

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Road work ahead

*Board moves forward with paving and sidewalk projects*

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Two paving projects are moving forward.

Demolition of a downtown building will take a bit more time.

Portland Board of Works on Thursday took action to move forward with \$2.8 million in paving and sidewalk work on Blaine Pike as well as paving of several other city streets through a Community Crossings grant from Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).

It also opened bids for the demolition of the Bailey Building, but those bids will need some additional review.

Board of works members Steve McIntosh and Mayor John Boggs, absent Jerry Leonhard, approved the city's required match of \$568,758.32 for the Blaine Pike project. The remaining \$2.28 million will be paid via federal funding awarded through INDOT.

3D Construction of Muncie was the lone bidder in the second round of bidding, coming in at \$2,843,761.59.

INDOT originally awarded federal funding for the project in October 2016. The work includes milling and repaving the road from the railroad near Water Street to county road 150 South. A sidewalk will also be added.

The board also signed a notice to proceed with paving work through INDOT's Community Crossings grant. The city was awarded \$549,558 in December for paving the entirety of Arch Street, the entirety of Pierce Street, Walnut Street east of Meridian Street, Noble Street between Main and High streets, and Union Street between Meridian and Bridge streets.

Bids for the project came in significantly lower than expected, with Milestone Contractors as the low bidder at \$460,308.45. The city's cost for



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Portland Board of Works on Thursday moved forward with a project to pave Blaine Pike from county road 150 South — the area is pictured above — to the railroad tracks just south of Water Street. The \$2.8 million project, which has been in the works since 2016 and is being 80% funded by federal dollars passed through Indiana Department of Transportation, also calls for installation of a sidewalk.

the project — Community Crossings grants require a 25% match — will be about \$115,000.

The work will be completed this year.

The board opened bids for the demolition of the Bailey Building, 201 through 205 W. Main St. Bids came in at \$187,500 from JAShroyer Group of Muncie at \$539,372.25 from Advanced Demolition Services of McComb, Ohio.

The board took the bids

under advisement, expressing concern over the wide gap between them. Boggs also noted that Indiana Department of Environmental Management will require the city to have a Phase I Environmental Study completed prior to demolishing the structure.

Bid specifications called for demolition of the building while preserving "the integrity of the remaining buildings on the block." The timeline

required that demolition begin within 14 days of the project being awarded.

The mayor added that there will need to be additional discussions with the owners of adjacent bar/restaurant The Greazy Pickle.

"Our biggest concern is to minimize the hours they're closed and maximize the safety to people while we're doing it," said Boggs.

See Work page 2

## Bills aim to reform health care

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle  
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A slew of health care bills moving through the legislature target high prices for Hoosiers by encouraging competition and restructuring how the state pays for services under Medicaid.

But critics say the bills don't go far enough and more is needed to reform the system — especially for government insurance reimbursement rates.

In the House Chamber, lawmakers sent two health care bills — both caucus priorities for Republicans — for consideration in the Senate.

The first bill attempts to navigate the complexity of health insurance while the second penalizes hospitals for high prices.

Under House Bill 1003, authored by Rep. Craig Snow, businesses with less than 50 employees would receive a \$400 tax credit per employee if owners adopt a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA).

The second of two health care bills advanced by the House, House Bill 1004, also includes a tax credit for (HRAs) as well as a credit to physician-owned health care facilities.

Snow, R-Warsaw, said that half a million small businesses in the state had 20 or fewer employees and thousands of employees couldn't offer their employees insurance.

"The shift to HRAs is a decrease in costs for both parties," Snow said about employers and employees.

HRAs are funded by employers, under which employees are reimbursed tax-free for qualified medical expenses up to a certain amount each year.

See Bills page 5



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Armando L. Sanchez

## Officers salute

Chicago police officer Danny Golden (center), who was shot and paralyzed in an off-duty incident, and members of the Chicago Police and Fire department salute Wednesday as the the body of an officer who was fatally shot near the 5200 block of South Spaulding Avenue is brought to the Cook County medical examiner's office in Chicago.

## Panel investigating Santos

By TIM BALK

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — Rep. George Santos, already under the microscope of prosecutors, faced a bipartisan rebuke on Thursday from a group of his House colleagues, who unanimously ordered their own inquiry into the Republican's outlandish campaign fabrications.

The 10-member House Ethics Committee said its investigation into Santos would examine whether he broke the law during his campaign or in connection with a financial services company, failed to properly disclose information to Congress, or engaged in sexual misconduct with a job applicant.

The committee said it voted to launch the probe on Tuesday, seven weeks after two Democratic New York congressmen filed a complaint against Santos with the panel.

A four-member investigative

*Committee will examine whether U.S. Rep. broke campaign laws or engaged in sexual misconduct*

subcommittee has been assembled to carry out the probe. The subcommittee will be chaired by Rep. David Joyce, an Ohio Republican, with Rep. Susan Wild, a Pennsylvania Democrat, serving as ranking member, the ethics committee said.

"The committee notes that the mere fact of establishing an investigative subcommittee does not itself indicate that any violation has occurred," the ethics panel said in a statement. "No other public comment will be made on this matter."

In a January letter to the com-

mittee, Reps. Ritchie Torres and Dan Goldman, two New York Democrats, said Santos' financial disclosure reports were "sparse and perplexing" and called for the panel to conduct a "full investigation."

Derek Myers, a journalist, said last month that he had filed a complaint with the committee accusing Santos of sexually harassing him. Myers claimed Santos touched his groin on Jan. 25, two days after Myers accepted a job working for the congressman.

See Investigating page 5

### Deaths

Juanita Chambers, 79  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 49 degrees Thursday. The low was 37.

Jay County is under a flood watch until midnight with rain and possibly sleet expected. The low will be 31 with winds gusting to 45 miles per hour.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon today in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, the parking lot east of Redkey Post Office and the parking lot south of Salamonia Fire Station.

### Coming up

**Saturday** — Jay County High School Winter Guard to compete in state prelims.

**Tuesday** — Coverage of Monday's Portland City Council meeting.



Obituaries

Juanita Chambers

July 16, 1943-Feb. 28, 2023 Juanita Faye Chambers, 79, went to live in her heavenly home early Tuesday morning, Feb. 28, 2023, at her residence following an extended illness.

Faye was born July 16, 1943, in Huntington, West Virginia, the daughter of Lowen Chester and Dollie Marie (Hutchinson) Knight, of Milton, West Virginia.

Faye graduated Milton High School in Milton, West Virginia. She married the late Larry Raymond Chambers in March of 1961.

Faye was employed with Indiana Glass in Dunkirk for over 33 years.

Mrs. Chambers loved being around the West Virginia mountains, and spending time with her grandchildren. Her favorite TV show was "The Waltons," especially Grandpa Walton, who remind Faye of her grandpa Hutchinson. Faye also enjoyed rummage sales and gardening.

Faye is survived by two sons, David Allen Chambers and Jeffrey Scott Chambers (wife: Michele), both of Dunkirk; grandchildren Kristy Newsome, Sondra Chambers, Anthony Duane Chambers (wife: Christin), Patrick Scott Chambers (wife: Brandy), Shelly Turner and Dakota Cheyanne Easton (husband: Dillon); many great-grandchildren, including Tatiana Chambers and Caden Chambers; one brother, Eddie Knight (wife: Joan) of Culloden, West Virginia; a special friend, Nathan Garringer (wife: Danielle), of Portland; and many nieces and nephews.



Chambers

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Larry Chambers; a son, Gregory Allen Chambers; two sisters, Betty (Ottis) Young and Gene (Frank) Landis; a brother, Bill (Ruth) Knight.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, March 6, 2023, at The Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, Washington Street Chapel, with Pastor Gloria Hamilton officiating. Burial will follow in Dunkirk I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Dunkirk.

The family asks that the friends plant a tree in Faye's honor.

Condolences may be directed to the family at meeksmortuary.com.

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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

Table with 5 columns: Saturday 3/4, Sunday 3/5, Monday 3/6, Tuesday 3/7, Wednesday 3/8. Includes weather icons, high/low temperatures, and brief weather descriptions.

Lotteries

Table listing lottery results: Powerball (Estimated jackpot: \$161 million), Mega Millions (Estimated jackpot: \$167 million), Hoosier MIDDAY, Daily Three, Daily Four, Quick Draw, Evening, and Estimated jackpot: \$100,000.

Markets

Table listing market prices for various agricultural products: Cooper Farms Fort Recovery (Corn, April corn, Wheat), POET Biorefining Portland (Corn, April corn, May corn), The Andersons Richland Township (Corn, April corn, Beans, April beans, Wheat), Central States Montpelier (Corn, Late March corn, Beans, Late March beans, Wheat), Heartland St. Anthony (Corn, April corn, Beans, April beans, Wheat).

Today in history

In 1678, Antonio Vivaldi was born in Venice, Italy. His concerto works and other music played a role in the late Baroque period. In 1789, the United States Constitution went into effect. In 1837, Chicago was incorporated as a city. In 1847, Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh. He's perhaps most well known for his invention of the telephone. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln ordered citizens to report for duty in the Civil War or pay \$300, calling for males between the ages of 20 and 45. In 1931, Francis Scott Key's "The Star-Spangled Banner" was adopted as the national anthem. In 2009, Jay County Economic Development Income Tax advisory board discussed options to trim its roster and review quota rules after only eight of 22 members appeared for a meeting. The board agreed to amend its ordinance, cutting the number of members to 13. Prior to their decision, the ordinance required membership from all three county commissioners, four county council members and mayors or town board presidents of all six municipalities. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Table listing community events: Monday (5:30 p.m. - Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. - Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 Main St.), Tuesday (5:30 p.m. - Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7 p.m. - Pennville Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St. 7 p.m. - Salamina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center), Wednesday (1 p.m. - Jay County Sheriff's Office Merit Board, sheriff's conference room, sheriff's office, 224 W. Water St., Portland. 6 p.m. - Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland).

