And that requires pretty intense dedication at times. I've

resolved to be the best patient imaginable, the most positive possible, simply because that's the course of action likely to lead to the best result.

So I'll try to keep the column going. But I'm going to try hard not to write about the cancer. Better writers have already done that. The “woe is me” stuff won't be found here.

Some weeks, I expect Ray Cooney will have to dig through the archives to fill the space on this page. Other times I hope to resume my regular stride.

Like so much of the path that lies ahead, it's going to have to come down to “let's wait and see.”

If that's good enough for you, reader, it's good enough for me.

Improve mental health of students

The Virginian-Pilot

Tribune News Service

For many young people, college can be tough emotionally and socially as well as academically. In today's environment, though, things are much worse — dangerously so.

By just about any measure, the mental health of today's college students is in free fall. The situation is dire and demands immediate attention. North Carolina State University in Raleigh has the unwanted distinction of being the epicenter of this crisis, with eight student deaths this academic year — at least five of them suicides. The problems that contributed to those tragedies are also widespread on other campuses, including those here in Hampton Roads and the rest of Virginia.

College has always been a challenge. Many students are away from home for the first time, living independently of their parents, and are exposed to all sorts of temptations. Finances, grades, job prospects and decisions about the future ratchet up the anxiety. Sexual assault is all too common. The proliferation of social media has greatly increased pressures and, too often, feelings of inferiority.

On top of all that, today's students endured the added stress of a global pandemic upending their high school or early college years. Then there's the haunting backdrop of violence, of mass shootings at schools and on college campuses. The ever-present culture wars and increasingly bitter divisions in our society don't help. It's little wonder that students are vulnerable to depression and anxieties.

Across the country, colleges and universities are dealing with a surging demand for mental-health care, a demand greater than many of them are prepared to handle.

In some ways, the increased demand is good news, an indication that today's students are more open to seeking help. The unhealthy stigma that has long kept many people from trying to deal with mental-health problems is fading.

It's not good news, though, that students may not be able to find the help they need, when they need it. Colleges must face the reality that the traditional ways of doing things aren't working. When students are in distress, it's not enough simply to wait for them to find their way to a counseling center,

Guest Editorial

where they will likely have trouble scheduling an appointment any time soon with professionals already burdened with heavy caseloads. Lives may be at risk.

More funding and more staff are essential, of course, but they aren't the only answers. Colleges are finding innovative ways to give more students the help they need. Peer counseling, group sessions and telehealth work for some. Crisis lines can help, as can reporting systems that let friends, professors, coaches and others voice concerns about someone so that an appropriate person can reach out to a troubled student. Some colleges offer students classes or other resources to help them learn healthy habits and strategies. Workshops, seminars and even apps can help students manage stress, use time wisely and get more sleep, for example.

Colleges are modifying some policies to be more flexible and student-friendly. Making it easier for a troubled student to take time off, for example, can help avert a crisis.

Professors, too, can be encouraged to develop policies and deadlines that are less arbitrary and more likely to help students succeed.

Faculty, curricula, research, libraries, buildings, facilities, athletics — there are so many demands on the resources of a college or university. We should never forget that at the heart of it all are the students.

The colleges and universities here in Hampton Roads, private and state-supported institutions alike, should make safeguarding the mental health of their students a top priority.

How terrible for a student to lose the chance for a good education and strong start in adult life because stress and depression take hold. How utterly tragic for a student on the threshold of a bright future to become so overwhelmed that suicide seems the only answer.

Investing money and effort into more counseling, outreach and innovative resources can help keep kids safe — and make their lives and our society better.



Independence essential to stability

By KYRYLO SHEVCHENKO

Chicago Tribune

Tribune News Service

Over the past decade, the world's central banks have become increasingly independent, which has a positive effect on their nations' economies. It is well known that the less subordinate a central bank is to the government, the more moderate the rates of inflation are. Usually, a tight monetary policy is implemented in those states where central banks do not have to fix budget and social policy problems, rehabilitate financial institutions and support inefficient enterprises.

In 2020, the Bank of England classified more than 150 central banks as independent. The autonomy of the European Central Bank is guaranteed by the Treaty on European Union, and the Federal Reserve system in the U.S. is also independent.

In countries with developing markets, pressure from political leaders on central banks is common. The independence of the central bank makes it difficult for politicians to stimulate the economy, since some banks oppose fiscal expansion. Central banks have become less rigid and more willing to take into account, at the request of the public, factors such as employment and the level of economic activity, in addition to inflation. Nevertheless, increasing such demands on regulators may lead to political pressure to distort monetary policy. And here, it is important to set a limit and not cross it, so as not to lose the hard-earned gains.

Most central banks have significantly increased their independence and succeeded in fighting inflation in recent decades. Of course, exceptions such as the central banks of Turkey or Argentina are indicative.

Ukraine has come a long way in this matter. Everyone remembers the

Kyrylo Shevchenko



times when the heads of our National Bank were directly appointed by politicians — according to the quota of whichever political party had influence in the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament.

