

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Ag Week donut

Alex Muhlenkamp takes a big bite of a donut this morning during the Jay County Ag Week breakfast in Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds.

Education bill transformed in committee

Amendments focus on \$ for charter schools

By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

A bill originally focused on school building closures was transformed Wednesday to primarily provide Indiana charter schools with access to more state and local funding.

Lawmakers in the House Education Committee adopted the sweeping amendment to Senate Bill 391 along party lines and with mixed opinions from Hoosier parents and education advocates. Republicans supported the changes and Democrats opposed.

The latest version of the bill would sunset Indiana's existing "\$1 Law," which requires public school districts to sell or lease vacant or unused instructional buildings for a single dollar to public charter schools.

The change — an about-face from years of GOP support — was embraced by traditional public school officials, who maintained that local school boards should retain authority to decide what to do with their buildings — especially because local districts are the original financiers.

"We're making a lot of decisions around facilities, painful decisions, not to operate schools anymore," said Aleesia Johnson, superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools. "We want to ensure the use of those buildings supports our community. And there are a number of ways for that to happen. That flexibility, I think, would be great."

But another provision in the bill seeking to force school districts to share referendum funding with charter schools drew pushback from traditional school officials. They argued that charters are

not entitled to funding from local property taxpayers because those schools generally do not have the same expenses as their traditional public counterparts.

Charter school proponents praised the move, however.

Advocates for the alternative public schools have ramped up lobbying during the legislative session in an effort to "equalize" charter funding and ensure that students in those schools receive the same amount of dollars as students who attend district schools.

"I send (my son) to a charter school because it's a smaller school. I know he's going to get individual attention. I know he's going to get what's necessary for him to succeed — and that is important to me as a parent," said Susan Sharp, whose son attends Rooted School, a charter high school in Indianapolis. "Our facility deserves to be maintained at a world class level. Our educators deserve to be paid a phenomenal wage because those educators are going to be the ones who send our kids out there into the world."

The GOP-backed measure stripped language from similar proposals that did not advance earlier in the session. It now heads to the House Ways and Means Committee.

The amended bill requires school districts in Lake, Marion, St. Joseph and Vanderburgh counties — where a majority of the state's charter schools are located — to provide a pro rata share of an operating or school safety referendum adopted after June 30 with area charters. In other counties, sharing those funds would remain optional, at least for now.

Rep. Bob Behning, R-Indianapolis, called it a "pilot" plan "to see how this would work."

Still, charter schools that want their share of local tax dollars must "share in the burden of marketing and helping get this referendum passed," Behning said.

See **Transformed** page 2

Reporter arrested for spying

Bloomberg News

Tribune News Service

Russia's Federal Security Service said it has detained Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich, a U.S. citizen, in the city of Yekaterinburg on spying allegations.

Gershkovich "is suspected of espionage in the interests of the American government," the security service known as the FSB said Thursday in a website statement, which didn't indicate when he was held. The reporter "collected information constituting a state secret about the activities of one of the enterprises of the Russian military-industrial complex," it said.

"The Wall Street Journal vehemently denies the allegations from the FSB and seeks the immediate release of our trusted and dedicated reporter," the newspaper said in a

Russian security service says Gershkovich is expected of espionage

statement. "We stand in solidarity with Evan and his family."

The journalist was "caught red-handed" by the FSB, President Vladimir Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told reporters on a conference call.

Gershkovich, who is accredited to the Wall Street Journal's bureau in Moscow with the Russian Foreign Ministry, previously worked as a reporter for Agence France-Presse

and The Moscow Times, covering Russia and Ukraine extensively.

His recent stories included an examination of the impact of international sanctions on Russia's economy and one about rising tensions between the Kremlin elite and the Wagner paramilitary force, run by Yevgeny Prigozhin, that has been trying for months to take the city of Bakhmut in eastern Ukraine.

See **Arrested** page 2

A story to tell

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The goal is to tell a story through music.

What is that story?

"Oh, there are a million stories," said Stefan Heinemeyer with a laugh. "It's all very imaginative. Everybody can find their own pictures while listening to the music."

Local music lovers will get that opportunity Friday when ATOS Trio performs at 7:30 p.m. in Hall-Moser Theatre on the Jay County Campus of Arts Place as part of the Eric R. Rogers Performing Arts Series.