Holcomb directs more testing

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana will contract with an outside laboratory to conduct "rigorous" testing of the hazardous materials that are already being shipped from the East Palestine train derailment to an Indiana facility, Gov. Eric Holcomb said Thursday.

The announcement followed an earlier statement from the governor in which he pushed back on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) decision to transport hazardous materials from the Ohio train derailment to a landfill in Roachdale, Indiana.

Holcomb said he learned about the decision third-hand on Monday.

"All of us can agree that we should do everything within our control to provide assurance to our communities. This testing is the next necessary step," the governor said in a written statement Thursday. "Since making this decision, we have informed the EPA and the site operator urging them to coordinate closely with this 3rd party laboratory to carry out this important testing."

Indianapolis-based Pace Labs is scheduled to start sampling "for dangerous levels of dioxins" on Friday, Holcomb said.

EPA officials said Thursday they will require Norfolk Southern to test for dioxins in Ohio, but made no mention of such action in Indiana.

Work ...

Continued from page 1

Board members also tabled a contract with Air Management Techniques of Muncie for an asbestos report and sampling on the building.

In other business, the board: •OK'd a pair of \$7,400 contracts with Baker Tilly for studies on the city's water and wastewater treatment operations. The accounting firm will look at rates and planned projects and make recommendations to help the city make sure it has enough funds for the work that is needed.

•Approved contracts with Jones and Henry engineering firm for an asset management plan required by the State Revolving Loan Fund to seek a loan for planned work at the city's wastewater treatment plant and not to exceed \$20,000 for services as needed at the wastewater treatment plant.

•Was reminded that Portland Police Officer Dustin Garringer's last day as a full-time officer is today. He will shift to part-time. Chris Jack will be sworn in as a new full-time officer Monday.

pleaded guilty in Jan. 2022 to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. Corn was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 34 days suspended and given 34 days credit for time served. He was placed on probation for 511 days. Corn was released on a \$900 bond from Jay County Jail.

Felony arrests

Probation violations

Two Indiana residents were arrested this week for violating their probation.

Kamran R. Miller, 20, 5543 S. 500 East, Portland, was arrested Wednesday. He pleaded guilty in July 2022 to resisting law enforcement, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but two days suspended and given credit for time served. Miller was placed on probation for 363 days. He was released on a \$450 bond from Jay County Jail.

Jerrod D. Corn, 33, 903 E. 29th St., Muncie, was arrested Thursday. He

Capsule Reports

Intersection collision

Two vehicles collided at the intersection of High and Meridian Streets in Redkey about 4:15 p.m. Thursday.

Lois A. Leavell, 85, Redkey, was driving her 2021 Chevrolet Equinox west on High Street near its intersection with Meridian Street. At the same time, Bernardo Velasquez-Miguel, 32, Cincinnati, Ohio, was driving a 2004 GMC Sierra north on Meridian Street near its intersection with High Street. Both drivers told police they stopped at the intersection and alleged the other driver did not stop at the stop sign. Leavell's vehicle

struck the vehicle Velasquez-Miguel was driving.

Damage is estimated at less than \$1,000. The vehicle Velasquez-Miguel was driving is registered to Cristian O. Lopez-Puax of Georgetown, Delaware.

Walmart crash

A Portland teen crashed the vehicle she was driving into a stop sign in the Walmart parking lot about 5:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Jacey A. Smith, 15, was driving a 2018 Kia Sedona in the lot at 950 W. Votaw St. She began to turn, and the car hit a stop sign.

Damage is estimated at less than \$1,000.

First Lady to visit Ivy Tech

Post-Tribune (Merrillville) Tribune News Service

First Lady Jill Biden announced a new date for her planned visit to Ivy Tech Community College's Valparaiso Campus — March 6.

The White House confirmed Dr. Biden's visit, which was originally scheduled for Feb. 17, with an aim "to highlight the Biden Administration's commitment to strengthening our economy and building pathways to good-paying jobs through career-connected learning."

Jay County Sheriff's Department is now taking applications for Reserve deputies and Part-time Transportation officers. Applications may be picked up at the Jay County Sheriff's Department 224 W. Water St., Portland. E.O.E.

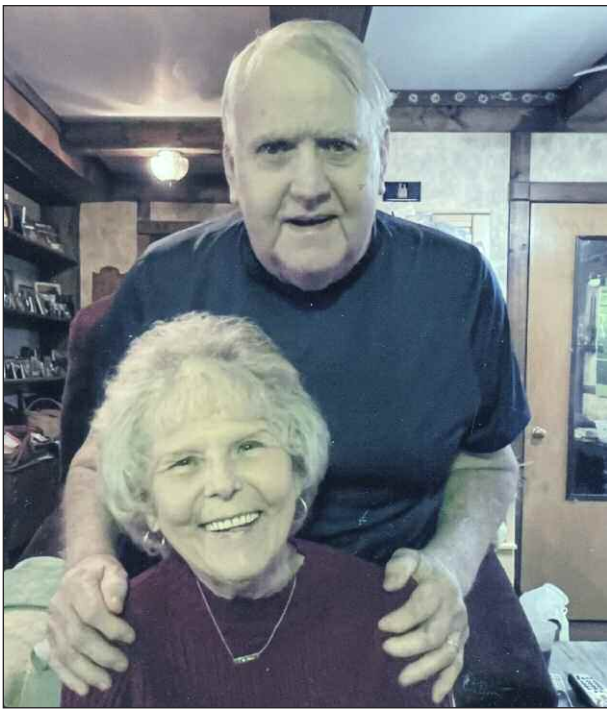
JRDS logo: Effective March 13, 2023 JRDS aluminum can recycling will be permanently closed. JRDS wants to take this opportunity to thank everyone for all the support of this program throughout the years.

TRUGREEN Live life outside. Save now with 50% OFF Your First Application. Get the most out of your lawn this spring. SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY! 1-866-903-0096

SERVICES Friday Franks, Dustin: 1 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland. Monday Chambers, Juanita: 2 p.m., Meeks Mortuary and Crematory, 415 E. Washington St., Muncie. May 13 Warrick, Clarice: 11 a.m., West Richmond Friends Meeting, 609 W. Main St., Richmond. Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

Gun & Knife Show Jay County Fairgrounds Saturday, March 11, Sunday March 12. Admission \$6. Buy, Sell and Trade. For more info 765-993-8942

## 50th anniversary



Judy and Larry VanSkyock - 2023

### Judith and Larry VanSkyock

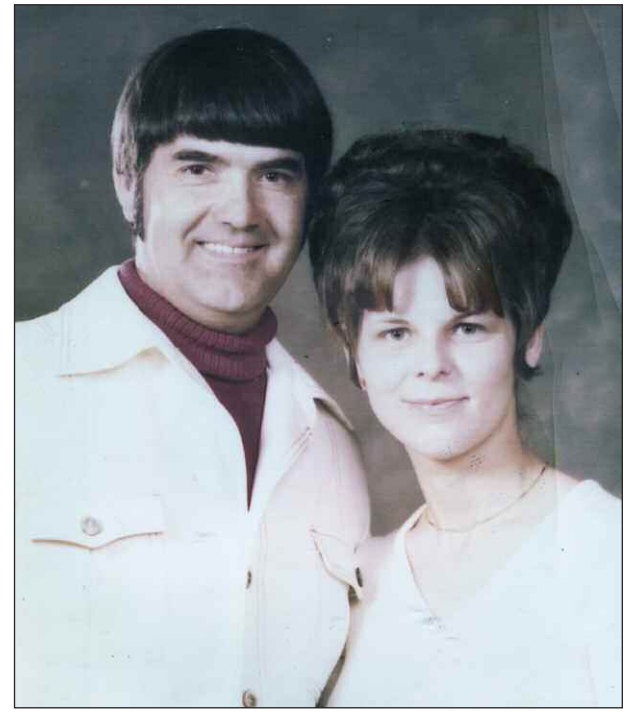
Judith and Larry VanSkyock are celebrating 50 years of marriage today.

Larry VanSkyock and Judy Lewis wed March 3, 1973, in Dayton, Ohio.

Larry has operated L. VanSkyock and Sons Construction since 1973. Judy retired from Pennville Elementary School in 2005 after teaching for 38 years in Jay School Corporation.

Their children are Kim VanSkyock, Monna VanSkyock, Lonna VanSkyock, Becky Wellman, Alisa Blount, Jenni and Andy VanSkyock and Laramie and Brandy VanSkyock. Their grandchildren are Logan, Laramie and Bralee VanSkyock.

The Portland couple plans to celebrate with a family dinner.



Larry and Judy VanSkyock - 1973

# Woman feels trapped in boyfriend's house

DEAR ABBY: I live with my longtime boyfriend, "George," and his 88-year-old father, "Frank." Frank is not your average 88-year-old. He does almost everything anyone in their 60s would do. However, he's used to us having dinner for him at the same time every night because he's very regimented about everything.

Frank gets everything taken care of and never has to worry about a thing. He pretty much keeps to himself. We have a coffee machine that's easy to use, but Frank expects to have his coffee at a specific time as well. He refuses to even try to make it himself, which means we can't sleep in even if we want to (we are retired).

I hate that Frank lives with us because it has caused a lot of problems between George and me. I feel trapped. If I have a disagreement with Frank, George takes his father's side, even when he's wrong.