There was a period when the National Bank of Ukraine, or NBU, had to buy domestic government loan bonds to finance the state budget — unfortunately, this was considered the duty of the regulator. Each time, different generations of employees of the National Bank had to choose independence and prove to our politicians that an independent NBU is much more useful for Ukraine and our economy than one dependent on government officials, politicians or oligarchs.

A shift toward independence began when amendments to Ukrainian law gave the NBU the priority to maintain price stability, which made it impossible to issue bonds that could be bought out by the regulator. During my tenure, the National Bank did everything to fulfill these new rules, even when the government tried to indirectly push us to purchase debt securities.

The only exception came after Feb. 24, 2022, when the National Bank had to, without exaggeration, save the security and independence of all of Ukraine. Last year, we had to purchase domestic government loan bonds to support the budget at the most difficult point in the modern history of our country. However, even

this had its limits, amounting to 400 billion hryvnia.

I want to believe that the NBU will fulfill its obligations and will not buy domestic government loan bonds this year. Government officials should understand that with current inflation, they will have to raise rates for domestic government loan bonds to the market level. This will not only make it possible to cover the budget deficit in a timely manner and solve urgent financing problems, but will also be useful for the development of the secondary market of government bonds. A market, not administrative, approach will support both state finances and the independence of the NBU, which the professional community fought for a long time.

Governments around the world — and Ukraine is no exception — are increasingly inclined to borrow and spend, which could undermine confidence in monetary policy and increase inflation around the world, especially if the public believes that the government will go down the path of devaluing its debts.

However, I am convinced that it is too early to give up. Central banks are still independent, although this independence is not absolute and can be undermined at any time by political pressure. This means only one thing — we need to work to solidify the independence of monetary policy and not succumb to the provocations of the elites. We must constantly explain the benefits this approach can provide to businesses and the economy.

We must not play along and say “yes” but always tell the truth and prove that the independence of the central bank is the basis of price stability.

.....
Shevchenko is the former head of the National Bank of Ukraine.

The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

Little Billy continues his coverage of Daddy's bout with the flu.

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Hot potato

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ Q J
♥ 6 5
♦ A Q 4
♣ K J 10 9 6 2

WEST
♠ 9 8 7 4 3
♥ K 3
♦ 9 7 5 2
♣ A 4

EAST
♠ K 5
♥ A 10 9 8 7 2
♦ 10 8 3
♣ Q 5

SOUTH
♠ A 10 6 2
♥ Q J 4
♦ K J 6
♣ 8 7 3

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

Opening lead—king of hearts.

Occasionally, a player has the opportunity to make a play that is so unusual, it raises the question of how anyone might be smart enough to think of it when the moment of truth is at hand. But bridge is a game of logic, and in many cases, it is possible to find the winning action through a process of logical thought.

Consider this deal where West, defending against three notrump, led the king and another heart to East's ace. East returned the deuce of hearts to South's queen, whereupon West—a player known to be of sound mind—discarded the ace of clubs! As a result, declarer went down one. The best he could do was to score three spades, a heart, three diamonds and a club.

Had West discarded a spade or a diamond instead of the ace of clubs, South would no doubt have made four notrump by leading a club to dummy's king at trick four (if East had the ace, the contract could not be made). A second round of clubs, collecting East's queen and West's ace, would then have established the suit.

West's extraordinary discard was well-conceived. He read East's return of the deuce of hearts from the 9-8-7-2 (all equals at this point) as a signal suggesting an honor card in clubs.

This was in accordance with the suit-preference convention by which a low-card return indicates interest in a lower-ranking suit, while a high-card return—the nine, say—would denote interest in a higher-ranking suit.

Once East had by inference denied interest in spades or diamonds, the ace-of-clubs discard became logical since it would allow East to gain the lead with the queen of clubs to collect his remaining hearts. West simply had to realize that in this deal, the ace of clubs was not an asset but a liability that had to be quickly disposed of.

Peanuts

Rose is Rose

Agnes

Hi and Lois

Between Friends

Blondie

Snuffy Smith

Beetle Bailey

CRYPTOQUIP

3-22

PWOB ARIWB LSV KOFF DAOFF
K W R F X G C M X P C F F R M I R M
B W C Q S F I O G R Q C G Q O F F C L
R M G V D D R O ? B O B O G B S B D .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DECLARATION IN A POLYAMOROUS WEDDING CEREMONY FOR FOUR PEOPLE: "WITH THIS RING I THREE WED."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals L