"It's just about total commitment to chamber music, to playing together, to tell a story, to take

ATOS Trio brings 20-year partnership to Arts Place on Friday

the audience on a journey on these beautiful pieces we perform," said Heinemeyer, the group's cellist who will be joined by violinist Annette von Hehn and pianist Thomas Hoppe. "And just to enjoy the music. ..."

"And I think the goal is just to be driven away for two hours, to forget worries, to sink into emotions. ..."

Friday's concert — tickets are available at Arts Place, by calling (260) 726-4809 or at myartspace.org — will open with Joseph Haydn's Unterhauser, a piece that was described by the composer as "in the gypsy style." It will be followed by a selection from Spanish composer Gaspar Cassadó.

See **Story** page 2



Photo provided

ATOS Trio — from left, violinist Annette von Hehn, pianist Thomas Hoppe and cellist Stefan Heinemeyer — will perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Arts Place. The group has been together for 20 years and will play pieces by Joseph Haydn, Gaspar Cassadó and Franz Schubert.

Weather

The high temperature Wednesday in Jay County was 52 degrees. The low was 33.

Tonight's low will be in the mid 40s with a chance of showers beginning after midnight and winds gusting to 30 miles per

hour. Rain is expected Friday with a chance of thunderstorms and winds up to 40 miles per hour. The high will be in the low 60s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

The City of Dunkirk will hold its Easter festivities from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday at Dunkirk City Park. The event will include pictures with the Easter Bunny, treats and a spring carnival led by Glad Tidings Church.

Coming up

Friday — Results from tonight's FRHS baseball game at Houston.

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



Story ...

Continued from page 1
The final piece will be Franz Schubert's Piano Trio in B-flat Major, which Heinemeyer called one of the peaks for a piano trio.
"It's a 40-minute piece filled with beautiful melodies, very Schubert-like, song-like," he said. "It's a very diverse program. Very different styles and tunes and expressions."
The trio of German musicians are celebrating their 20th anniversary together this year. Over those two decades, they have won the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson International Trio Award — it is considered the

gold standard for trios in the United States — and been recognized as New Generation Artists by the BBC.
Hoppe and von Hehn met while working at The Juilliard School in New York City before returning Germany in Berlin. They were looking for a cellist, and one of von Hehn's teachers recommended Heinemeyer.
"Actually, we played this very Schubert trio for sight-reading the first time we met," said Heinemeyer. "Directly after that, playing through, we sat together and said, 'Yeah, let's form a trio. Let's do this. Let's commit.' And ever since we've

enjoyed playing together and traveling together and spending time together.
"It's actually quite rare to have a group for this long period of time without any changes in the ensemble."
They attribute that longevity to trust.
"We can totally depend on each other," Heinemeyer added. "We don't have to discuss anymore, anything, inside the music. We know exactly how the other one will react."
If one of the performances makes a change within a performance, "everybody will follow," he added. "It's like speak-

ing to each other without using words."
They plan to find ways to celebrate their anniversary together throughout the year, though their touring schedule remains slimmer than it used to be because of the coronavirus pandemic. They recently finished recording a CD of Felix Mendelssohn trio's with plans to release it later in 2023 as a birthday present to themselves.
The trio visits the United States every year — their 2024 trip will include a concert at Carnegie Hall in New York City — though the current trip will be a shorter one as the group

heads home after Friday night's performance. (It played a concert Tuesday for the Chicago German Society.)
Heinemeyer, von Hehn and Hoppe have multiple concerts scheduled next month at Teatro La Fenice in Venice, Italy.
"For me, I always enjoy coming to the States, not only for the concerts, but also for the travel, for meeting new people and seeing the country and going around the different states — exploring new things," said Heinemeyer. "We are just happy to be here and to play ... I think it will be a lot of fun to meet people and play for you."

CR almanac

Friday 3/31	Saturday 4/1	Sunday 4/2	Monday 4/3	Tuesday 4/4
61/40	48/25	53/43	67/53	71/61
Friday's forecast shows rain and thunderstorms, with up to 45 mph wind gusts possible.	There's a chance of rain and possibly snow. Otherwise, partly sunny and wind gusts up to 50 mph.	Sunny skies, with a high in the low to mid 50s. Mostly clear at night.	Monday has a chance of showers after 2 p.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny.	There's a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Lotteries