We cannot financially have Frank in his own place, either. I own a third of our house (no mortgage). All three of us

depend on our Social Security for household expenses, and Frank pays the insurance on the cars. I just feel that as much as I do for them, I should get some backup. Please let me know your thoughts. — FEELING USED IN FLORIDA

**DEAR FEELING USED:** If you haven't told George how trapped and unhappy you feel, you should. If you are the maid, cook and laundress, perhaps it's time he assumed responsibility for his father. Suggest he invest in an automatic coffeemaker that can be set for a specific time the night before Frank's morning coffee is expected. That way you can sleep in if you wish.

From your letter, it's clear



Dear Abby

to me your problems with the men in your life go beyond coffee duty. If you are truly unhappy with this arrangement (which, predictably, won't last forever), consider consulting an attorney or a financial adviser about how to access the money you have invested in that house so you can live independently.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I had an excellent relationship that involved a lot of partying. After I was injured on the job, I became addicted to painkillers, which resulted in a 20-year battle with addiction. Over the years of trying unsuccessfully to get sober, I asked my wife to slow down her drinking to help me get sober. She refused and, ultimately, our marriage fell apart.

We decided to stay together until our kids were out of school and, wouldn't you know, no sooner did we separate than I was able to get sober. I know it wasn't her fault I was addicted. I think I'm probably better off getting divorced, but I still love

her, and I'm curious if you think we should end it or give it another try. — SOBER GUY IN MASSACHUSETTS

**DEAR SOBER GUY:** To drink or not to drink is a choice. If your wife was unwilling to sacrifice imbibing in order to help you overcome your addiction, you were right to separate from her. Congratulations on your sobriety. If you wish to maintain it, follow through with that divorce. You have my sympathy. I hope you find someone more supportive in years to come.

DEAR ABBY: I am in love with my best friend, "Mitch." He's a father of three great girls. He works hard but can't handle his finances. His brother has to do it for him or nothing would get paid and his daughters wouldn't get what they need. Mitch has ADHD. He can't settle down.

We tried dating, but he cheated on me. We didn't talk for months, and then started talking again and things are good, even in the bedroom. But some

days, he clams up and won't talk to me at all. Then, when he wants something, he will call me. Mitch wanted a 55-inch TV, so I got it for him. Then he wanted the new Xbox which, again, I bought. He makes twice as much as I do. Last week, he took off to see a girl and lied to me about it, saying he was "working out of town."

Mitch is coming home this weekend and wants to see me. I know what he wants — sex. Yes, the sex is great, but I think he is using me. He's 38; I'm 43. When we are together, we are good, but then he turns cold and doesn't talk to me for days. What do you think? — USED IN KENTUCKY

**DEAR USED:** Please reread your letter a few times. If you continue to see Mitch, hoping he will change, you are lost in a fantasy. The person you describe is dishonest, and he's using and milking you for everything he can get. Once you shut your wallet and cross your legs, he will disappear. Count on that. Please, for your own sake, make it SOON.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

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

**SOFT SHOULDERS** — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss

Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

**CINCINNATUS LEAGUE** — Will meet at noon Friday, March 3, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

### Saturday

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

**DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY** — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Satur-

day of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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

### Sunday

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

### Monday

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

**PING PONG** — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

**CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP** — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

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

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

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

## Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

### Thursday's Solution

3	1	6	9	2	5	7	8	4
8	4	9	6	7	3	2	5	1
2	7	5	1	4	8	6	3	9
6	9	8	2	1	7	3	4	5
7	5	1	4	3	6	8	9	2
4	2	3	8	5	9	1	6	7
5	3	2	7	8	4	9	1	6
9	8	7	5	6	1	4	2	3
1	6	4	3	9	2	5	7	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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# Spill shouldn't be a partisan fight

New York Daily News  
Tribune News Service

Unless Joe Biden and Pete Buttigieg were supposed to be recalibrating the hot bearing detectors on Norfolk Southern's trains, it's hard to blame them for the disaster in East Palestine, Ohio. The derailment, close to the Pennsylvania border, spilled more than 100,000 gallons of highly flammable vinyl chloride.

And Donald Trump, who showed up in East Palestine on Wednesday ever eager to exploit

## Guest Editorial

an incident for his own purposes, also wasn't to blame for having lifted some rail regulations when he was in the White House, as the Biden administration suggests. The Obama rule mandating advanced brakes

and speed restrictions for trains with large volumes of flammable liquids would have made no difference.

Accidents do happen. In this case, as laid out in the preliminary findings of the National Transportation Safety Board yesterday, as Buttigieg was making his own visit to the area, the sensors installed in the railbed to alert crews of passing trains about overheating bearings did exactly as they were set to do.

An alarm goes off when the

temperature of the passing bearing exceeds 170°F above the ambient air. For such a warm but non-critical, situation, crews are to stop and inspect the equipment. A difference of 200°F or more is critical and the hot car must be removed from the train.

On the night of Feb. 3, when it was just 10 degrees out, the bearings on railcar #23 (the train with 149 cars) was measured at 38° warmer than the air. Then, 10 miles later, #23 was 103° warmer, so no alarm was

tripped. But at the next detector, 20 miles up the line, the alarm rang as the bearings on #23 were 253° hotter than the surroundings. The crew braked and stopped the train, as several cars derailed, including five tank cars with vinyl chloride.

While the railroad and the feds should have moved faster on the cleanup and aiding the community, the rail safety fix should be to connect the railbed detectors so they pick up sudden temperature increases in the bearings.

# Solar projects reduce tax bills

By LARRY DEBOER  
HSPA Infonet

Utilities are building a lot of solar energy projects in Indiana. Fields of solar panels will become a common part of our landscape. This may help avert some consequences of climate change on the planet. But what are the local consequences?

Building a solar project creates a lot of local spending and quite a few jobs. Once construction is done, though, projects need few employees, and there is little effect on local spending. There are no suppliers of solar equipment located in Indiana. Lease payments received by landowners may or may not be spent locally.

The main effect on local communities is through the added property taxes paid by the solar companies. A recent study of nine solar energy projects in eight Indiana counties estimates this effect. The study was conducted by the Purdue Center for Regional Development, and I worked on the property tax. You can find it on the PCRD website.

A solar company buys or leases land, and builds fields of solar panels. Then the county assessor puts a value on the project for property taxes. The equipment, called personal property, is assessed at a depreciated value of its initial cost. Within a few years depreciation hits the famous "30-percent floor," which means the minimum assessed value of the company's equipment cannot fall below 30% of the initial cost. The study showed that personal property averaged about \$50,000 per acre.

The assessed value of land increases too. The state's assessment formula values farmland at \$1,500 per acre for taxes in 2023. The assessor then adjusts for soil productivity and other factors. The "solar base rate" is set by the state too, and varies from \$5,400 to \$13,000 per acre, depending on the Indiana region. The average solar project would increase land assessed value by about \$11,000 per acre.

The nine projects averaged about 1,100 acres each, so the total addition to assessed value would average about \$66 million. All nine solar projects are in rural areas, where tax rates averaged about \$1.50 per \$100 assessed value. That means the average solar project would pay almost \$1 million dollars a year in added property taxes.

But counties awarded tax abatements to six of the nine projects. Two received full tax abatements on personal property for 10 years, one for 15 years. Two others used sliding scales from 100% at

Larry DeBoer



the start to zero at the finish. The assessed value of land is not abated. Estimated tax payments in the first year with 100% abatement averaged \$200,000.

Five of the abated projects made economic development agreement payments to the counties, partly offsetting the reduction in property taxes. Project payments average \$1.2 million in the first year, but in most cases the annual abatements will run longer than the annual EDA payments.

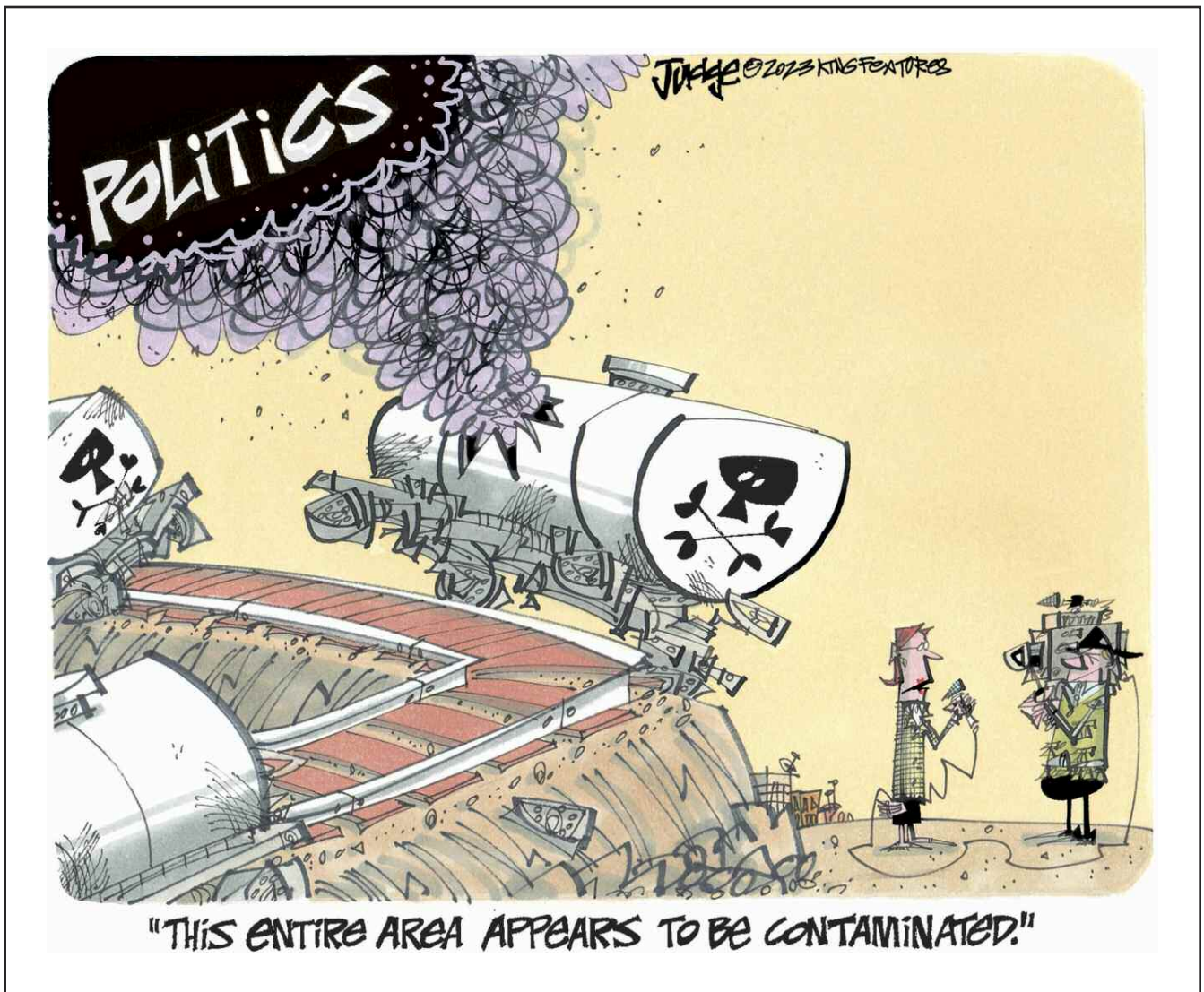
The effect of solar project tax payments on local government revenues and property tax bills is more complicated. The state puts a maximum on the amount local governments can raise from property taxes for operating costs. Many local governments tax near their state maximum levies. This means that some of the added solar project assessed value will not generate new revenue. Instead, it will force property tax rates to fall. Solar projects will pay taxes that replace some taxes paid by existing taxpayers.