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

28 Country store? blooms Moines
1 Celeb gossip source 30 Abysmal 2015 of unicorns lotte's creation
4 Elev. Chris Pratt (on) alter-native
7 Zwei action film 6 Ex- Yankee Martinez with
8 Region of Greece Duke Martinez oneseff
10 Hive head 37 Obliterate me!" 22 Mas-seur's offering
11 Yam color 38 Bar orders 8 Hawk-eye 23 Avocado dip, for short
13 Pulitzer-winning novel by Edward P. Jones 40 Ninny the lawn fractions sponds
16 Snake's warning 12 Melancholy verse 25 Mahal preceder
17 Bridge call 1 Grove units 14 Grand Ole — 28 Camp-fire leftovers
18 Shoe width 2 Timid 10 Gal. 29 Despots
19 Tip off 21 Verse 23 Garish 30 Trade-mark
25 Chicago paper, briefly 31 To boot
26 Phoenix cagers 32 HST follower
27 "You've got mail" co. 34 Vicinity
35 Twist-able cookie

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterdays answer 3-22

A	B	C	S	P	I	P	F	L	E	A	
V	I	B	E	A	C	E	R	O	T	C	
I	K	E	A	V	E	R	M	O	U	T	H
V	E	R	M	E	E	R	U	N	D	U	E
A	M	S	B	I	T						
D	A	W	N	S	V	E	R	S	I	O	N
E	V	A	A	I	D	S	R	O			
V	E	R	A	N	D	A	F	A	T	E	D
R	E	O	R	O	C						
A	L	T	A	R	V	E	R	T	I	G	O
V	E	R	B	O	T	E	N	N	A	L	A
E	T	A	L	I	D	A	O	M	A	R	
C	O	P	E	C	A	L	W	A	D	S	

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Tax Duplicates for the several taxing units of Jay County, for the year 2022 payable 2023, are now in the hands of the County Treasurer, who is ready to receive the taxes charged thereon. The following table shows the rate of taxation on each \$100.00 worth of taxable real and personal property. First installment is due on or before and delinquent after May 10, 2023.

Table with columns for 2022 pay 2023 Tax Rates and various municipalities including Penn, Pennville, Dunkirk, Bearcreek, Bryant, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Knox, Madison, Salamonina, Noble, Pike, Richland, Redkey, Wabash, Wayne, and Portland. Includes a note: State of Indiana, Jay County, SS: I, Emily Franks, Auditor of Jay County, hereby certify that the above is a correct copy of all tax levies for the taxes collectible in the year 2022 pay 2023.

CR/NS 3-22,29,4-5-2023-HSPAXLP

Public Notice

NOTICE OF INTENT TO SELL BONDS \$6,105,000

AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, SERIES 2023 BUILDING CORPORATION OF JAY SCHOOLS

Upon not less than twenty-four (24) hours' notice given by the undersigned Secretary, the Building Corporation of Jay Schools (the "Corporation") will receive and consider bids for the purchase of the following described Bonds. Any person interested in submitting a bid for the Bonds may furnish in writing to the Corporation c/o the Corporation's municipal advisor, Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors, LLC ("Baker Tilly"), 8365 Keystone Crossing, Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240 (317) 465-1500, or by e-mail to bids@bakertilly.com, on or before 11:00 a.m. (Indianapolis Time) April 6, 2023, the person's name, address, e-mail address, and telephone number.

Notice is hereby given that electronic proposals will be received via PARITY®, in the manner described below, until the time and date specified in the Notice provided at least 24 hours prior to the sale, which is expected to be 11:00 a.m. (Indianapolis Time), on April 13, 2023. Bids may be submitted electronically via PARITY® pursuant to this Notice until the time specified in the Notice, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above.

At the time designated for the sale, the Corporation will consider bids for the purchase of the following described Bonds: Building Corporation of Jay Schools Ad Valorem Property Tax First Mortgage Bonds, Series 2023 (the "Bonds") in the principal amount of \$6,105,000*; Fully registered form; Denomination \$5,000 and integral multiples thereof (or in such other denomination as requested by the winning bidder); Originally dated the date of delivery of the Bonds; Bearing interest at a rate or rates to be determined by bidding, payable on July 15, 2024, and semiannually thereafter; Interest payable by check mailed one business day prior to the interest payment date or by wire transfer to depositories on the interest payment date to the person or depository in whose name each Bond is registered with the trustee on the fifteenth day immediately preceding such interest payment date; Maturing on January 15 and July 15 beginning no earlier than July 15, 2036 on the dates and in the amounts as provided by the Corporation prior to the sale.

As an alternative to PARITY®, bidders may submit a sealed bid or e-mail the bid electronically to the Corporation's municipal advisor at the address described above until the time and on the date identified in the notice given by, or on behalf of the Corporation, twenty-four hours prior to the sale of the Bonds. Upon completion of the bidding procedures described herein, the results of the sealed, non-electronic bids received shall be compared to the electronic bids received by the Corporation.

If a potential bidder has questions related to the Jay School Corporation (the "School Corporation"), the financing or submission of bids, questions should be submitted by email to the addresses above no later than 11:00 a.m. (Indianapolis Time) on April 11, 2023. To the best of the School Corporation's ability, all questions will be addressed by or on behalf of the School Corporation and sent to potential bidders, including any bidders requesting 24 hours' notice of sale, no later than 11:00 a.m. (Indianapolis Time) on April 12, 2023. Additionally, upon request, the written responses will be emailed to any other interested bidder. Bidders should review this notice as well as the Preliminary Official Statement and submit any questions in advance of this deadline to submit questions.