Powerball 4-9-24-46-66 Power Ball: 7 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$147 million	51-63-64-69-71-72-79 Cash 5: 2-9-12-18-27 Hoosier Lotto: 6-19-20-26-31-45 Estimated jackpot: \$13.7 million
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$355 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 9-9-4 Pick 4: 6-1-6-3 Pick 5: 4-0-3-6-4 Evening Pick 3: 8-4-9 Pick 4: 6-7-5-7 Pick 5: 8-6-4-8-1 Rolling Cash: 6-12-13-14-35 Classic Lotto: 4-6-18-24-40-46 Kicker: 1-1-2-0-4-0 Estimated jackpot: \$7.2 million
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 2-5-7 Daily Four: 9-8-5-0 Quick Draw: 1-16-20-22-24-27-28-31-32-38-39-49-51-52-53-54-57-64-65-79 Evening Daily Three: 7-8-9 Daily Four: 1-9-8-0 Quick Draw: 2-6-9-24-25-28-29-31-33-34-38-44-50	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.60 April corn.....6.60 Wheat.....6.85	Wheat.....6.43 July wheat.....6.90
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.68 April corn.....6.68 May corn.....6.72	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.28 May corn.....6.52 Beans.....14.89 April beans.....14.67 Wheat.....6.73
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.57 April corn.....6.57 Beans.....14.67 April beans.....14.67	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.31 April corn.....6.31 Beans.....14.49 April beans.....14.49 Wheat.....6.47

Today in history

In 1865, the Crimean War ended after participants signed the Treaty of Paris. Russia lost to the Ottoman Empire, France, Britain and Sardinia.
In 1867, the United States bought Alaska from Russia at a price of what was then \$7.2 million, or 2 cents an acre. The deal, initiated by Secretary of State William Seward, became known as "Seward's folly."
In 1870, the 15th amendment to the United States Constitution was adopted, guaranteeing men the right to vote regardless of race.
In 1981, President Ronald Reagan was shot outside a hotel in Washington, D.C. Reagan survived, and the man attempting the assassination, John Hinckley Jr., served more than 41 years under court restrictions. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity, but he spent more than three decades at a hospital in Washington. He was fully released in 2022.
In 2003, New York City enacted a law banning cigarette smoking in workplaces, including restaurants and bars.
In 2017, Jay County High School's girls basketball and volleyball teams were moved to Class 3A in the IHSAA. Patriot boys and girls soccer teams also shifted to a three-class system.
— 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.	Tuesday 4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
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Transformed ...

Continued from page 1
According to the bill, that includes posting certain information on the charter school's website.
Under Indiana's current school finance system, state tax dollars are used to provide comparable per-pupil funding to district and charter schools. Districts can also levy local property taxes to pay off debt and for their operations funds.
Charter schools cannot draw on local property tax dollars like traditional public schools can, however, putting them at a disadvantage for paying for certain expenses, like transportation or facilities costs.
The state gives charter schools an extra \$1,250 per pupil to compensate for their lack of property taxes.
The House GOP state budget plan — now under consideration in the Senate — additionally proposes to eliminate that existing charter school grant program and replace it with an "Operations Fund" as part of the student funding formula.
The fund would ensure that every non-virtual charter school receives

the same amount of per student funding as traditional public schools. The state would also subsidize any traditional public school that generates less than \$1,400 per student from its operation levy.
Another provision in the latest draft of Senate Bill 391 extends Indiana charter schools' authorization up to 15 years. Current law allows charters to be approved by the state for up to seven years.
Behning said the change intends to help charters take out bonds for facility expenses.
"How many lenders are going to agree when the contract says your charter goes away in seven years?" asked Behning. "There are very few lenders who are going to say, 'Well, I'm going to roll the dice and hope that you're here seven years from now.'"
The bill additionally seeks to authorize the state board of education to advance money to charter schools that can be used for school building construction and educational technology programs.
The major change ending Indiana's "\$1 Law" would occur in July 2025.
"There's been a lot of, I

think, schools that have tried to deliberately work around it, and other schools who have tried to follow it, and it appears to me that it's just not working very effectively," Behning conceded.
House Democrats claimed victory over the expiration of the "\$1 Law," saying the "white flag" was waived on a key Republican education policy.
"With this flag of surrender, Republicans have accepted what public education advocates have known for years: A key component of the effort to redirect public education dollars to private pockets lacking public oversight has failed," Rep. Ed DeLaney, D-Indianapolis, said in a statement.
But in the meantime, while the existing law is still active, a school building "that is vacant or is not used in whole or in part for classroom instruction" would still be made available to charter schools for \$1, according to the Senate bill.
"This is going to force public schools with a referendum to ask for even more dollars from their local property taxpayers