Not all local governments tax at their maximums, and some parts of the property tax, such as debt service and school referendum funds, are outside the maximums. The study estimated that about 60% of solar tax payments would add new revenue, and the remainder would reduce existing tax bills. That would add \$600,000 per year for local governments, on average, before abatements and EDA payments. Homeowners in places that included the solar assessed value would see tax bill reductions between 2 and 11%.

Property taxes are not the full story of solar energy projects, of course. Reduced corn and soybean production may affect local equipment suppliers or grain elevators. Some people prefer fields of corn to fields of solar panels. For others, the availability of solar power may be attractive. But there's no doubt that solar project development will add to local government revenues, and reduce local tax bills.

DeBoer is a Purdue University agricultural economist whose columns appear in Indiana newspapers.

HSPA Infonet is a content-sharing service for newspapers that are members of Hoosier State Press Association.



# There's a mental health crisis

STEPHEN J. LYONS  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

Recently, my suicidal 15-year-old grandson ingested and smoked a cocktail of several drugs. His loving parents found him nonresponsive, with a heart rate near 200 beats per minute. The emergency responders and doctors saved his life. Sadly, it was not his first attempt.

He is now a ward of the state, deemed a danger to himself, and awaits a bed in a facility. Apparently, beds are hard to come by because so many American teenagers — the ones for whom we prescribe many pacifying drugs — are in need of treatment. I have two friends whose sons have died by suicide. I bet you know someone too. Your son. Your daughter. Maybe your own grandson.

A recent Washington Post article, "Teen girls 'engulfed' in violence and trauma, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finds," examines an 89-page report from the CDC on American teens' behaviors and experiences related to health and well-being. The CDC found that "as we saw in the 10 years before the COVID-19 pandemic, mental health among students overall continues to worsen, with more than 40% of high school students feeling so sad or hopeless that they could not engage in their regular activities for at least two weeks during the previous year — a possible indication of the experience of depressive symptoms. We also saw significant increases in the percentage of youth who seriously considered suicide, made a suicide plan, and attempted suicide."

Teen girls and LGBTQ teens are especially at risk. The CDC reports that "60% of female students experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness during the past year and nearly 25% made a suicide plan. ... Close to 70% of LGBTQ+ students experienced persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness during the past year and more than 50% had poor mental health during the past 30

Stephen J. Lyons



days. Almost 25% attempted suicide during the past year."

Should we blame these alarming statistics on the pandemic — the lack of in-classroom learning and in-person socializing with friends during those years? Isolation is never conducive to mental health. Uncertainty about the future is another contributing factor.

In October 2021, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry and the Children's Hospital Association declared a national emergency in children's mental health, citing the serious toll of the pandemic on top of other challenges.

"Young people have endured so much throughout this pandemic and while much of the attention is often placed on its physical health consequences, we cannot overlook the escalating mental health crisis facing our patients," then-AAP President Lee Savoie Beers said.

The organizations cite a pre-pandemic statistic: "Before the pandemic, rates of childhood mental health concerns and suicide had been rising steadily for at least a decade. By 2018, suicide was the second leading cause of death for youths ages 10-24 years."

Certainly, that is one reason, but I think there is a broader problem at hand, one that is perhaps less quantifiable. The teen years are confusing physically and emotionally. One is neither quite an adult nor still a child. As a kid in 1970s Chicago, I do remember that bewildering stage. But there were differences. Drugs, especially prescription medications, were not as pervasive as today. The stronger strains of cannabis now legal in the

majority of the country were still illegal everywhere. Firearms were not easily obtained. As a consequence, school shootings were practically nonexistent. School was a safe space.

And, for me anyway, I was so excited about the endless possibilities that awaited me after high school. I couldn't wait to get out on my own and put my stamp on the world.

Hope is a drug unto itself. Luckily, I had an ample supply. But what today's teens face in this broken world is the opposite of hope: a climate in turmoil; a culture of guns and more guns; daily mass shootings; an economic hierarchy that is far from fair; and a failed, underfunded mental health policy that instead of healing funnels our youth into the prison industrial complex.

All of us, teenagers and elders alike, are besieged by our own violent nature. Drugs and guns. Bombs and rubble. Rebuild and destroy. Destroy and rebuild. Although we are divided in our red versus blue politics and the never-ending culture wars, we are united by the anxiety that trickles down through all of us. We are uncertain. About everything, it seems.

My grandson was ultimately released from the hospital and sent home to his parents. No beds were available in any of the adolescent mental facilities. The deadly concoction of stimulants had been flushed out of his young system, and he was declared "stable," ready to reenter high school, where he easily obtained the drugs that are traded among his peers. He refuses to go to an inpatient drug rehab facility, and he lives in a state where he has that right.

His parents' goal is simply to keep him alive, no matter what and against all odds.

If you or a loved one is experiencing mental health difficulties, help is available. Call or text 988 to reach the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Lyons is the author of five books of essays and journalism.

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# Patriot wrestlers clobber Bluffton

BLUFFTON — In their final meet before the conference tournament, the Patriots beat up on an ACAC foe.

Jay County's junior high wrestling team rolled to a 66-27 victory Thursday over the Allen County Athletic Conference rival Bluffton Tigers.

The squad will be in action next for the ACAC tournament on Thursday at Adams Central.

Brenna Ruble (102 pounds), Jackson Bonifas (95) and Julian Hudson (132) all recorded pins for the Patriots in their win over Bluffton. Caleb Sibray (140) added a victory by a 15-0 technical fall.

Other contested wins for Jay County came from Logan Wendel (90) by a 16-7 major decision and Cooper Glassford (110) by a 9-7 decision.

Getting wins by forfeit were Gavin Hambrock (150), Leighton



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Brenna Ruble tosses an opponent to the mat Saturday during the Jay County Invitational. Ruble was one of three Patriots to record a pin in Thursday's win over Bluffton.

Brown (160), Freddie Lingo (175), Keegan Wittkamp (195), Spencer Smitley (220) and Reynaldo Ortega-Leos (275).

Earning exhibition victories were Mitchell Byrum (75), Grant

Linville (95), Cooper Reynolds (110), Miles Jones (110), Kevin Dues (110), Max McClain (117), Gabe Ardizzone (125), Sadie Garlinger (125) and Victoria Hernandez (140).

# Collegiate ...

Continued from page 8  
Homan smacked a one-out single in the fifth inning that moved teammate Brooklyn McCord to second base. McCord scored on an Anna Smith single that also moved Homan to third, where she was stranded. The right fielder finished 1-for-2 for the Foresters (0-2).

## Kenzie Ring Jay County - 2021

Competed for the Trine University acrobatics and tumbling team Feb. 24 in its 242.235-233.77 victory over Adrian.

The Thunder (1-1) posted a new team-best score in the compulsory event with a 32.9 compared to Adrian's 32.55. It also had new program-best scores in the acrobatics and tumbling events.

## Noah Arbuckle Jay County - 2020

Was the starting pitcher for the Huntington University baseball team in Saturday's 4-1 loss to the University of Northwestern Ohio.

Arbuckle went four innings for the Foresters (8-5) and gave up four runs, only one of which was earned. He struck out five and did not allow a walk.

## Eliza Bader Jay County - 2021

Swam three events for Ball State University during the Women's Mid-American Conference Championships at Miami (Ohio).

Bader bettered her seed times as she finished the 50-yard freestyle in 24.13 seconds and the 100 butterfly in 57.38. She also competed in the 100 backstroke, finishing in 59.17.

## Audrey Guggenbiller Fort Recovery - 2019

Ran for the Tiffin University women's track team as it finished fifth in the Great Midwest Athletic Conference Indoor Championships.

Guggenbiller posted a career-best time of 5 minutes, 47.52 seconds, in the mile run. She finished 30th.

# Bills ...

Continued from page 1  
The increasingly popular accounts are used in tandem with traditional health insurance, often in a high deductible plan, and operate similar to health savings accounts.