The Corporation reserves the right to adjust the maturity schedule following the sale in order to accomplish the Corporation's financial objectives by reallocating debt service based upon the rates bid by the successful bidder (the "Purchaser"). The Bonds are not subject to optional redemption prior to maturity.

A bid may designate that a given maturity or maturities shall constitute a term bond, and the semi-annual amounts set forth in the schedule provided prior to the sale shall constitute the mandatory sinking fund redemption requirements for such term bond or bonds. For purposes of computing true interest cost, the mandatory redemption amounts shall be treated as maturing on the dates set forth in the schedule set forth provided prior to the sale.

Each bid must be for all of the Bonds and must state the rate of interest which each maturity of the Bonds is to bear, stated in multiples of 1/8th or 1/100th of one percent (1%). The maximum interest rate on the Bonds shall not exceed five percent (5.00%) per annum. All Bonds maturing on the same date shall bear the same rate. Bids shall set out the total amount of interest payable over the term of the Bonds and the true interest cost on the Bonds covered by the bid. No bid for less than ninety-nine and five tenths percent (99.5%) of the face value of the Bonds will be considered. The Bonds will be awarded to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder who has submitted a bid in accordance herewith. The winning bidder will be the one who offers the lowest true interest cost to the Corporation. The true interest cost rate is that rate which, when used to compute the total present value as of the date of delivery of the Bonds of all debt service payments on the Bonds on the basis of semiannual compounding, produces an amount equal to the sum of the par value of the Bonds minus any premium bid plus any discount. In the event of a bidder's error in interest cost rate calculations, the interest rates and premium, if any, set forth or incorporated by reference in the official bid form will be considered as the intended bid. No conditional bids will be considered. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. If an acceptable bid is not received for the Bonds on the date of sale hereinbefore fixed, the sale may be continued from day to day thereafter without further advertisement, during which time no bid which provides a higher total interest cost to the Corporation than the best bid received at the time of the advertised sale will be considered.

A good faith deposit ("Deposit") in the form of cash, wire transfer or certified or cashier's check in the amount of one percent (1%) of the par amount of the Bonds payable to the order of the Corporation may be required to be submitted by the Purchaser not later than 3:30 p.m. (Indianapolis Time) on the next business day following the award. If a requested Deposit is not received by that time, the Corporation may reject the bid. No interest on the Deposit will accrue to the Purchaser. The Deposit will be applied to the purchase price of the Bonds. In the event the Purchaser fails to honor its accepted bid, the Deposit will be retained by the Corporation as liquidated damages.

The Purchaser shall make payment for such Bonds and accept delivery thereof within five days after being notified that the Bonds are ready for delivery, at such place in the City of Indianapolis, Indiana, as the Purchaser may designate, or at such other location mutually agreed to by the School Corporation and the Purchaser. The Bonds will be ready for delivery within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale. If the Corporation fails to have the Bonds ready for delivery prior to the close of banking hours on the forty-fifth day after the date of sale, the Purchaser may secure the release of the bid upon request in writing, filed with the Corporation. Unless otherwise requested by the winning bidder, the Purchaser is expected to apply to a securities depository registered with the Security and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to make such Bonds depository-eligible. If the Bonds are reoffered, at the time of delivery of the Bonds to the Purchaser, the Purchaser will be required to certify to the Corporation the initial reoffering price to the public of a substantial amount of each maturity of the Bonds.

All provisions of the bid form and Preliminary Official Statement (as hereinafter defined) are incorporated herein. As set forth in the Preliminary Official Statement, the Purchaser agrees by submission of their bid to assist the Corporation in establishing the issue price of the Bonds under the terms outlined therein and shall execute and deliver to the Corporation at closing an "issue price" certificate, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the Purchaser, the Corporation and Krieg DeVault LLP ("Bond Counsel").

Bidders must comply with the rules of PARITY® in addition to requirements of this Notice. To the extent there is a conflict between the rules of PARITY® and this Notice, this Notice shall control. Bidders may change and submit bids as many times as they wish during the sale, but they may not withdraw a submitted bid. The last bid submitted by a bidder prior to the deadline for the receipt of bids will be compared to all other final bids to determine the winning bid. During the sale, no bidder will see any other bidder's bid, nor will they see the status of their bid relative to other bids (e.g., whether their bid is a leading bid).

It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Bonds, but neither the failure to print such numbers on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for failure or refusal by the successful bidder therefor to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds in accordance with the terms of its proposal. No CUSIP identification number shall be deemed to be a part of any Bond or a part of the contract evidenced thereby and no liability shall hereafter attach to the Corporation or any of its officers or agents because of or on account of such numbers. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP identification numbers on the Bonds shall be paid for by the Corporation; provided, however, that the CUSIP Service Bureau charge for the assignment of said numbers shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the Purchaser. The Purchaser will also be responsible for any other fees or expenses it incurs in connection with the resale of the Bonds.

