

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Commissioners looking at new plan

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Commissioners are looking into creating a capital improvement plan.

Jay County Commissioners discussed the idea Monday. They also noted a joint meeting at 6 p.m. April 5 with Jay County Council and Jay County Redevelopment Commission, which will include speaking with Jason Semler of accounting and consulting firm Baker Tilly about the county's economic development funds.

Commissioner Brian McGal-

Joint session to discuss issue is scheduled for April 5

liard explained he had talked with county attorney Wes Schemenaur about potential projects that could be included in a capital improvement plan. County officials have been discussing implementing a new plan for economic development funds following commissioners' decision to rescind the county's five-year economic development plan Feb. 13. (In 2020, commissioners, council

and county municipalities approved a five-year plan for economic development income tax dollars put together by Jay County Development Corporation. It set priorities of using such funds for spec buildings, developing industrial land, acquiring land for industrial, residential and commercial use, investing in downtown, revolving loans for local businesses, blight eradication and as a match for grants like the Indiana Department of Transportation's Community Crossings program.)

McGalliard referenced poten-

tial projects the county could include in a plan, such as constructing a new recycling center for Jay County Solid Waste Management District, a new barn for Jay County Highway Department or a multi-faceted building for Jay Emergency Medical Service, Jay County Health Department and Jay County Coroner's Office.

Answering a question from commissioner Chad Aker, Schemenaur confirmed a capital improvement plan could replace the former five-year economic development plan.

See **Commissioners** page 5

Council OKs \$\$ for flood project

Bids came in higher than engineer's estimate

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

DUNKIRK — Flood mitigation work is going to cost the city more than projected.

Dunkirk City Council on Monday approved an additional \$125,647 in funding to cover the cost of a project to add two detention ponds and make other storm sewer upgrades.

Mayor Jack Robbins explained to council that the low bid for the flood mitigation project was \$835,647 from VFT Excavating of Celina, Ohio. That was more than \$125,000 over the engineer's estimate of \$710,000. (The only other bid from Watson Excavating of Redkey came in at more than \$1.4 million.)

While frustrated by the cost, Robbins noted that the city already has about \$100,000 in engineering and other fees spent on the project and recommended moving forward.

Council members Jesse Bivens, Bryan Jessup, Christy Curts, Tom Johnson and Kevin Hamilton agreed, voting unanimously to cover the overage with the remaining \$60,000 the city has left in federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) with the remaining dollars to come from its stormwater fund.

Dunkirk received a \$600,000 Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) grant for the work that was initially estimated at \$1 million for construction, engineering and other costs. The remainder was to be paid with \$400,000 of the city's ARPA funds.

The project calls for creating detention basins east of Broad Street near Moore Avenue and west of 3rd Street near the southern city limits. They will remain dry most of the time and will be used to detain water during heavy rain events. That water will then be released at a controlled rate in order to take pressure off of the city's storm sewers. Also included are some upgrades to current storm sewer infrastructure.

See **Council** page 5

Stahl to lead FR



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Fort Recovery School Board selected Tony Stahl as the next superintendent of Fort Recovery Local Schools. Stahl, pictured speaking above at a meeting in February, will transition to the role from his position as Fort Recovery High School principal.

School board selects high school principal to become new superintendent beginning in 2023-24

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — School board didn't stall around selecting its next superintendent.

Fort Recovery School Board hired Tony Stahl, current principal of Fort Recovery High School, as the district's new superintendent Monday.

It also accepted Fort Recovery Athletic Boosters' donation of the new LeFevre Family Baseball and Softball Complex upon its completion Friday and approved the 2023-24 staffing plan, which involves hiring a new teacher and rearranging a few other positions.

The school board approved a

four-year contract for Stahl starting Aug. 1. The board has been looking for a new leader since superintendent Larry Brown announced he would be retiring at the end of the calendar year.

Stahl has served as high school principal for three years and previously as principal at

Fort Recovery Middle School for four years. Prior to his time in administration, Stahl worked for three years as a social studies teacher at St. Henry High School. He finished his superintendent licensure program in July 2019 through the University of Dayton.

See **Stahl** page 2

Advisory committee recommends funds

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A local group may be getting county funds after all.

Jay County Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) advisory committee recommended county officials allot \$2,000 to Jay County Historical Society.

The group had been

receiving the funds annually, having been allotted the amount in the previous five-year economic development plan. The plan was rescinded by Jay County Commissioners in February, and they're currently working on a capital improvement plan to replace the old plan. (See related story.) Commis-

sioners recently pushed the request to the EDIT advisory committee — all three commissioners sit on the board — for closer review.

Co-president Rob Weaver explained the county has contributed the same financial amount to the historical society for years.

"This has been a long-time support for the historical society from the commissioners for many years," he said. "We've felt that it's been in support of the historical society as being the caretaker of the county's history, so to speak."

He explained the group had been using the money

for operations each year. He also pointed to support the group has given to the county, such as coordinating the centennial celebration at Jay County Courthouse at no cost. Weaver noted this was the first time they had presented a funding request to the EDIT advisory board.

See **Funds** page 2

Deaths

John Ickes, 85, Fort Recovery
Janet Shreeve, 77, Muncie
Deloris Brown, 90, rural Pennville
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 52 degrees early Monday. The temperature dropped through the day to a low of 38.

Tonight's low will be in the upper 30s. Expect a high around 50 with a chance of showers in the afternoon and winds gusting to 30 miles per hour. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The City of Portland's water office will be closed beginning at 1:30 p.m. Thursday for city wide employee training.

Coming up

Wednesday — A look at unemployment in Jay County and the surrounding area.

Saturday — Coverage of the opening of the new FRHS baseball/softball complex.



Obituaries

John Ickes

May 28, 1937-March 23, 2023
John P. Ickes, 85, of Fort Recovery, Ohio, passed away on Thursday, March 23, 2023, at Rest Haven Nursing Home in Greenville, Ohio.

He was born on May 28, 1937, in Portland, Indiana, to the late Lano and Mabel (Whitacre) Ickes.

In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda (Rhine) Ickes, whom he married on Feb. 18, 1972, and who passed away on June 28, 2021.

John is survived by his children, Morton (Susan) Pugh of Fort Recovery, Jeffrey (Virginia) Pugh of Fort Recovery, Annette Pugh of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and Julie Ickes of Orlando, Florida; and his grandchildren, Sierra (Alex) Kaiser, Rachel Pugh and Mitchell Pugh, all of Fort Recovery.

John graduated from Portland High School and then attended Purdue University until he returned home to work on the family farm. As a life-long farmer, John raised registered Angus cattle and had an independent chicken house for over 30 years. He also worked for New Idea as an inspector and hauled stone and gravel for many years.

He was one of the original members of the Fort Recovery Ambassadors and was in charge of the advertising for the annual tractor pulls. John was also a member of the Fort Recovery Cemetery Board for over 40 years. In his free time, John loved to go bowling. Along with Wanda, John was active in several bowling leagues each year. Aside from



Ickes

bowling, John was also an avid blackjack player, where he enjoyed playing at the riverboat and in Las Vegas. He was a Cincinnati Reds and Purdue Boilermakers fan. Above all, the most important thing to John was his family, whom he cherished dearly.

The family will receive guests on Monday, March 27, 2023, from 3 to 7 p.m. at Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home in Fort Recovery.

A private family funeral service will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2023, with Mike Hickerson officiating. Burial will follow in Spring Hill Cemetery in Fort Recovery.

Memorial contributions may be given to Rest Haven Nursing Home's Resident Aid Fund, 1096 N. Ohio St., Greenville, OH 45331.

Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockmanboeckmanfh.com.

Janet Shreeve

Feb. 9, 1946-March 26, 2023
Janet Louise Shreeve, 77, passed away Sunday, March 26, 2023, at Morrison Woods Healthcare in Muncie, Indiana. She was born on Feb. 9, 1946, to the late James and Geraldine (Byrum) Woods.