to cover the added expense of funding students who may live in that district but attend charter schools outside of the district," said Joel Hand, representing the Indiana Coalition for Public Education and the American Federation of Teachers of Indiana.
Even so, it's a rollback from earlier language in the measure that sought to expand the \$1 Law to include "underutilized" buildings.
Charter school critics have long argued that such schools are not obligated to serve every student in a given community — unlike those in traditional public school districts.
The public charters also have private boards and are therefore not accountable to voters, opponents say. They hold, too, that finances at charter schools are also less transparent, given that they are not subject to the same budgetary oversight as traditional public schools.
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Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, non-profit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Arrested ...

Continued from page 1
The detention of the reporter "is a frontal attack on all foreign correspondents who still work in Russia," Andrei Soldatov, an expert on Russia's security services, wrote on Twitter. "It means that the FSB is off the leash."
The Yekaterinburg region in the Urals mountains is a major hub of Russia's defense industry, where factories produce tanks and armored

vehicles, missiles and artillery systems.
The case follows a string of confrontations between the U.S. and the Kremlin regarding detained citizens, amid worsening relations over Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia freed WNBA star Brittney Griner from prison in December in a swap deal for notorious arms dealer Viktor Bout who had been convicted and imprisoned in the U.S.

That came after the Biden administration last April unexpectedly swapped imprisoned Russian pilot Konstantin Yaroshenko for former U.S. Marine Trevor Reed, who was serving nine years after being convicted in Russia in 2020. Efforts are continuing to reach agreement on another detained former U.S. Marine, Paul Whelan, who was sentenced in Moscow to 16 years in 2020 on spying charges he denies.

Felony court news

Child molestation
A Portland man was sentenced to prison after he pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to child molesting, a Level 3 felony.
James L. Cordell, 62, 1207 N. Franklin St., was sentenced to 12 years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served.
He was assessed \$185 in court costs and charged a \$500 sexual assault victims assistance fee.

time served. Setser was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. Setser was placed on probation for 351 days.
As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: a Level 6 felony for strangulation and two Class A misdemeanors for domestic battery and interference with reporting a crime.

Sexual misconduct
A Lafayette man was sentenced to jail after he pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to sexual misconduct with a minor, a Level 4 felony.
Cory A. Gundrum Sr., 45, 3131 Dover Lane, was sentenced to eight years in Jay County Jail and given credit for time served. Gundrum was assessed \$185 and charged a \$500 sexual assault victims assistance fee.

Residential entry
A Union City man was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to multiple charges.
Travis A. Setser, 34, 254 N. Sycamore St., Union City, pleaded guilty to residential entry, a Level 6 felony, and criminal mischief, a Class B misdemeanor. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 14 days suspended and given 14 days credit for

time served. Setser was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days of his sentencing for substance abuse counseling. Setser was placed on probation for 351 days.
As part of his plea agreement, the following charges were dismissed: a Level 6 felony for strangulation and two Class A misdemeanors for domestic battery and interference with reporting a crime.

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MS announces honor roll

Fort Recovery Middle School recently announced its third nine weeks honor roll recipients.

Making the list with all A's were sixth graders Chloe Brockman, Kale Diller, Anthony Evers, Brinley Fortkamp, Stetson Fullenkamp, Gavin Heitkamp, Yoselin Juarez-Gomez, Addison Jutte, Isaac Niekamp, Alexander Roessner Vincent Wenning and Lana Wuebker.

Sixth graders on the list for getting all A's and B's were Kaiser Albers, Tenley Albers, Allison Bergman, Jenna Bertke, Kali Brunswick, Bentley Dilworth, Emmitt Dues, Jordan Dues, Hope Evers and Crew Fortkamp.

Also Kayla Gaerke, Claire Grube, Addyson Heitkamp, Ethan Homan, Julia Homan, Brynn Huntsman, Carter Kaiser, Courtney Overman, River Overman, Kayden Ranly, Andrew Rehmer, Ethan Schmitz, James Shuttleworth, Gunnar Thompson, Jett Tobe, Ben Vogel, Mara Wendel, Claire Wenning, Lydia Will and Reid Willmann.

Named to the list for making all A's were seventh graders Brooke Bihn, Emily Boeckman, Alivia Brunswick, Haley Easton, Claire Gaerke, Malia Grisez, Paisley Hart, Henry Jutte, Cora Pearson, Ally Roessner, Eliza Smith and Charlie Stammen.