The approving opinion of Bond Counsel, together with a transcript of the proceedings relating to the issuance of the Bonds and closing papers in the usual form showing no litigation questioning the validity of the Bonds, will be furnished to the Purchaser at the expense of the Corporation.

The Corporation was organized for the purpose of constructing and renovating school buildings and leasing such buildings to the School Corporation. All action has been taken and the Bonds are issued in compliance with the provisions of Indiana Code 20-47-3 (the "Act"). The Bonds will be secured by a Trust Indenture, as supplemented (the "Indenture") between the Corporation and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee (the "Trustee") and will be subject to the terms and provisions of the Indenture. The Corporation will certify as to facts to support the conclusion that the Bonds do not constitute private activity bonds as defined in Section 141 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended to the date hereof (the "Code"). The Bonds have been designated as qualified tax-exempt obligations for purposes of Section 265(b)(3) of the Code.

The property to be covered by the Indenture has been leased for a period ending January 15, 2036 to the School Corporation. The Lease Agreement, as amended (the "Lease") provides for increased annual payments in the maximum amount of \$2,000,000, which annual rental is payable semiannually on January 1 and July 1 in each year, commencing July 1, 2024.

After the sale of all Bonds issued by the Corporation to pay for the cost of certain maintenance and equipment upgrades, renovations, and other expenses incidental thereto, the annual rental shall be reduced to an amount equal to the multiple of \$1,000 next highest to the highest sum of principal and interest due on such Bonds in each twelve month period ending on January 15 plus \$5,000, payable in equal semiannual installments. All bidders shall be deemed to be advised as to the provisions of the above-mentioned Indenture and Lease and the provisions of the Act.

The Bonds will be issued on a parity basis with the Corporation's (i) Ad Valorem Property Tax First Mortgage Refunding Bonds, Series 2015, and (ii) Ad Valorem Property Tax First Mortgage Bonds, Series 2021A. The Bonds constitute an indebtedness only of the Corporation, payable in accordance with the terms of the Indenture. The Bonds constitute a valid and legally binding obligation of the Corporation and are payable from Lease rental payments to be received from the School Corporation, which Lease rental payments are payable from ad valorem taxes to be collected on the taxable property within the School Corporation; however, the School Corporation's collection of the levy may be limited by operation of Indiana Code 6-1.1-20.6, which provides taxpayers with tax credits for property taxes attributable to different classes of property in an amount that exceeds certain percentages of the gross assessed value of that property. The School Corporation is required by law to fully fund the payment of debt service on the Bonds in an amount sufficient to pay the debt service, regardless of any reduction in property tax collections due to the application of such tax credits. In the opinion of Bond Counsel, under the existing federal statutes, decisions, regulations and rulings, the interest on the Bonds is excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes and is not an item of tax preference for purposes of the federal alternative minimum tax however, such interest is taken into account in determining the annual adjusted financial statement income of certain corporations (as defined in Section 59(k) of the Code) for the purpose of computing the alternative minimum tax imposed on certain corporations for tax years beginning after December 31, 2022.

The Corporation has prepared a Preliminary Official Statement (the "Preliminary Official Statement") relating to the Bonds which it has deemed to be nearly final. A copy of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained from the Corporation's municipal advisor, Baker Tilly, 8365 Keystone Crossing, Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-2687. Within seven (7) business days of the sale, the Corporation will provide the successful bidder with sufficient copies of the Final Official Statement (the "Final Official Statement") at the Corporation's expense in order for such bidder to comply with Section (b)(4) of the SEC Rule 15c2-12 and the rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board. Additional copies, at the Purchaser's expense, must be requested within five (5) business days of the sale. Inquiries concerning matters contained in the Preliminary Official Statement must be made and pricing and other information necessary to complete the Final Official Statement must be submitted by the Purchaser within two (2) business days following the sale to be included in the Final Official Statement.