Janet was a teacher at Jay School Corporation for 40 years and enjoyed collecting Elvis Presley memorabilia.

Survivors include her cousins Mary Ann Payton of Dayton, Ohio, Marica (Ron) Holt of Union City, Indiana, and Mike Pratt of Muncie, Indiana.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Gregory; and her sister Carolyn Woods.

Visitation will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. on Friday, March 31, 2023, at Reichard Funeral Home, 400 W. Deerfield

Road, Union City, Indiana. Funeral services will follow at 3 p.m. with burial to take place at Union City Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Saratoga Cemetery in Saratoga, Indiana.

Memories may be expressed at reichardfh.com.

Deloris "Jean" Brown, rural Pennville, Dec. 19, 1932-March 26, 2023. Services will be at noon Thursday at the Pennville Chapel of Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home.

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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 3/29	Thursday 3/30	Friday 3/31	Saturday 4/1	Sunday 4/2
50/22	53/43	63/40	47/27	54/43
There's a 40% chance of showers Wednesday with wind gusts reaching up to 30 mph.	Thursday's forecast shows sunny skies with a chance of showers late.	Rain is expected Friday with thunderstorms also possible in the afternoon.	Another slight chance of rain. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a high of 47 degrees.	Sunny skies with highs in the mid to low 50s. At night, the low may dip to the 40s.

Lotteries

Powerball Monday 19-26-36-43-58 Powerball: 14 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$132 million	13-15-18-22-25-26-31-37-45-57-58-63-65-70-73-76 Cash 5: 6-31-32-41-44 Estimated jackpot: \$125,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$13.4 million	Ohio Monday Midday Pick 3: 4-5-7 Pick 4: 7-3-3-8 Pick 5: 3-6-3-8-0 Evening Pick 3: 3-3-2 Pick 4: 0-5-7-3 Pick 5: 2-5-3-3-9 Rolling Cash 5: 2-28-30-33-39 Estimated jackpot: \$100,000 Classic Lotto: 1-15-28-29-32-39 Kicker: 6-7-4-9-5-5 Jackpot: \$7.1 million
Hoosier Monday Midday Daily Three: 8-9-4 Daily Four: 1-4-6-5 Quick Draw: 6-11-12-14-15-17-19-25-29-35-37-40-43-45-48-59-66-67-69-73 Evening Daily Three: 9-1-9 Daily Four: 4-3-5-1 Quick Draw: 1-6-10-12-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.56 April corn.....6.58 Wheat.....6.77	Wheat..... 6.40 July wheat..... 6.87
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.64 April corn.....6.66 May corn.....6.68	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.46 April corn.....6.46 Beans.....14.53 April beans.....14.55 Wheat.....6.86
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.48 April corn.....6.48 Beans.....14.48 April beans.....14.48	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.28 April corn.....6.28 Beans.....14.37 April beans.....14.37 Wheat.....6.46

Today in history

In 1854, England and France declared war on Russia during the Crimean War. They joined the Ottoman Turks in a fight over the Crimean Peninsula that stretched until Russia accepted a peace settlement in 1856.

In 2022, Portland woman Chelsea L. Crossland was arrested in connection with the death of her 5-year-old son following a Department of Child Services hearing in Jay Circuit Court.

In 1856, work was in progress on demolition of the former book bindery in the south 500 block of Wayne Street in Portland.

In 2022, Portland woman Chelsea L. Crossland was arrested in connection with the death of her 5-year-old son following a Department of Child Services hearing in Jay Circuit Court.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., Portland. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 Main St.	Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.
April 4 4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community	7 p.m. — Salamonia Town Council, school-house community center.

Stahl ...

Continued from page 1
According to a press release, board president Don Wendel said Stahl exhibited all the qualities they were looking for in a new superintendent.

Upon hearing Stahl's name as Wendel read it from the agenda before school board's approval, school board members and those in attendance gave a round of applause. Stahl turned around in his seat with a grin on his face.

"I've been in the district, so I have a little bit of an advantage there," Stahl said. "But I'll be working with Larry to kind of learn the ropes and some of the board side of things, and kind of get my feet under me."

He noted there he'll also be hiring some new employees, which will include his replacement as high school principal and a new Fort Recovery Elementary principal. (Current elementary principal Kelli Thobe will be leaving at the end of the school year after resigning earlier this month in preparation for her role as Marion Local Elementary/Middle School principal.)

Brown will resign his position as superintendent effective July 31 and serve as director of the school district through the end of 2023 to provide transitional support to Stahl. He expressed pleasure with Stahl taking over next school year.

"I wish Tony the best of luck, he'll do a great job," said Brown. "He's a good communicator, he's learned a lot about education ... and I'm going to be here to help transition for a short time. But I'm sure he's very capable."

Also Monday, the school board agreed to accept the Fort Recovery Athletic Boosters' donation of the new softball/baseball complex Friday, when the first games are set to begin at the facility. Located on the southeast side of the Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School property, the project included a new baseball field, a "face-lift" for the softball field and permanent restroom, concession and media facilities.

"I certainly want to thank the entire community for all the work and things that went into the development of that plan and the final implementation," said Brown.

He also reviewed the school district's plans for staffing next school year. He referenced the school's kindergarten enrollment, which is estimated at more than 80 students, as well as changes in low incidence special education service needs provided by Mercer County Educational Service Center. Fort Recovery's needs are now predominantly focused in the kindergarten through eighth grade levels, he noted.

See Stahl page 5

Funds ...

Continued from page 1
Commissioner Chad Aker explained the county has been implementing a new funding application for organizations seeking money.

"We're trying to do our due diligence and be more responsible with taxpayer dollars," he said.

He referenced the group's financial outlook, noting the historical society didn't list any new projects on its application requesting funding.

"We saw the assets on here, total liabilities and equity in here, that's where, to us, as commissioners, we thought, well, do you really need the \$2,000?" Aker said.

Weaver and historical society member Claudia Jones noted potential projects such as driveway work and replacing carpet.

Commissioners Rex Journey and Aker advised Weaver and others in the historical society to highlight their planned projects on the application in the future.

Commissioner Brian McGalliard voiced sup-

port for the historical society but advocated for funding other organizations in the future. He said officials are trying to allocate the funding based on financial need.

"We only have 'X' amount of dollars, that's my concern, if we keep contributing to the same people year after year after year after year, (if) somebody new's trying to come along, there's no money available really to do a lot," he said.

Journey made a motion to recommend giving the organization \$2,000 with the understanding that it should include its upcoming projects on its next application in 2024. He reminded them the county may also contribute to other organizations and that the historical society is not guaranteed funding in 2024 or years moving forward.

Jay County EDIT advisory committee then — absent Alicia Corwin, Greg Ellenberger, Erik Hammers, Jack Robbins and Dave Haines — recommended to give the organization the \$2,000.

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Agriculture OUTLOOK
Appears in April 22 edition deadline April 15
Contact Lindsey Cochran L.cochran@thecr.com or 260-726-8141

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Home is where your heart lives

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review
I think we have finally convinced the birds to go somewhere else to build a nest. For several weeks we have watched a pair of birds fly straight at the bathroom window. We were convinced that they were suicidal and would change their minds at the last minute.

As I See It



ing with bits and pieces of dried grass and other nesting materials sticking out. I told my hubby that the mystery was solved. We patched the opening and haven't seen the birds since. It is not like they don't have any other place to build a home. They are more than welcome to build

their home in either of the spruce trees, the weeping cherry, several maples or any of the assorted other trees and shrubs around our yard.

I am not sure what kind of birds they are. They are black, smaller than a robin but bigger than a sparrow and determined to live wherever they choose.