On the other hand, Rep. Donna Schaibley's House Bill 1004 aims to create more competition among insurance companies and health care providers while also penalizing some hospitals whose rates exceed the national average.

Rep. Matt Pierce, D-Bloomington, voiced his support for the bill, saying that Indiana University Health, based in his district, had done much to discourage competition in his area while charging more for services.

"But what concerns me more — our quality of care is actually declining at the same time we're paying more," Pierce said. "I think this bill is a start but we need a comprehensive approach."

But Pierce's colleagues

were split in their support for the two health care bills, saying the proposals didn't go far enough.

"I didn't see anything... that would meet the test for real progress," Rep. Ed DeLaney, D-Indianapolis, said. DeLaney, who voted against both bills, said national — not state — officials needed to take action.

"I think we tend to mislead people to think we're doing something substantive when we can't."

DeLaney and nine other Democrats voted against both proposals. House Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta, D-Fort Wayne, also voted against Schaibley's bill.

Several other health care bills aimed at reducing costs have garnered much discussion in the Senate, specifically a wide-ranging bill from Sen. Liz Brown, R-Fort Wayne.

Brown's bill creates a pilot program aimed at reducing barriers related to prior authorizations, provisional credentialing for

providers and a license for associate physicians.

Sen. Jeff Raatz, R-Richmond, praised the bill but emphasized the need to specifically tackle Medicaid reimbursement rates. He highlighted a specialized physical therapist working with children in his hometown whose efforts made a difference in his patient's lives but could barely operate under the current payment structure.

"This organization can't live financially under the matrix of which we live under today," Raatz said. "We have to do a better job in our reimbursement rates in Medicaid."

Action on Medicaid reimbursement rates, which are set by the state, is already underway in the state budget — partially due to federal pressure on managed care programs.

The federal Affordable Care Act (ACA) tried to incentivize states to adopt an expanded version of Medicaid that would provide health care coverage

for those making too much for traditional government insurance programs.

But Indiana had a pre-existing program for this population: the Healthy Indiana Plan (HIP). The state opted to combine the new federal match with the program to create HIP 2.0, which now covers an estimated 740,000 Hoosiers, nearly a third of the 2 million Hoosiers on Medicaid.

Across the government insurance programs, Medicare has the highest payments and other options are measured as a percentage of their payments compared to Medicare.

In Indiana, HIP reimburses at 100% of the Medicare rate, while traditional Medicaid is lower, around 75%. This benefits the state because Indiana pays a larger percentage of traditional Medicaid, 65%, than under HIP, where it pays 10% of the costs.

In November of 2020, one month after the federal gov-

ernment approved HIP for a 10-year renewal, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services ruled that different rates among Medicaid programs was unfair. A year later, it declared Indiana to be out of compliance and clawed back \$500 million in payments.

Indiana appealed, promising to restructure its reimbursement rates by January 2024. The federal government accepted, partly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"(A) disruptive loss of associated federal funds for all Medicaid managed care programs given a failure to comply... would substantially and detrimentally impair the state's ability to provide critically needed care to Medicaid beneficiaries during the (Public Health Emergency)," CMS wrote to State Medicaid Director Allison Taylor last July.

The proposed compromise would lower HIP's reimbursement and

increase traditional Medicaid to 80-83% of payments under Medicare. The House budget, in its current form, goes beyond that for specialized services, such as dentists and home health services, investing additional dollars to increase that reimbursement rate to 90%.

Additionally, the budget stipulates that the state must study its Medicaid reimbursement rates. At the same time, the state is moving one of its last fee-for-service populations into a managed care program — elderly and disabled Hoosiers receiving long-term supports and services at home or in nursing homes.

The fiscal analysis attached to the budget doesn't note any specific costs related to equalizing reimbursement rates.

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

# Investigating ...

Continued from page 1  
Myers' job offer was rescinded on Feb. 1, he said.

On Thursday, Myers wrote on Twitter that he has "strong" evidence that "will be disclosed to the committee if they call upon me."

Santos' office said in a statement that it was "fully cooperating" with the probe. "There will be no further comment made at this time," said the statement.

As a congressional candidate on Long Island last year, Santos, 34, fashioned a fictional resume for himself, deceiving voters about his education, religion, family history, professional experience and property ownership.

He has admitted to some of his lies, but maintained he is not a fraud or a criminal, and downplayed his fabrications as mere biographical embroidery.

Multiple American prosecutors' offices have launched investigations into Santos, and a prosecutor's office in Brazil said this winter that it was reviving a long-dormant criminal case against him.

On Thursday, Torres and Goldman hailed the launch of the House probe as a step toward holding Santos accountable for his myriad misrepresentations.

"Rep. Santos, by his own admission, is a terrible liar who's done a great disservice to the people of his district and whose presence in Congress continues to represent a grave threat and danger to our democracy," Torres said in a statement. "I am hopeful the Ethics Committee will move swiftly."

Rep. Anthony D'Esposito, a Long Island Republican whose district neighbors Santos' dis-

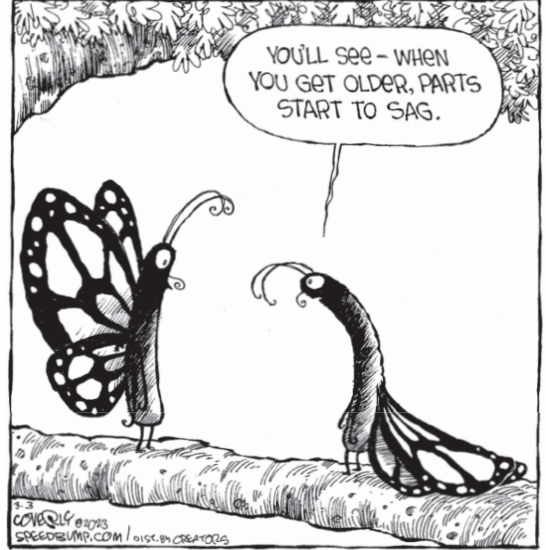
trict, also issued a statement praising the move by the ethics panel, declaring that all "opportunities to hold George Santos accountable for his many horrific deceptions are welcome developments."

"Santos's continued presence in the House of Representatives is a stain on the institution, and he should resign immediately or be expelled from Congress," D'Esposito added.

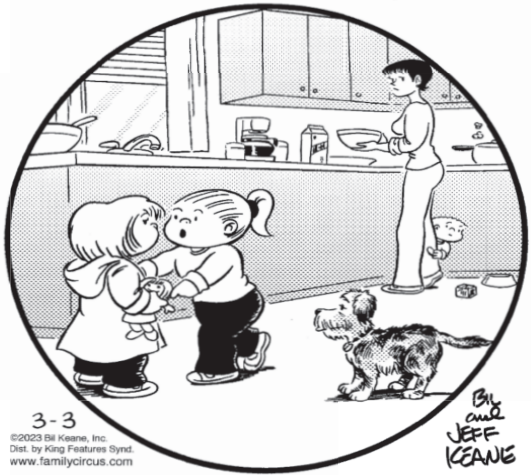
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**THE FAMILY CIRCUS** By Bil Keane



**Contract Bridge** By Steve Becker

**Double-dummy problem**

**NORTH**  
♠ Q 7 3  
♥ Q 3 2  
♦ Q 7  
♣ 7 6 5 3 2

**WEST**  
♠ J 10 9 8 5  
♥ 19 6 4  
♦ 5 3  
♣ J 9

**EAST**  
♠ 6 4 2  
♥ 10 8 7 5  
♦ K 10 9 8  
♣ Q 4

**SOUTH**  
♠ A K  
♥ A K  
♦ A 1 6 4 2  
♣ A K 10 8

suit so that dummy can cash the 7-6-5 of clubs. You finish by taking a diamond finesse to produce your 12th trick.

If East drops the club queen under the ace at trick five, an entirely different approach is needed. You lead the jack of diamonds at trick six. If East takes the jack with the king, the queen of diamonds becomes an entry to dummy, and you finish with 12 tricks regardless of what East returns.

Let's suppose, therefore, that East refuses to take the diamond jack when you lead it. In that case, West becomes your pigeon. You cash the ace of diamonds to extract his last diamond, then lead the eight of clubs.

This forces West to win with the jack (or nine if he has retained that card) and put you in dummy with a spade or a heart. As before, you discard your K-10 of clubs on dummy's major-suit queens, cash the 7-6-5 of clubs and so score 12 tricks.

Thus, you make the contract regardless of which way the defender's twist or turn. There is no way they can escape.