Seventh graders on the list with all A's and B's were Layla Armstrong, Jocelyn Bihn, Addison Brunswick, Kyra Brunswick, Riley DeRoo, Evan Diller, Braylon Dilworth, Jackson Dues, Makenzie Evers and William Faller.

Also Pete Guggenbiller, Madeline Hardwick, Elizabeth Heitkamp, Elizabeth Kahlig, Courtney Klenke, Liza Knapke, McKinlee Kremer, Madeline Muhlenkamp, Andrew Niekamp, Stella Patch, Charity Pohlman, Kendall Ranly, Madilyn Reinhard, Liana Schlarman, Hoyt Schmitz, Lilah Thien, Kolton Thompson, Madelyn Weigel and Jady Weyerick.

Eighth graders making the honor roll for getting all A's were

Kenna Dues, Tyler Dues, Cadence Eber, Destiny Ervin, Carter Fortkamp, Alexis Grisez, Sophia Guggenbiller, Aubree M. Heitkamp, Madelyn M. Heitkamp and Makenna Huelskamp.

Also Breaker Jutte, Grace Lochtefeld, Cameron Muhlenkamp, Isaac Roessner, Madelyn Schoenlein, Kiera Stump, Amber Timmerman, Ivy Tobe, Jennifer Wendel, James Westgerdes, and Brynn Willmann.

Eighth graders on the list with all A's and B's were Brody Barga, Deanna Brown, Kendall Buckland, Alexandra Carreto, Reese Diller, Brady Evers, Grant Fortkamp, Ava Fullenkamp, Russell Hart, Meredith Jones, Sydney Jutte, Hudson McAbee, Ian McCain and Jake Meyer.

Also Trinity Rammel, Emma Schmitz, Angel Serio, Cara Shoemaker, Aubrey Shuttleworth, Riley Stammen, Landon Sudhoff, Ava Timmerman, Kaylor Wendel, Reed Westgerdes, Will Westgerdes, Jase Wuebker and Trevor Wycuff.

Man considers monetary gift

DEAR ABBY: I'm a retired married man. My sister, who is four years younger, was recently widowed. She was married for a long time to an abusive alcoholic who eventually drank himself to death. Sometime later, she married a friend of hers who I suspect was also abusive. He died a year ago, leaving her with almost nothing.

Because of differences in our political and spiritual beliefs, my sister and I are not close. She tends to be very defensive. However, my wife and I have been thinking we'd like to give her something monetarily so she could be more comfortable. It wouldn't be a single gift on our part, or a large amount. We feel it would be best if given on a weekly or monthly basis. How should I approach my sister about it? There will be no strings attached, just a regularly given amount to do with however she wants. — NOT CLOSE, BUT CARING

Dear Abby



DEAR NOT CLOSE: You are caring, thoughtful and generous. It is a shame that political differences have driven a wedge between you and your sister. Because she "tends to be defensive" when the two of you make contact, ask your attorney to write her a letter explaining that you and your wife are doing some "estate planning" and you wish to give her a certain sum of money each week (or month) to use as she wishes. If she's interested, she should contact the attorney so the arrangements can be made.

Cooperate schedules for holidays

By JANN BLACKSTONE
Tribune News Service

Q. My ex is Christian and I am Jewish. When we were together, we made a vow that we would support each other's faith in the eyes of the children. This is our first attempt to celebrate the holidays after our split, and we have yet to put an agreed upon holiday schedule in place. Passover is on Wednesday this year. It is his week, and he is reluctant to let the kids come over. I'm horrified by his attitude. It's like nothing we ever said or did ever happened. What's good ex-etiquette?

A. This is a tough one. Everyone believes their way of worship is the right way, and when couples worship differently, they often agree to expose the kids to both ways of thinking. After a breakup, one or both may not be as invested in cooperating as they once were.

Let's look at this from the children's point of view ("Put the children first," Ex-etiquette for Parents Rule No. 1). No longer celebrating as you once did may be confusing. It also can be confusing if your parents were formally tolerant of the differences, but now say one is right and one is wrong.

Witnessing this as a court-

Ex-Etiquette



appointed mediator, I've rarely seen a judge specifically say a child must worship a certain way. I have seen them say something along the lines of, "When the child is with you, he may go to church with you. When the child is with the other parent, he worships as the other parent does."