They are not the only wildlife that has wanted to move in with us. For several years a family of squirrels lived in the soffit of the front porch. They finally made such a mess that we removed the soffit. They

must have found other lodging as there are plenty of them and their offspring chasing each other around the yard.

There are assorted cats that use our yard as prime hunting ground. They are more than welcome to all the mice and other small fuzzy wildlife that they can catch.

Sometimes I wonder if the birds and animals that call our place home do so because it is convenient or because it is the only home they have ever known.

I have read that most people live within 100 miles of

where they were born. Do you? I don't but not by much.

What is home, anyway? Is it where you live? Is it where you grew up? Is it where you can kick off your shoes and just be yourself? Is it where your pets are? Is it what the poet Robert Frost said, home is "something you somehow haven't to deserve."

For many, if not most, people home is a refuge. For others, home is a dangerous place. For a couple of birds, home was going to be behind a piece of loose siding and over a window.

Then they decided to look elsewhere for a better place to live when the homeowner made their chosen location uninhabitable.

How do we choose where to call home? We were lured here by a job offer that we didn't feel we could refuse. I think that many people follow a job and before they know it, they discover they are home.

It may not have been their first choice but it was the right choice. Soon enough they are retired and chasing wildlife away from a bathroom window.

Husband forgives affair, starts his own

DEAR ABBY: I've been married for a little more than 12 years. My wife and I have one child. Unfortunately, like a lot of relationships, we've been stuck in a rough patch for a while now. I learned that she was having an affair a few years ago, which rocked me to the core. I recognized there were cracks forming early on, but, admittedly, I didn't do enough to try to fix them. I ultimately decided to forgive her, and we have tried our best to put things back together.

Last year, I met someone through work with whom I connected on an incredibly deep level, and I found myself to be genuinely happy in a way I hadn't been for ages. It led to an affair that has been going on for a year. This woman desperately wants us to have a life together, as do I, but I'm afraid of what it will do to my child.

Walking away from my long marriage, even with everything that has happened, is difficult to fathom, as is the thought of destroying my child's sense of family and stability. I don't want to hurt either person, but I'm at a loss as to what to do. — FAILED HUSBAND IN THE EAST

Dear Abby



DEAR FAILED HUSBAND: Have you had a heart-to-heart talk with your wife about what you both want? If you haven't, you should. IF you would like to continue your marriage, start working with a licensed marriage and family therapist now. Your reason for not wanting to break up the family is rational because there is a third person involved, and I'm not talking about your girlfriend. However, if a couple is not happy, it isn't a healthy atmosphere for a child to grow up in.

DEAR ABBY: How do you tell a loved one that they have bad hygiene (such as body odor and bad breath)? For the most part, my ex-husband raised my now-adult son. My ex is very clean, so I'm not sure why my son is not. It isn't a medical issue, and it isn't sweat from exercise, it's just body odor.

My son and a couple of his friends seem to have lower standards in this area than is socially acceptable. The rest of his friends have what would be considered normal hygiene. I'm worried because this could affect his career and love life. Is there a way to approach it without hurting his feelings, or should I just let him stink and say nothing? — WASHING UP IN WASHINGTON

DEAR WASHINGTON: Tell your adult son that you have noticed his body odor; that it is unpleasant and that you are concerned about it. You didn't mention how old he is, or whether he has a doctor or a dentist, but everyone should get an annual physical and a semiannual dental wellness checkup.

Although you say your son's problem isn't a medical issue, there are any number of serious ailments that can cause body odor and bad breath. If he checks out medically and all he really needs is to shower and brush his teeth on a more regular basis, tell him point blank. And while you're at it, tell him his social and work lives could be negatively impacted

if he doesn't clean up his act. This is what mothers do, so start now.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married more than 30 years. In the last five, I have had so many doctor appointments, medical procedures and surgeries that I have lost count. My husband thinks it is perfectly fine to tell family, friends and strangers about my medical conditions, tests and surgeries.

I asked a friend if she would pray for an upcoming test. She said she would, and would continue to pray until I told her otherwise. I had the test; the results were great. My husband told my friend the results without first asking me if it was OK. I realized it when she said, "Your husband told me the good news."

Now, Abby, I understand it was good news but, in my opinion, it was MY medical information and I had planned to tell her the next time I saw her, which was three days after the test. My husband thinks it's "no big deal" to tell people about what's going on with me medically. I disagree! I believe it's personal and nobody's business.

I have asked, even begged, my husband not to tell anyone about my medical stuff. I went so far as to go to two appointments without telling him. He was furious that I didn't let him come along. I told him why he was left behind, but he still didn't get it, or maybe, didn't think my feelings were important. Am I being too sensitive or should he keep his mouth shut? — VIOLATED IN ARKANSAS

DEAR VIOLATED: Your oversharing husband should respect your feelings and keep his mouth shut. You shouldn't have had to beg him not to discuss your medical information with others. Would he be equally open to your telling folks about the state of his prostate, his Viagra consumption, his colonoscopy preps? Perhaps he will get the message if you start giving him a dose of his own medicine. It's worth a try.

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 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.

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

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

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 ANONYMOUS — 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.

ALANON 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.

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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

2	3	8	1	5	6	4	7	9
5	6	9	4	7	2	3	1	8
7	1	4	9	3	8	6	2	5
8	9	3	2	4	7	5	6	1
6	4	5	8	1	9	2	3	7
1	2	7	5	6	3	8	9	4
9	7	2	6	8	5	1	4	3
4	8	6	3	9	1	7	5	2
3	5	1	7	2	4	9	8	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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Advertise with PURPOSE

Understand problem's magnitude

By SHAWNEE BALDWIN
PeaceVoice

GK Chesterton said, "It isn't that they can't see the solution. It is that they can't see the problem."

Close your eyes. Imagine 26 shoes of various sizes, mostly very small, lined up in the hallways outside your office door. They are drenched in blood and dotted with bits of skin, bone, and hair. Now imagine that line of shoes multiplying and filling every stairwell in the Capitol building. Imagine empty shoes lining the road that leads to your home.

Imagine 7,000 pairs of empty children's shoes on the lawn of the US Capitol, which grief-stricken gun control citizens actually did in yet another effort to wake us to this horror.

Imagine the shouts of joy and laughter that used to emanate

Shawnee Baldwin



from those shoes that have been silenced by a gun that could, should, have been locked up. Imagine the faces of the absent shoe owners morphing into the faces of your family and friends. Imagine the pain, grief, hatred, rage, and sorrow you carry in your empty heart — for their absence, or impairment, and when you find out the murder or injury could have been prevented by sensible gun reform.

Now imagine yourself in a pair of those shoes. Are you ready to die from a gun that was not

locked up, was stolen, or is being used in a moment of rage? Are you ready to die from a ghost gun assembled under the radar of current gun laws? Are you ready to die because we refuse to legislate basic gun reform for all gun owners? Are you ready to stop this public health crisis?

How long will we debate this issue? How many more men, women, and children must die before we do more than offer "thoughts and prayers"? How many more people will suffer mental health issues from close contact with the victims, forced lock down drills in schools, or horrific crime scene images that can't be unseen.

The numbers on the bills of gun reform will change every time they are raised in the chambers of our legislatures. These numbers mean nothing to victim's families. How long will par-

ents mourn another day without their child taken by gun violence? The arguments for Second Amendment rights will be dragged out — overshadowing all other amendments and negating our supposed "unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"? How long will we let NRA lobbyists' money and influence drown out the cries of victims, their families, and those tasked with cleaning up the mess?

Please, strengthen gun storage laws. Please, close the loopholes on ghost guns.

Please, remove access to guns from those who may be a danger to themselves or others.

The sight of bloody shoes still haunts me and I was not even there that day. The images from December 14, 2012 still induce grief. Newtown parents

recalling the day picks a scab off a wound that wasn't even inflicted on me. And this is just one of many gun violence incidents plaguing our country. Guns only have one purpose — to maim, kill, or forever horribly alter the life of another. They must be regulated far more than they are now.