Tomorrow: All it takes is the will to win.  
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**3-3 CRYPTOQUIP**

WDKPDS GD, FRV CHD DSDHF  
WPE CA QCLNARGD CA P CG.  
TLRMT RXX EQD QRGDKPDH-

**EQCL-EQRV CEEPEVND!**  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: RESERVOIR-GENERATING RIVER PLUGGER IN A SOUTHWEST NETHERLANDS PORT: A ROTTERDAM WATER DAM.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals T

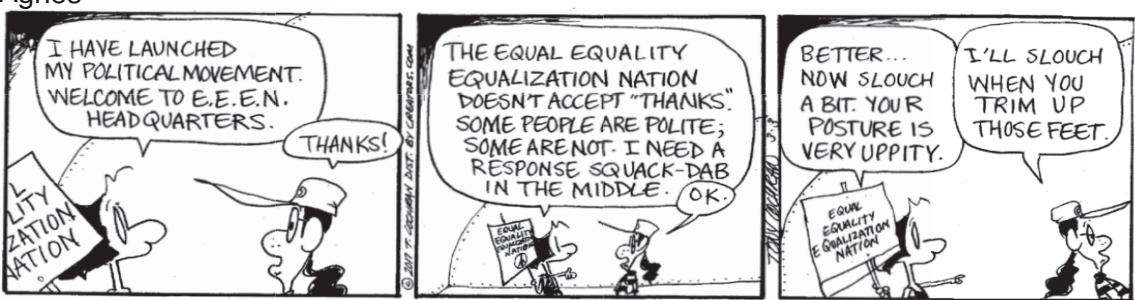
**Peanuts**



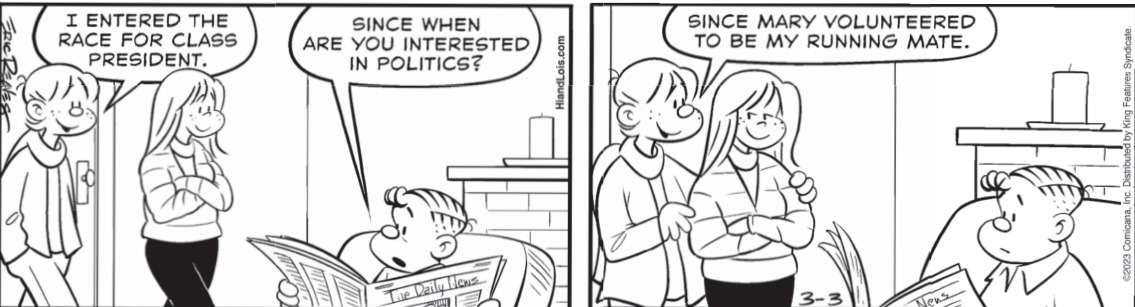
**Rose is Rose**



**Agnes**



**Hi and Lois**



**Between Friends**



**Blondie**



**Snuffy Smith**



**Beetle Bailey**



**CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

<b>ACROSS</b>	<b>39</b> Mode	<b>DOWN</b>	<b>26</b> Sports
1 Tourist's chart	41 Omelet	1 Less	28 Sigma's follower
4 NASCAR advertiser	45 — de	2 Make amends	30 Online chats, briefly
7 "Yippee!"	47 Long.	3 "Jaws" author	31 Roman 1101
12 Mineral suffix	48 Ex-hausted, energy-wise	4 Gels	32 "Caught ya!"
13 Mound stat	52 Brit.	5 Platitude	33 Sleep phenom
14 Antlered animal	53 "Paradise Lost"	6 Bash	36 Poet of yore
15 "Kidding!"	54 Profit	7 Portent	37 Justice Alito
16 Assembled	55 — Lingus	8 Mortar carrier	40 "Madam Secretary" star
18 French article	56 Stuffed shirt	9 Ghostly cry	42 Sparkle
19 Suppress, in a way	57 Land in la mer	10 Buck-eyes' sch.	43 Xbox enthusiast
20 Feudal laborer	58 Doubtfire or Dalloway	11 However	44 Mixes up
22 Damascus is its cap.		17 Par	45 Ancient Brit
23 "The Music Man" setting		21 County expos	46 Diminutive suffix
27 Cash dispenser		23 Foolish	48 Greyhound vehicle
29 Stately dance		24 Duo's pronoun	49 Coffee vessel
31 Shara-pova of tennis		25 Director Craven	50 2016 Olympics city
34 Swamp			51 "The Matrix" role
35 Little angel			
37 Tax form ID			
38 Pet food brand			

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

CAL	SHAH	OATS
UNO	OSLO	PLOY
LOSAL	TOS	TOON
TAI	ENTITL	E
SALADS	IBM	
AGO	SUB	AUTOS
LEVI	EAR	MALT
TEENY	DOC	NDA
IDS	CONGER	
CHUTNEY	NEE	
HARI	VARDALOS	
OLGA	ELMO	ONO
PEEL	NESS	SEW

Yesterday's answer 3-3

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EQUIPMENT**  
2003 New Holland 590  
Big Baler 3x3 bales,  
New Holland 258  
Rolabar rake, G690 Ag-  
Bagger, J&M 250 hop-  
per wagon, etc.

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
Nursery pens and feeders,  
Nursery fans w/  
controls, Flex line feeders,  
100 gal fuel transfer  
tank, and more.

This is only a partial listing  
of equipment that  
will be at the Auction.  
We are still accepting  
equipment on Thursday,  
March 16th and Friday,  
March 17th; 9am till 8pm  
No items Will be Consig-  
ned Saturday Morn-  
ing.

Any Questions or to  
consign items call Todd  
Berkke: 419-230-1705

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the State of Ohio

### PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: Bubb Exhibi-  
tion Hall, Jay County  
Fairgrounds, Portland,  
IN

Saturday Morning  
MARCH 4, 2023  
9:30 A.M.

### OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - TOOLS

Pie safe with screen  
sides and front; Chevrol-  
et 4 x 4 wood truck toy  
box;

vintage Zenith TV in  
Blonde cabinet; wood  
bar table w/4 bar chairs;  
metal

plant stand w/marble  
top; log bench; log shelf;  
Crosley radio; Zenith  
Tube case with assorted  
tubes;

Power XL smokeless  
grill; vintage comic  
books; Coca Cola card-  
board display with elec-  
tronics; Coca Cola  
Ecology kit; Coca Cola  
Elementary Science labo-  
ratory kit; (2) Coca  
Cola

Holiday cardboard dis-  
plays; Coca Cola 1950  
TV tray; vintage Coca  
Cola book covers; Coca  
Cola calendars; Hummel  
figurines; Craftsman  
spray gun; 2 plastic  
tables; crop moisture  
tester; and many other  
items not listed.  
**WEILER FAMILY**  
Loy Auction  
AC#31600027  
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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

### PUBLIC AUCTION LIVE & ONLINE

Located: 100 WEST  
LINE STREET, GENEVA  
INDIANA 46740 (JUNC-  
TION OF HIGHWAY 27  
AND STATE ROUTE  
116.)  
March 4, 2023,  
9 A.M.

**GOLD - SILVER -  
COINS**  
1904 \$20 Gold pc; 1862  
\$10 gold pc; 1912 \$10  
gold pc; CC Morgan Sil-  
ver dollars 1885, 1883,  
1871, 1890, Quarters  
dating from the 1800's to  
present including Bar-  
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others;

**CURRENCY**  
\$50, \$20, \$10, \$5, \$2,  
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Seal, Yellow Seal, Black  
Seal, Repeater, Radar,  
Confederate note,  
GUNS-KNIVES-TOYS-  
COLLECTIBLES  
Remington 30.06 model  
770 w/scope and carry-  
ing case; Remington  
270 Win. w/night scope;  
wooden handle bayonet  
(off of M2 rifle) Country  
knife w/Stag grips and  
sheath; USM8A1 bayo-  
net w/sheath.

NOTE: To bid online go  
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view Friday March 3,  
2023, from Noon to 6  
p.m. For more informa-  
tion phone Auctioneers.

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WITHHELD FOR SECU-  
RITY REASONS**  
Shawver Auctioneering  
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AuctionZip and ProxiBid  
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another state to pick up  
something else. It's out  
and back. If you like driv-  
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Brothers of Berne. Home  
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during the week. Insur-  
ance is based on a man-  
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bonus up to \$2k/ paid  
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589-2131 for more infor-  
mation. May train the  
correct individual.

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### Public Notice

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2467 E 200 N PORTLAND  
On 03/21/2023 @ 10:00 AM  
2019 HONDA  
2HGFC2F61KH1514450  
\$2,190.00  
2007 DODGE  
2D4G644167R216198  
\$2,190.00  
2010 FORD  
3FAHPOHA2AR323808  
\$2,190.00  
2022 HONDA  
3CZRU6H50NM713669  
\$2,390.00  
2012 DODGE  
2C4RDGB6GCR374296  
\$2,390.00  
CR-3-3-2023 - HSPAXLP

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OF PORTLAND** Posi-  
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Assistant is responsible  
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support of the city gov-  
ernment. Essential  
duties: Greet visitors to  
the Mayor's Office,  
answer the telephone,  
schedule appointments  
for the Mayor, coordinate  
Mayor's travel schedule,  
prepare claim vouchers  
for Mayor's Office. Also,  
complete special assign-  
ments, projects, corre-  
spondences, filing, copy-  
ing, faxing and printing  
as directed by the Mayor.  
Applications are avail-  
able at Portland City  
Hall, 321 North Meridian  
Street, Portland, Indiana  
47371, 8:00 AM to 4:30  
PM, Monday thru Friday  
until March 8th. Applica-  
tion deadline is March  
8th, 2023. No applica-  
tions will be accepted  
after this time. The City  
of Portland is an Equal  
Opportunity Employer.

### 130 MISC. FOR SALE

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Clean and shiny on one  
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The Commercial  
Review, 309 W Main,  
Portland 260-726-8141.