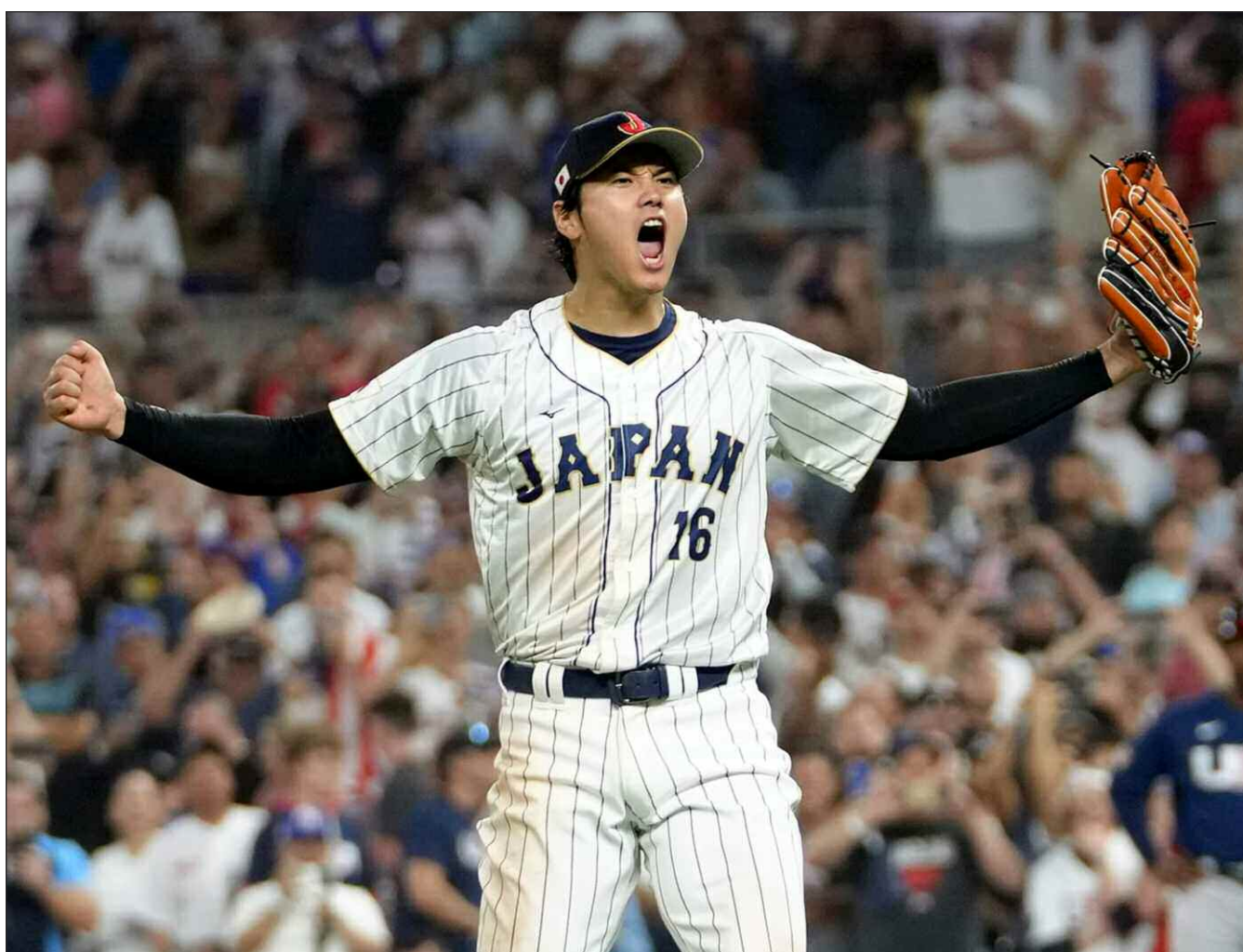
If the Bonds are reoffered by an underwriter, the School Corporation agrees to enter into a continuing disclosure undertaking (the "Undertaking Agreement") in order to permit the Purchaser to comply with the SEC Rule 15c2-12, as amended to the date hereof. A copy of such Undertaking Agreement is available from the School Corporation or municipal advisor at the address below.

Further information relative to the Bonds and a copy of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained upon application to Baker Tilly, 8365 Keystone Crossing, Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-2687, municipal advisor to the School Corporation; Joshua Atkinson, Sprunger & Sprunger, 940 N. Meridian St., Portland, Indiana 47371, attorney for the School Corporation; or Jeremy Gulley, Superintendent of the School Corporation, 414 Floral Avenue, Portland, Indiana 47371. If bids are submitted by mail, they should be addressed to the Corporation, attention of Baker Tilly, 8365 Keystone Crossing, Suite 300, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240-2687.

Dated this 17th day of March, 2023.

Secretary, Board of Directors, Building Corporation of Jay Schools

CR/NS 3-22,29-2023- HSPAXLP



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Eric Espada

Shohei Ohtani of Team Japan reacts after the final out of the World Baseball Classic Championship defeating Team USA, 3-2, at loanDepot park on Tuesday in Miami.

WBC ...

Continued from page 8
Japan celebrated its first WBC title since 2009 and won its third overall, remaining the only nation to win multiple WBC championships in the event's history. Japan won all seven of its games, completing only the second unbeaten championship run in the history of the WBC, joining the Dominican Republic in 2013.

The United States, which went 5-2 in the tournament, came up a win short of repeating as WBC champions after its victory in 2017.

Team USA delivered a solid collective pitching performance itself, holding Japan to its lowest run total in a game in this year's tournament.

Japan was averaging 8.8 runs per game entering the final and had only allowed 16 runs.

In the second inning, and for the third consecutive game, the U.S. got some more big-game magic from its hottest hitter.

Trea Turner put the U.S. ahead 1-0 in the second inning when he crushed his fifth home run of the tour-

namment 407 feet into the left field seats.

But Japan answered with two runs in the bottom half of that inning, starting with a solo home run from Munetaka Murakami. Kazuma Okamoto, who singled and came around to score on an RBI groundout by Lars Nootbaar, then homered in the fourth to push Japan's lead to 3-1.