When you allow yourself to see the magnitude of this problem, the solution comes clear.

What will you do now?

.....
Baldwin, a mother and grandmother, works with elementary school children and helps organize youth gun control rallies.

PeaceVoice is a project of the Oregon Peace Institute and is an idea whose time has come. PeaceVoice is devoted to changing U.S. national conversation about the possibilities of peace and the inadvisability of war.

Violent fantasies won't solve anything

The Orange County Register
Tribune News Service

Many Americans nowadays know someone who died of a fentanyl overdose. The drug is highly potent and is slipped in with other illegal substances. From 2016 to 2021, the number of people in California who have died due to fentanyl-related causes increased from 239 to nearly 6,000.

It's natural that people are searching for solutions. One is Orange County Sheriff-Coroner Dan Barnes, whose job includes running an office that has to identify the victims of fentanyl-related poisonings and informing their grieving friends and relatives. Unfortunately, he's reaching too far for an answer, calling for using the U.S. military against the Mexican drug cartels that bring the illicit fentanyl across the border.

In a letter, Barnes endorsed House Joint Resolution 18, by Republican Reps. Dan Crenshaw of Texas and Mike Waltz of Florida. "The drug cartels are flooding American communities with the deadly drug fentanyl and continue to destroy the lives of so many people on both sides of our Southern border," Barnes wrote.

HJR 18 would "authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against those responsible for trafficking fentanyl or ... carrying out other related activities that cause regional destabilization in the Western Hemisphere."

That's an open-ended invitation to endless military assaults in the whole hemisphere, including right here at home. While this makes for quite the publicity stunt for Reps. Crenshaw and Waltz, militaristic jingoism isn't a serious plan for tackling a serious problem like the current drug overdose problem facing the nation. For one, U.S.-backed drug eradication efforts have gone on for decades. The U.S. military occupied Afghanistan. The result, by the time the U.S. exited that country? More opium production than before the U.S. invasion. Efforts in Colombia likewise failed to stop the massive drug trade,

Guest Editorial

despite billions of dollars in U.S. expenditures.

"This plan overlooks the inconvenient fact that efforts to block the supply of illegal drugs, no matter how enthusiastically or violently pursued, have never had a substantial and lasting impact on the price or availability of these substances," Jacob Sullum, a senior editor at the Los Angeles-based Reason magazine, told us. "Drug prohibition sows the seeds of its own defeat by enabling traffickers to earn a premium for undertaking the special risks involved in supplying an illegal product. Fentanyl magnifies that challenge because it is synthetic and highly potent, making it much easier to produce and smuggle."

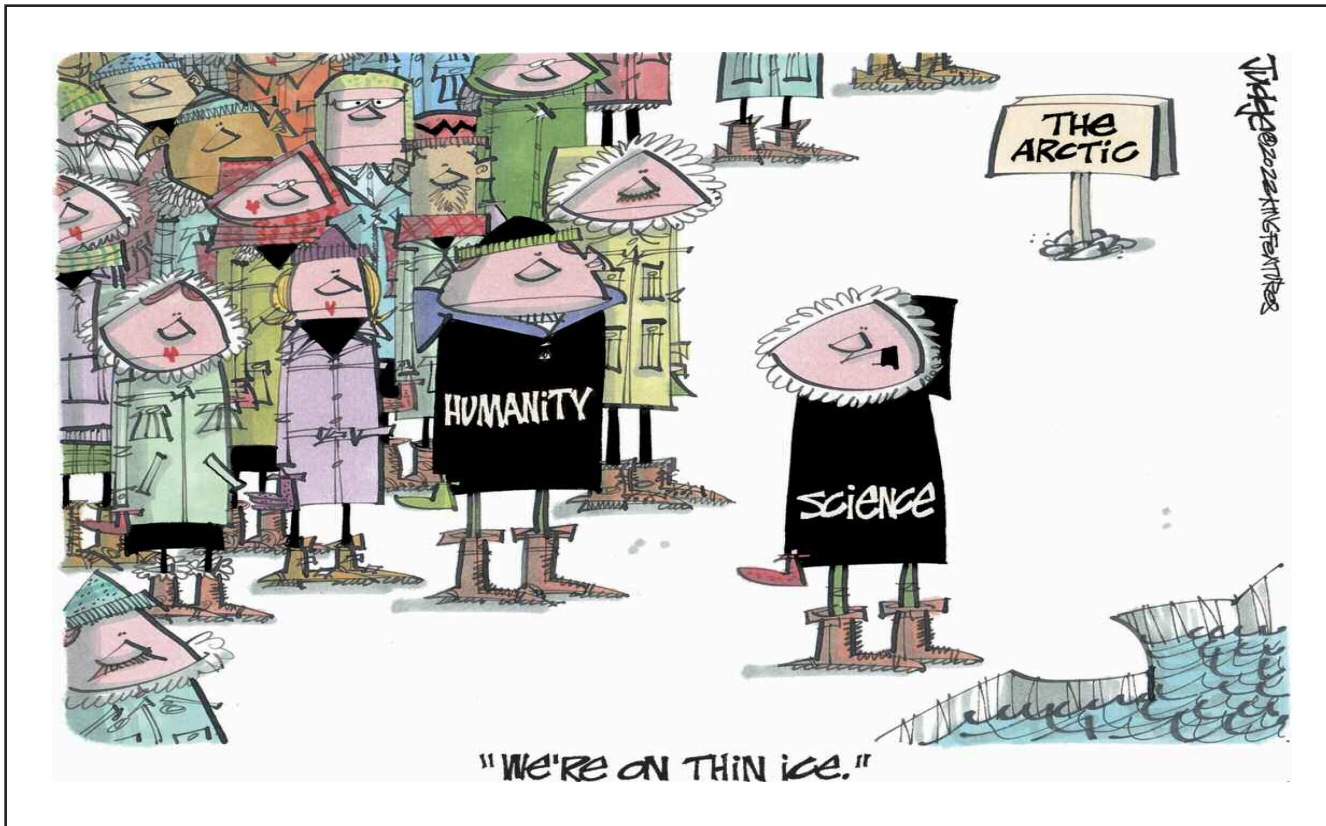
There's also the fact that you can't bomb away the drug problem. Drug addiction is a serious issue in the United States. Instead of indulging violent fantasies of bombing Mexico, policymakers should be looking at how to help those suffering drug problems.

As Sullum notes, the fentanyl crisis in part is due to the crackdown on legal painkillers in the last decade, forcing those in great pain onto the black market, where the substitutes "are much more dangerous because their potency is highly variable and unpredictable." Arguably, the U.S. should consider loosening restrictions on prescribing legal painkillers to those in need.

Californians like Sheriff Barnes should support overdose prevention programs so addicts can use their drugs under medical supervision. That will help curtail overdose deaths and could provide a path to treatment for those who want it.

And finally, there should be a greater investment in addiction treatment, making it more easily accessible especially to those caught up in the criminal justice system.

Let's be smart about drug policy, not barbaric.



Compromise is the key

By MARK FRANKE
HSPA Infonet

I must hang around with the wrong people. Every time I think I have made up my mind on an issue, someone challenges that conclusion. Even worse is when the challenge is to my premises.

I wrote this between sessions at an American Legion conference in Washington D.C. I was about to meet with an enthusiastic young man representing an organization of veterans resolved to break the power of the two-party system in American politics. Our two-party system has become a problem, no argument there, but I have not been able to buy into the solutions offered by this group and others.

So I just admitted I am intellectually lazy. I agree there is a problem but don't make me think too deeply about the solution.

Except I can't walk away from this one. How do we replace the two-party leviathan that has a stranglehold on our political process? Parliamentary multi-party systems don't always work so well either. Note Italy's post-WWII history of what seemed like daily government changes. I don't need to mention Weimar Germany, but then I just did.