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

### Public Notice

STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF JAY  
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT  
CAUSE NUMBER: 38C01-2211-MF-000022  
U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS  
INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER  
TRUSTEE FOR REO TRUST 2017-RPL1,  
Plaintiff,  
vs.  
RONALD BERRY  
SHIRLEY A. BERRY  
UNKNOWN OCCUPANT, IF ANY  
BENEFICIAL FINANCIAL I INC., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER  
TO BENEFICIAL INDIANA INC. D/B/A BENEFICIAL MORT-  
GAGE CO.  
Defendants.  
NOTICE OF SUIT  
SUMMONS - SERVICE BY PUBLICATION  
The State of Indiana to the defendants above named, and any  
other person who may be concerned. You are notified that you  
have been sued in the Court above named. The nature of the suit  
against you is a foreclosure of the real estate mortgage, legally  
described as:  
THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE IN JAY  
COUNTY, IN THE STATE OF INDIANA, TO-WIT: LOT NUMBER  
DESCRIBED SIX IN THE THOMAS ADDITION TO THE TOWN,  
NOW CITY, OF DUNKIRK, INDIANA. ALSO, THAT PORTION  
OF THE VACATED ALLEY ADJOINING SAID LOT, MORE  
PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: A PART OF A  
SIXTEEN AND FIVE TENTHS FOOT VACATED NORTH AND  
SOUTH ALLEY MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOL-  
LOW, TO-WIT: BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWESTERLY COR-  
NER OF LOT #6 IN THOMAS ADDITION TO THE CITY OF  
DUNKIRK, INDIANA, SAID POINT BEING THE NORTH-  
EASTERLY CORNER OF SAID VACATED ALLEY RUNNING  
THENCE SOUTHWESTERLY ON THE WESTERLY LINE OF  
SAID LOT #6 AND THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID VACATED  
ALLEY SIXTY-FIVE FEET TO THE SOUTHWESTERLY COR-  
NER OF SAID LOT #6. THENCE RUNNING NORTHWEST-  
ERLY ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT #6  
PRODUCED NORTHWESTERLY EIGHT AND TWENTY-FIVE  
HUNDRETHS FEET TO THE CENTER LINE OF SAID VA-  
CATED ALLEY; THENCE RUNNING NORTHEASTERLY AND  
PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT #6,  
SIXTY-FIVE FEET TO A POINT IN THE NORTHERLY LINE  
OF SAID LOT #6 PRODUCED WESTERLY; THENCE RUNNING  
SOUTHEASTERLY ON SAID NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID  
LOT #6 PRODUCED WEST EIGHT AND TWENTY-FIVE HUN-  
DRETHS FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.  
This property is commonly known as 520 South Main Street,  
Dunkirk, IN 47336  
This summons by publication is specifically directed to the fol-  
lowing Defendants whose addresses are known:  
Ronald Berry  
603 East Votaw Street  
Portland, IN 47371  
Unknown Occupant, if any  
520 South Main Street  
Dunkirk, IN 47336  
Beneficial Financial I Inc., successor by merger to Beneficial  
Indiana Inc. d/b/a Beneficial Mortgage Co.  
Serve Highest Officer Found  
1421 W. Shure Drive, Suite 100  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004

And to the following defendant whose addresses are unknown:  
Shirley A. Berry

In addition to the above named Defendants being served by this  
summons there may be other Defendants who have an interest  
in this lawsuit. If you have a claim for relief against the Plain-  
tiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must  
assert it in your written answer. You must answer the Complaint  
in writing, by your attorney, on or before the 9th day of April,  
2023, (the same being within thirty (30) days after the Third  
Notice of Suit), and if you fail to do so a judgment will be entered  
against you for what the Plaintiff has demanded.  
Christopher J. Arlinghaus  
Matthew C. Gladwell (30493-49)  
Joel F. Bornkamp (27410-49)  
Christopher J. Arlinghaus (31680-15)  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Reisenfeld & Associates LLC  
3962 Red Bank Road  
Cincinnati, OH 45227  
Voice: 1-513-322-7000  
Facsimile: (513) 322-7099  
ATTEST:  
Clerk of the Jay County Circuit Court  
CR 2-24-3-10-2023-HSPAXLP

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AD  
in  
The Commercial  
Review  
CALL  
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New Holland 228 skid  
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or 1-765-857-1071.  
Slocum's Salvage

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Jay County, Indiana Cash & Investments Combined Statement - 2022						
Local Fund Number	Local Fund Name	Beg. Cash and Inv. Bal. Jan 1, 2022	Receipts	Disbursements	End Cash and Inv. Bal. Dec 31, 2022	
<b>Governmental Activities</b>						
0001	After Settlement Collections	\$582,392.15	\$615,961.00	\$582,392.15	\$615,961.00	
0002	Clerk's Trust	\$99,615.77	\$963,010.07	\$920,413.86	\$142,211.98	
0003	Jail Commissary	\$38,474.95	\$264,761.11	\$278,375.66	\$24,860.40	
0004	Sheriff's Inmate Trust	\$54,008.72	\$245,670.48	\$285,370.92	\$14,308.28	
0005	County Home Resident's Trust	\$4,558.80	\$47,812.97	\$45,377.52	\$6,994.25	
0006	Congressional School	\$22,822.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22,822.00	
1000	General	\$4,586,240.33	\$9,114,894.44	\$8,998,452.91	\$4,702,681.86	
1101	Accident Report	\$26,216.81	\$3,078.00	\$0.00	\$29,294.81	
1111	Campaign Finance Enforcement - County	\$600.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$650.00	
1112	CEDIT County Share	\$1,428,679.57	\$599,967.75	\$771,843.44	\$1,256,803.88	
1116	City and Town Court Costs	\$103,580.49	\$2,559.72	\$0.00	\$106,140.21	
1119	Clerk's Records Perpetuation	\$102,471.82	\$9,068.35	\$0.00	\$111,540.17	
1122	Community Corrections Home Det/Project Inc	\$140,901.89	\$41,475.94	\$83,180.09	\$99,197.74	
1123	Community Transition Program	\$144,857.35	\$13,825.00	\$0.00	\$158,682.35	
1124	Congressional School Interest	\$1,970.91	\$124.72	\$912.88	\$1,182.75	
1131	Sales Disclosure - County Share	\$27,553.23	\$5,915.00	\$44.10	\$33,424.13	
1133	Law Enforcement Continuing Fund	\$17,182.88	\$905.68	\$0.00	\$18,088.56	
1135	Cummulative Bridge	\$2,836,274.06	\$631,464.89	\$134,310.23	\$3,333,428.72	
1138	Cummulative Capital Development	\$860,568.32	\$360,066.39	\$659,217.76	\$561,416.95	
1148	Drug Free Community	\$20,496.30	\$15,477.83	\$20,496.30	\$15,477.83	
1150	Electronic Map Generation	\$5,682.61	\$239.50	\$0.00	\$5,922.11	
1151	Emergency Medical Services	\$504,618.27	\$1,514,036.03	\$1,548,971.22	\$469,683.08	
1152	Emergency Planning/ Right to Know	\$13,966.63	\$4,212.26	\$371.89	\$17,807.00	
1155	Extradition and Sheriff's Assistance	\$1,837.03	\$0.00	\$221.16	\$1,615.87	
1159	Health	\$247,060.71	\$521,047.08	\$331,786.66	\$436,821.13	
1167	Levy Excess	\$5,218.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,218.78	
1168	Local Health Maintenance	\$30,699.73	\$41,734.43	\$38,559.24	\$33,874.92	
1169	Local Road and Street	\$341,012.51	\$349,845.12	\$389,863.79	\$300,993.84	
1170	LOIT Public Safety - County Share	\$279,581.16	\$474,936.00	\$369,546.74	\$384,970.42	
1173	MVH- Restricted	\$242,777.51	\$1,716,895.95	\$1,816,178.90	\$143,494.56	
1174	Medical Care for Inmates	\$40,892.27	\$4,039.89	\$0.00	\$44,932.16	
1176	MVH Highway	\$2,455,236.23	\$2,278,644.91	\$2,263,537.74	\$2,470,343.40	
1181	Plat Book	\$41,788.44	\$13,330.00	\$5,618.79	\$49,499.65	
1182	Pre Trial Diversion	\$8,658.36	\$1,940.00	\$0.00	\$10,598.36	
1186	Rainy Day	\$1,944,587.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,944,587.93	
1189	Recorder's Records Perpetuation	\$281,178.30	\$57,833.50	\$27,113.88	\$311,897.92	
1192	Sex and Violent Offender Administration	\$3,429.00	\$1,332.50	\$0.00	\$4,761.50	
1193	Sheriff's Pension Trust	\$336.00	\$11,970.00	\$12,166.00	\$140.00	
1200	Supplemental Public Defender Services	\$24,121.53	\$6,673.41	\$1,873.45	\$28,921.49	
1201	Surplus Tax	\$17,470.81	\$31,193.58	\$30,248.30	\$18,416.09	
1202	Surveyor's Corner Perpetuation	\$28,468.78	\$17,980.00	\$28,135.76	\$18,313.02	
1204	Tax Sale Redemption	\$2,457.50	\$29,955.36	\$25,604.02	\$6,808.84	
1205	Tax Sale Surplus	\$233,946.59	\$139,058.41	\$196,080.02	\$176,944.98	
1206	Local Health Department Trust Account	\$35,088.29	\$16,277.22	\$21,129.96	\$30,235.55	
1208	Vehicle Inspection	\$9,190.00	\$1,250.00	\$0.00	\$10,440.00	
1217	County Elected Officials Training	\$18,160.28	\$3,606.13	\$1,414.06	\$20,352.35	
1222	Statewide 911	\$351,203.21	\$285,209.01	\$363,731.42	\$272,680.80	
1224	Reassessment	\$69,341.68	\$50,073.97	\$49,182.16	\$70,233.49	
1237	Opioid Restricted Funds	\$0.00	\$118,206.03	\$0.00	\$118,206.03	
1238	Opioid Unrestricted Funds	\$0.00	\$28,451.68	\$0.00	\$28,451.68	
2000	Adult Probation Administrative	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$170.00	
2050	Juvenile Probation Administrative	\$10,105.82	\$195.00	\$0.00	\$10,300.82	
2400	Deferral	\$49,821.91	\$4,887.00	\$4,036.77	\$50,672.14	
2500	County User Fee	\$8,132.93	\$1,114.94	\$1,151.92	\$8,095.95	
2501	Adult Probation Fees	\$198,664.24	\$58,595.78	\$45,616.02	\$211,644.00	
2503	Jury Fees	\$26,027.70	\$2,013.71	\$12,372.10	\$15,669.31	
4006	Drug Buy Money	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$960.00	
4018	Court Interpreters	\$1,457.13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,457.13	
4102	Retirement Center Donations	\$7,746.47	\$3,744.61	\$656.57	\$10,834.51	
4103	Sheriff's Department Donations	\$4,432.39	\$2,450.00	\$490.00	\$6,392.39	
4104	Highway Department Donations	\$15,253.39	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,253.39	
4105	Emergency Management Donations	\$139.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$139.94	
4107	JEMS Donations	\$18.73	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$18.73	
4400	TIF Debt Service	\$0.00	\$901,420.89	\$625,450.07	\$275,970.82	
4500	TIF Capital Projects	\$1,305,190.39	\$390,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$1,245,190.39	
4600	Jay Co Lease Payments	\$365,898.82	\$723,793.21	\$731,547.68	\$358,144.35	
4900	County Corrections	\$32,337.69	\$15,177.26	\$23,097.06	\$24,417.89	
4902	Drug Free (Sheriff)	\$2,552.70	\$2,562.04	\$0.00	\$5,114.74	
4903	Backhoe & Dozer Repair	\$95,298.77	\$95,148.80	\$114,510.57	\$75,937.00	
4904	Tile Inventory	\$894.83	\$59,709.87	\$58,770.26	\$1,834.44	
4906	Firearms Training	\$30,057.00	\$0.00	\$22,976.91	\$7,080.09	
4908	Infrastructure	\$658,995.31	\$506,629.35	\$331,753.41	\$833,871.25	
49						