The U.S. left two runners on base in the third and fifth innings. Another promising chance evaporated quickly in the seventh. Jeff McNeil led off that inning with a walk and Betts followed with a single. But Trout flew out to right and Paul Goldschmidt grounded into an inning-ending double play.

In the eighth, after fouling off six pitches, Kyle Schwarber cracked Japan's pitching armor with a towering, 436-foot solo home run to right-center field with one out off Darvish. Turner followed with a single to bring the go-ahead run to the plate, but Darvish induced a pop up from J.T. Realmuto and got Cedric Mullins to fly out.

Spartans are Big Ten's last hope

By MATT CHARBONEAU

The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

EAST LANSING, Mich. — The NCAA Tournament marches on this week and, once again, the Big Ten is the convenient punching bag for fans and national media alike.

As No. 7 seed Michigan State prepares to face No. 3 Kansas State on Thursday in the Sweet 16 of the East Region, the Spartans do so as the only Big Ten team remaining in the field, another in a line of several lackluster showings from the conference.

Eight Big Ten teams made the NCAA Tournament field, including No. 1 seed Purdue and No. 4 Indiana, but only the Spartans made it out of the first weekend. And with No. 16 Fairleigh Dickinson's epic upset over the Boilermakers, the shots at the Big Ten have been ramped up this spring.

Izzo, however, is in the Sweet 16 for the 15th time — tied for most among active coaches — and

whether he likes it or not the Spartans are again carrying the banner for the Big Ten.

"I've heard from most of the coaches in the Big Ten, to be very honest with you," Izzo said on Tuesday before Michigan State had practice, then planned to hit the road for New York. "Because for me, nothing means more than Michigan State. And second on the list would be the Big Ten Conference, because it's been good to me. I've been a part of it; I believe in it, I love the academic situation we have here. I love the fan bases we have in the Big Ten."

"There's so many things we have here that are special, and the one thing that we don't have is we have not won a championship since ours (23) years ago."

Indeed, that is what drives so much of the criticism of the Big Ten. Michigan State won the national title in 2000, but the conference has been blanked ever since. Of course, the detractors are conveniently overlooking the fact the Big Ten has reached the

Final Four 14 times since MSU's championship — only the ACC has more, with 16 — and has played in the championship game six times.

Throw in the last three seasons, though, and things have truly gotten difficult for the Big Ten. Only Michigan State reached the Sweet 16 this season out of eight teams — in addition to Purdue and Indiana being eliminated, Iowa and Illinois were bounced in the first round, while Maryland, Northwestern and Penn State exited in the second — a year after nine Big Ten teams made the field, with just two reaching the second weekend.

In 2021, Michigan was the only team to reach the second weekend, with Michigan State the last team to reach the Final Four, in 2019, and Michigan the last to play in the title game, in 2018.

"I, myself, have been in (four) Final Fours, (along) with another Big Ten team," Izzo said. "That means half the field was a Big

Ten team and we didn't get it done."

The question, of course, is why?

It's a simple question that might not have a simple answer, but the past couple of seasons, the focus has been on whether the Big Ten's reliance on traditional big men like Purdue's Zach Edey hurts more NCAA Tournament times.

"I think it's a million different reasons," Izzo said. "I think like this year, one of the problems is we beat the hell out of each other. I don't think it wore us down; I just think it put us in a position where everybody's a 7, 8, 9 seed. That's the toughest place to be in. You'd almost rather be a (11) seed and play a 6 and then play a 3. The 1 and the 2 are really the toughest ones to get around, usually. Not many people beat the 1 and 2 seeds most of the time."

"But, I don't think it's style of play and all the things people say. It all comes down to matchups."

And through two games, the

matchups have been favorable for Michigan State, which knocked off No. 10 Southern Cal in the first round before beating No. 2 Marquette in round two.

Neither team had a dominant big man, allowing Michigan State to play to its strengths, as opposed to devising a way to limit its opponents. The same could be said for the meeting with Kansas State and a potential game against No. 4 Tennessee in the regional final.

If it plays out that way and the Spartans truly do match up well, they could be a step closer to ending the Big Ten title drought.

"A lot of guys in our league are competitors, and most of the time, they are probably pulling for us for a variety of reasons, and that's all good," Izzo said. "I feel bad the six other times we've been (to the Final Four) and haven't been able to get it done. But, you keep knocking on that door, man, and someday, Cinderella, that slipper will fit, someday. You just gotta keep knocking."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

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

Friday
Fort Recovery — Baseball scrimmage vs. Perry — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
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: Min-

nesota 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
3:45 p.m. — Soccer: Euro qualification — Belgium vs. Sweden (FS1)
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Alabama vs. San Diego State (TBS)
7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Boston Celtics (Bally Indiana)
7:15 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Houston vs. Miami (CBS)
8 p.m. — Soccer: CONCACAF Nations League — United States vs. Grenada (TNT)
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.