A party-less system would be no better, making it difficult for voters to accurately anticipate a successful candidate's legislative actions. There is some value in party discipline, its recent misuse in Congress and the Indiana General Assembly notwithstanding.

Despite my agreement with the problem statement, I just can't march in the solutions parade. These solutions involve ranked choice voting, instant runoff voting, final five voting and top four voting. I hadn't heard of most of these before this meeting so I needed time to think them through. For all my faults no one has ever accused me of being a fast thinker.

One question that comes to mind is whether we want majority election

Mark Franke



or just plurality? If majority, and that is the one I favor, how many runoffs are needed if there are multiple candidates? The reformers have this covered with their ranked choice option but I am not convinced, at least not yet.

Reading is an addiction, at least the pernicious way it consumes every spare moment of my day. When in doubt, I grab a book. So I read three books which address this issue and advance solutions.

Andy Horning, erstwhile Libertarian candidate in state elections, has his package of solutions to our electoral and legislative dysfunctionality. See his book, "Relighting the Torch," for a comprehensive list of reforms including the usual open ballot voting stuff but also some rather provocative nullification amendments to the Constitution.

Another approach is offered by Jim Belcher in "Cold Civil War: Overcoming Polarization, Discovering Unity, and Healing the Nation." His point is to move political discourse toward the center and away from the extremes. His analysis of our current malaise is unique and interesting but, again, I'm not sold on his solutions.

Most unusual of the three due to its methodology is "The Politics Industry: How Political Innovation Can Break Partisan Gridlock and Save Our Democracy" by Katherine Gehl and Michael Porter, both connected to the Harvard School of Business. They apply structured business analysis to the political "business" to identify the problem and offer the usual checklist of solutions.

What all these authors have in

common is a desire to return to a more civil discourse and a legislative focus on compromise. There is certainly value in that, given the polarization of the last several decades. The problem is that the middle can only hold if there is an honest and open debate on the philosophical underpinnings of the political. In other words we have to clearly explain why we believe the way we do, as both Franklin Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan accomplished. I like what the latter did while deploring the impact of the former's actions but that was one thing I never wanted to discuss with my Depression era father.

So the salient question remains: Where is the red line between reasonable compromise and dying on the hill of principle? I suggest it is closer to the compromise side than many of my ideological compatriots would want. At the same time it is much closer to the hilltop than my opposites on the other side of the spectrum would accept.

The key to effective and positive compromise is that both sides must give something in order to gain something more valuable. Perfect must not be the enemy of good, and maybe that is what the authors I cited are advising.

History is replete with examples of failed polities which polarized irretrievably. I fear America is closing in on this point of no return.

Nietzsche, not my favorite philosopher, wrote, "When you stare into the abyss, the abyss stares back at you." I am trying very, very hard not to stare into our political abyss.

.....
Franke, an adjunct scholar of the Indiana Policy Review, is a former associate vice-chancellor at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

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Stahl ...

Continued from page 2
With that in mind, Brown said, he suggested the school board consider adding a fourth grade elementary teacher and reassigning a low incidence special education service needs teacher from the high school to fifth through eighth grade.

The board approved the plan unanimously.

In other business, school board members Anne Guggenbiller, Sean Kahlig, Jake Knapke, Nick Wehrkamp and Don Wendel:

- Authorized the superintendent and treasurer Deanna Knapke to enter into an agreement through the Ohio Council of Educational Purchasing Consortia with Tremco to repair and replace the elementary/middle school gym roof.

- Were reminded by Knapke the next five-year financial forecast for Fort Recovery Local Schools begins at 6 p.m. May 15 prior to the regular school board meeting.

- Heard multiple upcoming dates for activities at

the high school, including the FFA banquet April 4 and prom April 28.

- Approved the following groups to take overnight trips: Fort Recovery Cross Country team to attend a high school cross country camp from Aug. 2 to Aug. 3 at Chenoweth Trails in Greenville, Ohio; FFA wildlife judging team to attend the Ohio wildlife judging competition from March 31 to April 1 at Hocking Technical Community College in Nelsonville, Ohio; FFA Ag mechanics team to attend the Ohio Ag

Mechanics Career Development event from March 30 to 31 at Ohio State ATI Campus in Wooster, Ohio; FFA members to attend the state FFA convention from May 3 to May 5 at Ohio State Fairgrounds in Columbus, Ohio.

- Hired, with Knapke and Wendel abstaining, Nina Wendel as a high school science teacher starting Aug. 1.

- Accepted building aide Pam Fullenkamp's resignation. Fullenkamp plans to retire at the end of the school year.

Felony arrests

Drunk driving

A Portland man was arrested Friday for drunk driving.

Joshua P. Bower, 32, 1009 W. Walnut St., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He is being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Failed to appear

Two Jay County residents were arrested recently for failing to appear in court.

Kala Grady, 31, 1320 W.

Arch St., Portland, was arrested Friday. She failed to appear March 20 in Jay Superior Court. She's charged with perjury, a Level 6 felony.

Matthew A.C. Bishop, 36, 129 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk, was arrested Monday. He failed to appear March 6 in Jay Superior Court. Bishop is charged with a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine.

Both are being held without bond in Jay County Jail.

Council ...

Continued from page 1

No start date has been set for the work, but Robbins said the project is expected to take about three months once construction begins.

Council also approved, with Jessup abstaining, a roofing project at the city's fire station, which also houses Jay Emergency Medical Service. The low bidder for the work was Five Star Commercial Roofing of Hartford City at a cost of \$17,858.50. (The cost of the work is split between the city and Jay County, with commissioners having approved the work earlier in the day.)

Also approved Monday was the city's 20% match of \$40,460.80 for a project to add sidewalks from West Jay Elementary School to Dunkirk City Park. The other 80% of the project — calls for installing a sidewalk along Highland Avenue beginning at West Jay Elementary and eventually connecting with Speedcat Alley, which runs through the park — is being paid via federal funds passed through Indiana Department of Transportation.

Work is expected to be complete by the end of July.

"Thank goodness the sidewalks are going in," said Curtis

of the project, for which federal funding was awarded in 2016.

Also Monday, council members approved closing Commerce Street between Main and Indiana streets on Sept. 30 for the rebirth of the Glass Days festival.

Dru Hall, one of the organizers for the festival that has been dormant since 2019, explained that plans call for several bands, including Cook and Belle, the Cinderella Queen of Glass pageant, a glass blower, a 5K race, refreshments from several local businesses and other attractions.

He noted that the new Glass

Days, Inc., has been unable to secure an amusement company for this year but hopes to be able to do so in the future.

The group's board is also working toward gaining ownership of the former Indiana Glass property at 717 E. St. on the west side of the facility to be developed as Glass Capital Community and Nature Park.

In other business, council:

- Approved the following: the appointment of Tim Hummel to the West Jay Community Center board; a \$350 sponsorship for the city's adult co-ed softball league; a \$300 sponsorship for Dunkirk Public Library's summer read-

ing program; payment of claims totaling \$195,043.83.

- Discussed Indiana House Bill 1167, which would require governing bodies to provide a live stream of public meetings and archive recordings along with links to meeting agendas, minutes and other items.

- Was reminded that Dunkirk's chapter of Delta Theta Tau sorority will host a Swayzee Tenderloins frozen breaded tenderloin pop-up sale from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday at Dunkirk City Park. Glad Tidings Church will also host an Easter carnival from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at West Jay Community Center.

Commissioners ...

Continued from page 1

McGalliard said the county receives just over \$1 million in economic development income tax (EDIT) funds annually. According to McGalliard, more than \$415,000 of that amount is allocated to municipalities as follows: \$297,000 for Portland, \$89,028 for Dunkirk, \$21,197 for Redkey, \$6,514 for Pennville, \$2,026 for Bryant.