# Sports

## Gann steps down

*Fort Recovery graduate is giving up girls basketball job, will search for replacement in her role as athletics director*

By **RAY COONEY**

The Commercial Review

**FORT RECOVERY** — The former girls basketball coach is now looking for her replacement.

Fort Recovery High School athletics director Holly Gann on Thursday posted the opening for a new girls basketball coach, a role she had also held.

Gann said she chose to step away from the job in large part because of the time commitment coaching demands on top of the AD and transportation direct jobs, and her personal life.

"The reality is, it comes down to my work and my time that I'm spending doing that on top of what the extensive commitment for a head coach is," she said. "I just felt like I was really stretching myself thin."

She added that she wants to be able to be more involved with her children — Wyatt, 10, and Olivia, 7 — as they get more involved in various activities.

Applications for the girls basketball position will be accepted through March 24. The goal is to make a hire at Fort Recovery School Board's April 17 meeting.

Gann agreed she's in the unique position of searching for the coach that will take over the program from her, noting her personal investment in the athletes.

"I'm looking for somebody that's going to be high-energy, positive person, gonna make them better basketball players but also going to make them better people in life," said Gann. "Because we know that basketball is a small part of their life and there's a lot of life outside of basketball."

Gann took over the program in May 2019 following the resignation of Brian Patch, who had led



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Fort Recovery High School girls basketball coach Holly Gann, center, gives direction to her team during halftime of a 2021 Division IV sectional semifinal game against Hardin Northern at Fort Site Fieldhouse. Gann, in her role as athletics director, on Thursday began advertising for the school's next girls basketball coach after deciding to step down from that position.

the program for five seasons after coaching the boys for 11.

In her four years at the helm, Gann compiled a 47-44 record with sectional championships in 2020 and 2021. Her best year was her first as the Indians went 17-6 and earned the No. 1 seed in the district.

Fort Recovery finished 7-14 this year and lost to Coldwater in the opening round of the sectional tournament.

"The cool thing about coaching

is you get to hang out with a lot of amazing youth, amazing females in particular," said Gann. "So to be able to watch these girls learn and grow and be successful in taking their career to the next level ..."

She noted Val Muhlenkamp (University of Findlay), Alli Vaughn (Huntington University), Olivia Patch (Hillsdale College) and Kierra Wendel (Edison State Community College) advancing to collegiate careers.

"More importantly, along the way, you're able to grow as yourself," she continued. "Being able to grow with them in your own journey of becoming a better person or your best you, it's kind of neat to do it alongside of them. As much as I'm helping them, they're helping me too, and that's a neat relationship when it comes to coaching youth."

Prior to taking the Fort Recovery job, she had coached at the middle school level in the Indi-

anapolis area. She added the athletics director title in March 2021 when Brent Niekamp stepped away from that job to return to the classroom.

Gann is a 2007 FRHS graduate who was a four-year starter in girls basketball and scored 1,048 points in her career. She was also a stand-out track athlete, earning a state medal in the discus as a senior. She was inducted into the Fort Recovery Athletics Hall of Fame in 2019.

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(regular price - \$234)

**Run four 3x6 ads in March for \$450**  
(regular price - \$900)



Contact **Lindsey Cochran**  
**260-726-8141**  
[L.cochran@theocr.com](mailto:L.cochran@theocr.com)

## FR grad sets highs

The Oilers dropped their final game of the season.

In that defeat, a former Indian put together the best game of her career.

Val Muhlenkamp, a 2020 Fort Recovery High School graduate, recorded career highs in points and rebounds Saturday as her University of Findlay women's basketball team closed its season with an 89-73 loss to Hillsdale.

Muhlenkamp shot 3-of-5 from long distance and 5-of-9 overall for a career-high 13 points in 20 minutes off the bench. She had scored on four separate occasions earlier in the season.

The junior also pulled down 11 rebounds, surpassing the career high she had reached twice this year. She added one block and one steal for the Oilers (7-21).

Muhlenkamp also had six pounds and five rebounds Feb. 23 in a 73-65 loss to Tiffin.

She averaged 6.6 points and 5.2 rebounds per game this season while totaling 15 assists, 13 steals and seven blocks.

**Vivienne Kunkler**  
**Jay County - 2019**

Swam the second leg of the 200-yard medley relay as the Bethel College team placed 11th in the event Wednesday at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Championships.

**Collegiate Check-up**

Kunkler turned in a split of 30.28 seconds for her breaststroke leg. She teamed with Elisabeth Wolfe, Jaylyn Harrison and Paula Ronda Bou for a time of 1:49.04.

The national championships continue through Saturday.

**Wyatt Geesaman**  
**Jay County - 2019**

Made his first appearance for the Northern Kentucky University baseball team Sunday as the Norse obliterated Western Michigan 27-4.

Geesaman tossed one scoreless inning of relief for NKU (6-2). He walked two batters but did not allow a hit.

**Brenna Homan**  
**Fort Recovery - 2021**

Helped push the only run across the plate for the University of St. Francis softball team Feb. 23 in its 7-1 loss to Indiana Tech.

See Collegiate page 5

## Sports on tap

**Local schedule**

**Today**  
Jay County — Track at Marion Hoosier State Relays qualifier - 5:30 p.m.

**TV sports**

**Today**  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Dayton at Saint Louis (ESPN2)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Boston Celtics (ESPN)  
9 p.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series - Victoria's Voice Foundation 200 (FS1)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Denver Nuggets (ESPN)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: New Mexico at Colorado State (FS1)

**Saturday**  
7:30 a.m. — Soccer: Premier League - Newcastle United at Manchester City (USA)  
10 a.m. — Soccer: Premier League - Leeds United at Chelsea (USA)  
Noon — Men's college basketball: Alabama at Texas A&M (CBS); Iowa State at Baylor (ESPN2); Seton Hall at Providence (FOX); Ohio State at Michigan State (ESPN)  
12:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: George Mason at Richmond (USA)  
12:30 p.m. — Soccer: Premier League - Leicester City at Southampton (NBC)  
1 p.m. — NHL hockey: New York Rangers at Boston Bruins (ABC)  
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Louisville at Virginia (ESPN2); St. John's

at Marquette (FOX); Tennessee at Auburn (ESPN); Kentucky at Arkansas (CBS)  
2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: St. Bonaventure at Massachusetts (USA)  
2:30 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour - Arnold Palmer Invitational (NBC)  
3:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars (ABC)  
4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kansas at Texas (ESPN); Stanford at Oregon (CBS); Florida State at Virginia Tech (ESPN2)  
4:30 p.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Xfinity Series - Alcoso Uniforms 300 (FS1)  
5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Wake Forest at Syracuse (Bally Indiana)  
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oklahoma State at Texas Tech (ESPN2)  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Duke at North Carolina (ESPN)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Butler at Xavier (FS1)  
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Connecticut at Villanova (FOX)  
8:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Milwaukee Bucks (ABC)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Creighton at DePaul (FS1)  
10 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Arizona at UCLA (ESPN)  
10:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Los Angeles Kings (Bally Indiana)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Arizona State at USC (FS1)

10 a.m. — Auto racing: Formula 1 - Bahrain Grand Prix (ESPN)  
11:30 a.m. — Soccer: Premier League - Manchester United at Liverpool (USA)  
Noon — Men's college basketball: Houston at Memphis (CBS); Maryland at Penn State (BTN)  
Noon — Auto racing: IndyCar - Firestone Grand Prix of St. Petersburg (NBC)  
12:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Illinois at Purdue (FOX)  
1 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Dallas Mavericks (ABC)  
2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Nebraska at Iowa (BTN)  
2:30 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour - Arnold Palmer Invitational (NBC)  
3 p.m. — NHL hockey: Tampa Bay Lightning at Carolina Hurricanes (TNT)  
3:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Chicago Bulls (Bally Indiana); Golden State Warriors at Los Angeles Lakers (ABC)  
3:30 p.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Cup Series - Pennzoil 400 Gran Prix (FOX)  
4:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan at Indiana (CBS)  
7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: New York Knicks at Boston Celtics (ESPN)  
7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Northwestern at Rutgers (BTN); Wisconsin at Minnesota (FS1)  
8 p.m. — XFL football: San Antonio Brahmas at Houston Roughnecks (ESPN2)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Los Angeles Clippers (ESPN)

**Sunday**  
9 a.m. — Soccer: Premier League - Everton at Nottingham Forest (USA)