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 a 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.
T-Ball/coach-pitch registration open
Registration is open for Jay County Center's Boomer tball 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.

40 NOTICES	60 SERVICES	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	130 MISC. FOR SALE	200 FOR RENT	250 PUBLIC NOTICE
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Call Rodney Thornbury, owner 765-509-0191</p> <p>90 SALE CALENDAR</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 8909 S 1150 W REDKEY, IN SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023 10:00 A.M VEHICLES—UTV—TRAILER—EQUIPMENT</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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</p> <p>4 troy ounce clown silver bar, JD 5 coin collection .999 silver, gold and sil-</p>	<p>ver 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</p> <p>Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229</p> <p>Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.</p> <p>PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN</p> <p>Saturday Morning MARCH 25, 2023 9:30 A.M.</p> <p>HOUSEHOLD GOODS—OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS</p> <p>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 ASSORT-</p>	<p>MENT OF JEWELRY, includes necklaces, bracelets, earrings, 1st edition Flash Comic, comic books; and many others items not listed.</p> <p>TOOLS</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ROXANNE JONES Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131</p> <p>110 HELP WANTED</p> <p>NOW HIRING WICKEY CONSTRUCTION Pay based on experience, for more information call 260-273-9776.</p> <p>130 MISC. 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Bids are to be from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 with optional escalator clause as an alternate.</p> <p>Specifications are available in the Jay County Auditor's Office, Portland, Indiana 47371 for the following items:</p> <p>Item #1 Asphalt Emulsions — RS-2, AE-90S</p> <p>The Board of Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and/or all bids, or to accept the one which, in their judgment will be in the best interest of Jay County, being the best and/or lowest response and responsible bidder for each line or class of materials by the order of the Board of Commissioners of Jay County, Indiana.</p> <p>Emily Franks Jay County Auditor CR/NS 3-15-22-2023- HSPAXLP</p>

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Getting prepared

Fort Recovery High School's Wyatt Bihn throws a pitch while first baseman Bo Thein holds a runner near the base Tuesday afternoon during a scrimmage against the Wayne Trace Raiders. The Indians will open their season Saturday with a visit to Houston.

Japan defeats U.S. in WBC finale

By **ANDRE FERNANDEZ**
Miami Herald
Tribune News Service

MIAMI — Team USA manager Mark DeRosa felt confident in his team's lineup no matter who would throw for Japan on Tuesday night.

"It's crazy deep and crazy good," DeRosa said. It turns out so was Japan's pitching staff.

Japan used seven pitchers, starting with Shota Imanaga and finishing with All-Stars Yu Darvish and Shohei Ohtani, to hold the potent U.S. lineup in check enough to secure a 3-2 victory in the World Baseball Classic championship game at Miami's loanDepot park before a crowd of 36,098.

In the end it came down to the Los Angeles Angels teammates as Ohtani came in to pitch the ninth and would face Mike Trout with two outs and the bases clear after the former induced Mookie Betts to ground into a double play.

After a six-pitch battle, Ohtani, who was named tournament MVP, struck out Trout when he swung and missed at an 87-mph sweeper to end the game and send the rest of Japan's players racing toward the mound to celebrate.

See WBC page 7

Glentzer seventh at age group state

INDIANAPOLIS — Two local swimmers competed for the first time in the state championships this weekend.

Cooper Glentzer and Maria Laux of Jay County Winter Swim Team took part in the Indiana Swimming Age Group State Championships from Friday

through Sunday at Indiana University Natatorium with the former posting a top-eight finish.

With three top-16 results, Jay County scored 16.5 points to place 47th out of 61 teams. Carmel Swim Club dominated the meet with 2,920.5 points.

Glentzer turned in the best

effort among the pair at the championships as he finished seventh in the 11-12-year-old boys 500-yard freestyle. He posted a time of 5 minutes, 32.95 seconds.

He competed in four other events at the meet, tying Elijah Fishman of Fishers Area Swim-

ming Tigers for 13th in the 50 freestyle in 26.6. He also had times of 2:06.93 for 16th in the 20 freestyle, 57.94 for 17th in the 100 freestyle and 31.95 for 32nd in the 50 backstroke.

Laux qualified for the state meet in the 50 freestyle and placed 34th with a time of 27.84.

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<p>PC0050</p> <p>2014 Dodge Challenger</p> <p>Ralley Red Line, leather, alloy wheels, 50k miles</p> <p>only \$24,495</p>	<p>PC0057</p> <p>2020 Mustang GT</p> <p>Lots of extras, custom wheels, paint, stereo, Corsa exhaust</p> <p>Only \$38,495</p>
<p>PT0144</p> <p>2018 Dodge Durango Citadel</p> <p>AWD, loaded, MUST SEE, very nice SUV</p> <p>21/28 City/Hwy Only \$31,995</p>	<p>PT0110</p> <p>2019 Ford Ranger Lariat</p> <p>4x4, crew cab, 2.3L, leather, loaded</p> <p>21/28 City/Hwy Only \$36,995</p>

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