He listed off other allocations, which included an agreement with Jay County Humane Society for animal control (\$55,000), contributions to various entities as well as JCDC's annual budget, which is set this year at \$210,000. Those allocations come out to a total of \$394,500, he said, leaving \$242,467 remaining for capital projects.

"You can't get anything done with that," interjected Aker.

McGalliard said 75% of those dollars should be going toward capital improvement projects according to state statute.

"We want a capital improvement plan, but we have less than 25% of the money that we collect left to do anything," he said.

Schemenaur noted municipalities are given a certain amount of EDIT funds. McGalliard agreed but explained he isn't sure how much the county is legally required to allocate for them.

"Other counties give a percentage, but it's a far smaller percentage," he said. "I mean, we're giving away 40% of our money, the county's funds, right off the bat to municipalities."

Commissioner Rex Journey said he's curious why the county allocates so much to organizations in the community. McGalliard said that's why he pointed out the old five-year plan is based on an outdated state statute. Schemenaur noted that some items included in the old five-year economic development plan, such as allocating \$50,000 to John Jay Center for Learning, could be argued as a contribution to economic development.

"It sounds to me like we've taken our EDIT monies and just put it into our budget and said that's how we're going to satisfy things rather than having somebody (work on) a plan," said Journey.

He added that the county should take a look into why it isn't investing 75% of its funds into capital improvement projects.

"Most counties I researched (don't) have a third entity, such as JCDC, put (the plan) together. It's put together by the commissioners, or the joint commissioners-council," McGalliard said. "JCDC is a recipient of that money, and they put the plan together. That seemed kind of odd to me."

McGalliard noted the

upcoming meeting with Semler, which he said would highlight economic development funds. Following that discussion, he said, commissioners and council may want to discuss how it would like to move forward with its economic development investments.

In related business, commissioners OK'd giving \$8,000 in economic development funds from Bitter Ridge Wind Farm to Jay County 4-H. The money was previously accounted for in the five-year economic development plan.

Journey pointed out the organization has raised money in the past for its projects at the request of county officials. Aker noted a number of children in the community are involved in 4-H, and McGalliard, referencing the group's financials, added that it also needs the funds.

Also, commissioners signed a \$1,163,035.20 claim for the purchase of about 68 acres along Indiana 67 within Portland city limits. Plans are to use the land, which will be paid for using federal coronavirus relief funds through the American Rescue Plan Act, for future construction projects, such as creating infrastructure for housing, a multi-faceted building for public safety or a new Jay County Highway Department building. County officials will be closing on the purchase likely sometime this week.

In other business, commissioners:

- Signed several other claims, including a \$17,858.58 claim — it will be split in half between Dunkirk and the county — for a new roof with a 20-year warranty for the building shared by Jay Emergency Medical Service and Dunkirk Fire Department

- Established polling placing for the May 2 municipal primary election as follows: Dunkirk 1 and Dunkirk 3 at West Jay Community Center; Wayne 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 at Jay Community Center and Penn at Pennville Community Center.

- Decided not to add restoration services, an extra roughly \$59,000, onto work being completed on the stained glass in Jay County Courthouse. Bigelow Glass, which recently removed and began repairing the glass, was selected in January 2022 to fix separation between panels.

- OK'd Arch Bridge Kroozers to use Jay County Courthouse restrooms from 1 to 6 p.m. during the group's car show May 20.

- Gave permission to veteran affairs officer Cliff Moser to raise the burial and headstone allowance for veterans by \$200. He noted the amount has not increased for at least 28 years.



Common causes of brain injuries

Brain injuries are nothing to take lightly. According to the spinal cord and brain health services provider Newsome Melton, 1.4 million people experience traumatic brain injuries in the United States each year. The Northern Brain Injury Association reports 452 people suffer serious brain injuries every day in Canada, where brain injuries occur at a rate of 500 out of every 100,000 individuals.

Brain injuries, which can be traumatic brain injuries or acquired brain injuries, can result from a variety of activities, accidents and other risk factors. A greater understanding of potential red flags for brain injuries can help people protect themselves against these potentially debilitating and even deadly outcomes.

What's the difference between TBI and ABI?

A traumatic brain injury (TBI) is generally caused by a blow or some other trauma to the head. The injury does not always include an open head wound or skull fracture, nor does loss of consciousness have to occur for an injury to be considered a TBI. An acquired brain injury

(ABI), also called a non-traumatic brain injury, generally results from an illness or condition within the body.

Top causes of ABIs

These are the most common causes of an ABI:

- Stroke: This is caused by poor blood flow to the brain from a blockage or bleeding.
- Hypoxia: Hypoxia is a lack of oxygen, which can happen when drowning, among other causes.
- Tumors
- Cancer
- Infections that can lead to inflammation

Top causes of TBIs

Here are the leading causes of traumatic brain injuries based on data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Falls: Slipping and falling and hitting the head account for 28 percent of TBIs. Children between the ages of zero and four and adults ages 75 and older are most at risk.
- Motor vehicle accidents: A car or motorcycle crash produces the highest number of TBIs that require hospitalization. In this category, teens between the ages of 15 and 19 account for the most incidents.



• Sports: Roughly 19 percent of traumatic brain injuries occur when the head is struck forcefully by another object or against one. Sometimes called mild traumatic brain injuries, some are treated without hospitalization. Recreation- and sports-related injuries tend to fall in this category.

- Assaults: Victims of assault, when one is hit in the head by fists, another object or even kicked, can cause a TBI. Some TBIs also are caused by firearms.
- Military activity: People in the military can suffer brain injuries from flying debris and large blasts.
- Shaken baby syndrome: This condition occurs when babies are shaken with such force that their brains move violently in the undeveloped skull, causing trauma and

damage to brain tissue.

Symptoms of brain injury

The Shepherd Center, which specializes in medical treatment for brain and spinal cord injuries, indicates symptoms of a brain injury can include any of the following:

- confusion
 - trouble communicating/speaking
 - memory impairments
 - difficulty with focus and logic
 - headache
 - balance issues
 - vision problems
 - seizures
 - trouble swallowing
 - personality changes
- Brain injuries can sometimes be prevented with care. A doctor should be contacted

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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The bidding tells the tale

South dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 9 8 7
♥ 6 2
♦ 8 6 5 3
♣ J 6 5 2

WEST
♠ A 6 4
♥ K J 9 7
♦ Q J 10
♣ 9 8 7

EAST
♠ 3 2
♥ 8 4
♦ 9 7 4 2
♣ K Q 10 4 3

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

The bidding:
South West North East
2♠ Pass 2♦** Pass
2♥ Pass 3♠ Pass
3♥ Pass 3♣ Pass
4♣

*artificial, strong **negative
Opening lead — four of spades.
Many contracts stand or fall depending on the opening lead. The defender saddled with the lead has only the bidding he hears and the 13 cards he sees to guide him to the best opening shot.
Despite this handicap, in many cases the problem is essentially one of inference rather than guesswork. Sound conclusions can often be reached by paying close attention to the opposing bidding. Declarer and his partner, in the process of reaching their final contract, usually reveal illuminating details about their respective holdings.
In the present case, for example, South has described a two-suited hand powerful enough to insist on game. North's bidding is weak and merely shows a preference for spades over hearts.
West, on lead, is looking at heart strength that might be neutralized if declarer is allowed to trump his heart losers in dummy. To protect his heart holding as much as possible, West should lead a trump. A good case can be made for leading the ace rather than a low trump, but the all-important point is that no other suit should be led.
After a trump lead, South cannot make the contract. The ace and another spade, as soon as West regains the lead with a heart, settles declarer's hash. He must lose a spade and three hearts.
But if West, through force of habit, selects the attractive-looking opening lead of the diamond queen instead of a trump, declarer cannot be stopped from ruffing a heart in dummy and eventually scores 10 tricks.

Tomorrow: Putting it all together.
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Rose is Rose

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Hi and Lois

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Snuffy Smith

Beetle Bailey

CRYPTOQUIP

TGBV RMPBSMYA TZNG O
JDUUBY GOPRNLZVF JLMXBBYR
KBLA FBVNUA, TMDUY NGON
SB NBVYMV-UMKZVF XOLB?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FLICK ABOUT A SPYING CAMPAIGN THAT'S HIGHLY UNLIKELY TO BE SUCCESSFUL: "MISSION: IMPLAUSIBLE."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Née	38 Music	3 Hwy.	22 Actress
5 Biting remark	40 Dazzle	4 Brother's son	23 Hotel greeter
9 " — Kapital"	42 Coloration	5 Piece of hardware	24 Hen pen
12 Initial chip	43 Snack spot on a train	6 God of war	26 Turner or Fey
13 Popular cookie	48 Bobby of hockey	7 Irish actor	27 Genetic Stephen
14 Curator's focus	49 Pronto	8 "Good day, Maurice"	28 Rocker Clapton
15 Scour thoroughly	50 Classic Kinks song	9 Farm grazers	29 Show-room sample
17 — bind	51 Sturdy tree	10 Flor-ence's river	31 Paving material
18 Toppers	52 Coffee cups	11 Luminary	34 Dawn goddess
19 Peer in a box	53 Way out	16 Scoundrel	35 Un-attached
21 Put on, as cargo		20 Ornate vase	37 Press for payment
24 New Jersey Senator Booker		21 Aspiring atty.'s exam	38 "Scram!"
25 Passel			39 Mystique
26 Clobbered			40 Un-foreseen problem
29 Tummy muscles			41 Gratuities
31 Trivial load			44 Terre Haute sch.
32 Tram catch some z's			45 "Friends" cast member
35 Do laps			46 Frazier foe
36 "Cola" lead-in			47 Scoundrel
37 '70s club			

DOWN

1 Abysmal	2 Count start
-----------	---------------

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterday's answer 3-28

30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

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Tribune News Service/Baltimore Sun/Jerry Jackson

Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson throws a pass during a Sept. 11 game against the New York Jets at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey.

Jackson ...

Continued from page 8
Jackson played last season under the \$23 million fifth-year option in his rookie contract after he and the Ravens failed to come to terms on a long-term deal.
A knee injury forced the quarterback to the sideline for the final five games of the regular season and a wild-card playoff loss against the Cincinnati Bengals. But Baltimore spent most of the first three months of the offseason focused on contract negotiations and denying any interest in trading Jackson.

"I covet quarterbacks, and I covet great players," Ravens general manager Eric DeCosta said March 1 at the NFL Scouting Combine, a day before Jackson says he made his trade request. "And I love Lamar. So (a trade) has not factored in one time with me. We want to do what's best for the club. We're trying to do what we can for Lamar. We want to make everybody happy."
"We want to make the Ravens happy. I want to make (owner) Steve (Bis-

ciotti) happy. I want to make Lamar happy. I want to make our fans happy."
NFL Network's Ian Rapoport reported Baltimore and Jackson continued to negotiate at least through March 20 with no clear progress.
On Thursday, the NFL warned teams against negotiating with an "uncertified person" allegedly speaking on behalf of Jackson.
Jackson denied the man — a business partner named Ken Francis — ever engaged in

contract negotiations with any team.
On Monday, the quarterback made his trade request public and appeared to be prepared to cut ties with the Ravens.
Jackson led the NFL with 36 touchdown passes and rushed for 1,206 yards during his MVP season in 2019.
He's 45-16 in five seasons as a starter for Baltimore but has missed 10 combined games due to injuries over the past two years.
Jackson has completed

63.7% of his passes for 12,209 yards with 101 touchdowns and 38 interceptions. He's also rushed 727 times for 4,437 yards and 24 scores.
Despite his trade request, Jackson remains essentially a restricted free agent with the Ravens controlling his immediate future.
"Any time that you got a chance to acquire a guy, you to do your work on it to see if it's doable," Ballard said according to Colts.com. "Sometimes it is. Sometimes it's not."

FR ...

Continued from page 8
The game quieted down in the second and third innings with only a total of three batters reaching base, all via walks.
The Tigers had one last push in them, which came in the bottom of the fifth inning. Kinsey Hartzell recorded their first hit of the game when she smacked a solo home run to right field. Pearson then allowed two walks and one hit to load the bases before coach Schoen decided to bring in Jenna Homan. The freshman struck one out and walked in a run before getting out of the inning.
Homan held Ansonia hitless over the final 2/23 innings while striking out four batters.
"(The team) really encouraged me and that made me pretty happy," Homan said. "All the work in practices really came together in that tough position."
The Indians added to their lead in the sixth inning, scoring another five runs on a pair of walks, an error and a couple of base hits by Ava Grisez and Bubb.
Guggenbiller's 2-for-4 effort with four RBIs and the home run led the way for the Indians. Wendel reached base five times and drove in three runs, and Bubb recorded two hits and three RBIs from the No. 9 spot in the order.
Pearson earned the win. She pitched 4 1/3 innings, striking out six while allowing six runs — three earned — on two hits and nine walks.
"Defense has always been a struggle for us just in general," coach Schoen said. "It's hard to practice defense when we are stuck inside for so long during the spring. The kids know we need to work on that."
The Indians' next game will be Friday, when the school will celebrate the opening of The LeFevre Family Baseball and Softball Complex with a home game against the Mississinawa Valley Blackhaws.
"I'm excited," coach Schoen said about the team's home opener. "Hopefully the weather will hold off. We've got another Darke County school and usually those Darke County teams do pretty well so it'll be a tough matchup for sure but we're excited."

Cubs make room for Mastrobuoni

By PAUL SULLIVAN
Chicago Tribune
Tribune News Service

MESA, Ariz. — The Chicago Cubs haven't finalized their opening-day roster, but Monday's trade of infielder Zach McKinstry to the Detroit Tigers opened up a spot for infielder Miles Mastrobuoni.
McKinstry was sent to the Tigers for Carlos Guzman, a 24-year-old minor-league pitching prospect who posted a 4.11 ERA in 27 games last year with Class-A West Michigan and Double-A Erie.
Mastrobuoni, a second baseman and right fielder, hit .333 with 2 RBIs in 18 games this spring. The 27-year-old left-hand-

ed hitter was acquired from the Tampa Bay Rays last November for minor-league reliever Alfredo Zárrega.
He'll back up Nico Hoerner at second along with Nick Madrigal, and will also be a fourth outfielder, meaning Christopher Morel will start the season at Triple-A Iowa.
Morel was informed of the decision Monday, though it was not made official. President Jed Hoyer said earlier Morel needed to play regularly. Morel hit .235 with 16 home runs in 2022 after being a surprise call-up from Double A, but also struck out 137 times in 379 at-bats.
"He's the nicest kid in the world and super upbeat and respectful,"

Hoyer said. "It was just like 'Hey, you're not going to play every day here, that's not the best thing for your development, and when we do call on you we want you to play. And when we need you and you're playing great we'll bring you up.'"
"For the role he was likely to be in for us, it didn't make a lot of sense."
The Cubs also plan on keeping third-string catcher Luis Torrens, a nonroster invitee who also can play first. Torrens, who hit .316 with two home runs this spring, was somewhat of a roster surprise with Yan Gomes and Tucker Barnhart sharing the bulk of the load, though the Cubs spent much last season with three catchers.
Torrens hit 15 home runs with

the Seattle Mariners in 103 games in 2021, but only three in 55 games in '22. He was signed as a nonroster invitee in late January.
Manager Davis Ross announced before Monday's game that Javier Assad, who excelled in the World Baseball Classic after a strong rookie season in Chicago, would make the team in the bullpen as expected.
Left-hander Brandon Hughes was likely headed to the injured list after incurring left knee soreness last week, and Rowan Wick was unlikely to make the roster.
The Cubs don't have to announce their opening-day roster until Thursday morning.

ning 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 runjay-county.com.
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.
To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to sports@theocr.com.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Track vs. Coldwater and Marion Local — 4:30 p.m.; JV softball at St. Henry — 5 p.m.; Freshman baseball at St. Henry — 5 p.m.
Thursday
Fort Recovery — JV baseball at Anna — 5 p.m.; JV softball at Shawnee — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
2:45 p.m. — Soccer: Euro qualification — Croatia vs. Turkey (FS1)
6:30 p.m. — High school basket-

ball: McDonald's All American girls game (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Miami Heat at Toronto Raptors (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL hockey: Vancouver Canucks at St. Louis Blues (Bally Indiana)
9 p.m. — High school basketball: McDonald's All American boys game (ESPN)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: New Orleans Pelicans at Golden State Warriors (TNT)

Wednesday
7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Dal-

las Mavericks at Philadelphia 76ers (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: New York Islanders at Washington Capitals (TNT)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Minnesota Timberwolves at Phoenix Suns (ESPN)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Minnesota Wild at Colorado Avalanche (TNT)
Thursday
4:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7:08 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago White Sox at Houston Astros (ESPN)
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball:

Boston Celtics at Milwaukee Bucks (TNT)
7:30 p.m. — College basketball: State Farm College Slam Dunk and 3-point Championships (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — High school basketball: The Throne National Championship — Quarterfinal (FS1)
9 p.m. — High school basketball: The Throne National Championship — Quarterfinal (FS1)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: New Orleans Pelicans at Denver Nuggets (TNT)

Local notes

Wrestling club hosting event
Jay County Wrestling Club will host Delaware County Championship

Wrestling for a 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 run-

90 SALE CALENDAR

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90 SALE CALENDAR

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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT 2023 TERM No. 38C01-2303-EU-000013 In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of: Lois Deaton, Deceased NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION Notice is hereby given that Anthony W. Deaton was, on the 23rd day of March, 2023, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Lois Deaton deceased, who died on November 30, 2022. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim 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, this 24th day of March, 2023. Jon Eads Clerk of the Circuit Court, For Jay County, Indiana HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR 121 W. High Street Portland, IN 47371 Attorney CR 3-28, 4-4-2023-HSPAXLP

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Billbrey places in top 20 at state meet, see story below

Wrestling club event is set for April 8, see Sports on tap

Sports

Walks, key hits power FR

Indians take control with 6-run fourth in opener

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review
ANSONIA, Ohio — Walks plagued the Indians early in their season opener.

They were able to take advantage of free passes to turn the game in their favor.

The Fort Recovery High School softball team topped the Ansonia Tigers 14-6 in their season opener Monday thanks to a massive offensive performance that included a nine-run fourth inning fueled by five walks.

The Indians (1-0) broke the game open when they sent 10 batters to the plate in the fourth inning. Kayla Heitkamp and Britney Tebee drew walks before right fielder Audra Bupp shot a ball past Ansonia's first baseman to score both runners and put the Tribe in the lead for good. Another walk by Emma Will set up shortstop Cali Wendel to deliver her first RBI of the game.

Sophie Pearson drew yet another walk for Fort Recovery — the team racked up 11 in the game — before catcher Maddie Guggenbiller drove in a run with a ground out and left fielder Ava Schoen added an RBI single.

"The timely hit is really important," Fort Recovery coach Carrie Schoen said.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Fort Recovery High School pitcher Sophie Pearson throws a pitch in the team's season opener Monday afternoon. The Indians beat the Ansonia Tigers 14-6 and Pearson earned the win.

"Those timely hits were huge today."

In addition to the singles from Bupp, Wendel and Schoen in the fourth inning, another of those timely hits came when Guggenbiller blasted a three-run home

run in her first at bat of the season, after Wendel and Pearson drew walks in front of her.

After Fort Recovery's three-run first inning, Ansonia fought back with four runs of their own in the bottom of the inning.

The Tigers worked starting pitcher Sophie Pearson for four walks in the inning and were also able to take advantage of an error, a wild pitch and a fielder's choice.

"It's hard for pitchers to pitch

in these kinds of conditions," coach Schoen said. "It's really hard for our pitchers when they have mud they are trying to pitch through. They did a good job."

See **FR** page 7

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Bilbrey 17th in shot

BLOOMINGTON

— Gabi Bilbrey closed the indoor season Saturday by placing among the top 20 in the state in the shot put at the Hoosier State Relays at Indiana University's Gladstein Fieldhouse.

Competing in the large school division, Bilbrey's best toss of the day traveled 35 feet, 8.5 inches. That placed her 17th, one-quarter inch behind 16th-place Courtney Butler of Ben Davis.

Hadley Lucas of Bloomington North took the championship at the meet with a toss of 48 feet, 5 inches.

Bilbrey had a strong indoor run, including back-to-back victories in the shot put March 11 in the Golden Eagle Relays and March 18 in the Blue

Local roundup

and White Relays, both at Anderson University. Her best distance came during the Golden Eagle Relays at 38 feet, 1 inch.

FR baseball blanked

CELINA, Ohio — After a rainout Saturday, the Fort Recovery High School baseball team struggled to a 10-0, six-inning loss to the Celina Bulldogs in its season opener Monday night.

Celina jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, forcing an early pitching

change for the Indians. The Bulldogs steadily increased their lead after that, finishing off the game an inning early with three runs in the bottom of the sixth.

The Indians were also plagued by errors, recording five in the contest.

Fort Recovery never got its bats going, finishing with six hits. They had a chance to score in the top of the sixth inning, getting four different players to reach base, but failed to get any runs across.

The Indians' leading hitter was Troy Homan, who had two hits in three at bats.

Homan also took the loss, giving up three runs on three hits and three walks in just one-third of an inning.

Jackson open to trade

Indianapolis Gm refers to Ravens' QB as 'special player'

By **GEORGE BREMER**

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson) Tribune News Service

Lamar Jackson made it clear Monday he's open to a new home in the NFL.

Hours later, Indianapolis Colts general manager Chris Ballard made it known his team is listening.

The Baltimore Ravens quarterback took to Twitter just before noon and posted "a letter to my fans."

In the four-tweet thread, Jackson promised to "personally answer" fans' questions and offered an update on his contract status. The Ravens placed the non-exclusive franchise tag on Jackson on March 7, guaranteeing him a \$32.4 million salary for 2023 while allowing negotiations to continue on a long-term deal.

Any of the other 31 teams can sign Jackson to an offer sheet, and Baltimore has the right to match. If the Ravens choose not to, they will receive two first-round picks as compensation.

It seems likely the 26-year-old former NFL MVP could command even greater compensation in an open trade auction, but no team has publicly jumped into the market. Yet.

Speaking to media at the annual NFL owners meetings in Phoenix, Ballard confirmed interest in Jackson without offering any specific details.

"Any time a special player is available — which he is — you've got to do the work," Ballard said, according to Colts.com. "And that's where — I'm not going to get into deep discussions on where it's at or what we're doing or what we might do. But I'll tell you he's a really good player, really special player. But you never know how any of this will work out."

Earlier in the day, the two-time Pro Bowl quarterback attempted to clarify his own intentions.

Jackson has no agent and represents himself in contract negotiations. He wrote that he requested a trade March 2 and that Baltimore "has not been interested in meeting my value."

Jackson noted his dream remains "to help a team win the Super Bowl" and wrote he'll remain close to Ravens fans and the state of Maryland no matter where his career takes him.

It was the latest wrinkle in a saga that dates back more than a year.

See **Jackson** page 7