Your situation is a little different. You are asking dad to let the children come to your home for an important religious holiday during the week they are scheduled to be with him, and you say he is declining.

In the spirit of good ex-etiquette, I suggest you use Ex-etiquette for Parents Rule No. 7, "Use empathy when problem-solving," as your guide. It's basically saying, put yourself in the other's shoes. Feel what they might be feeling, and that will help you make a loving decision.

You made an agreement when you decided to have children. That agreement, that spirit of cooperation to allow your children to experience important aspects of both parents' lives, has not changed.

That would mean, out of the spirit of cooperation, dad would allow the children to come over in the middle of the week for Passover. And, if my calculations are correct, the following Sunday will be Easter — on the weekend the children are scheduled to be with you. Therefore, you would return the favor.

You can now see the importance of a holiday schedule being built into your children's parenting plan. Once the holiday schedule is put in place, there will be no need for negotiation — unless, down the road, you and dad agree to change things. Any agreement is good ex-etiquette as long as it is done using the love of your children as the deciding factor.

Jann Blackstone is the author of "Ex-etiquette for Parents: Good Behavior After Divorce or Separation," and the founder of Bonus Families, bonusfamilies.com.

Email her at the Ex-Etiquette website exetiquette.com at drjann@exetiquette.com.

Community Calendar

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

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

9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

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

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the

former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113. S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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

Sunday
A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'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.

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

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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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iuhealth.org

The solutions are straightforward

By MORTON J. MARCUS

The Goldilocks dilemma is rampant in Indiana.

Ask Hoosiers about the place where they live. Let them talk, let them get beyond the “loyal” response, “It’s a great place to raise kids.”

What you’ll hear is, “This place isn’t as good as it used to be.”

That’s not idle nostalgia. It’s a heart-felt repudiation of years with unilateral change. On the downside, we have East Chicago, Hammond, Gary, Evansville and Connersville as prime examples. Each of these cities had a population peak in 1960. And each experienced a population decline in each of the next six decennial Census reports.

Sixty years on a down slope leaving Gary with 109,000 fewer

Eye on the Pie



residents, a decline of 61% in population. Evansville lost 24,000, a drop of 17% in its numbers.

We know what it means. School closings. Deferred maintenance of infrastructure as tax revenues fail to keep up with costs. Discouragement for two generations of the young, and often heart-break for the people who invested in the homes and businesses of the community.

In sum, 497 (71%) out of 696

Indiana places (cities, towns and unincorporated communities) found themselves in 2020 below their peak population. For the other 199 (29%) of Hoosier places, 2020 was their peak population year.

On this growing side of population change were the familiar suburban magnets of Fishers, Carmel and Westfield, north of Indianapolis, as well as St. John and Schererville, south of the declining cities in northern Lake County.

What’s the problem in these newer versions of paradise? Congestion. Increased demand for public services, including schools. Yielding natural areas to development. And even “people not like us,” whoever we are. Some observers will claim

these concerns are the “natural” consequences of change. Some places grow while others decline. It’s a pendulum as old as the history of human settlements themselves.

Others, intemperate busybodies, unwilling to accept the inveterate, costly disruptions of growth and decline, will insist that public policy be invoked to reverse these “natural” flows of fortune.

But what policies could reverse the abandonment of decaying communities for the rewards of the advancing settlements? And is it appropriate to enact such policies?

The how is straightforward: land use controls. Carefully allocate building permits and business licenses. Don’t subsidize

the aspirations of overgrown places; rescue, repurpose, reuse or replace facilities neglected through time in declining places.

Furthermore, improve access between places. Whether it be the roads or the internet, connectivity is critical. Indiana, at one time, had superior rail and road development, but much rail has been abandoned and roads neglected. In addition, attention is needed to create a fully modernized air travel network.

As for appropriateness, look about. Listen to what people say about their lives. Don’t accept “good enough” as good enough.

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

Elected leaders are human too

The Virginian-Pilot
Tribune News Service

One small but important aspect of changing the conversation about mental health in this country is the need to remove the stigma around seeking help. In far too many corners, seeking treatment or counseling is considered a sign of weakness, something to be pitied, an indication of fragility.

That’s why it was heartening to see the reaction when newly elected U.S. Sen. John Fetterman announced in mid-February that he had checked himself into a hospital for treatment for clinical depression.

The largely supportive reaction from both sides of the political aisle, even amid the perpetual rancor in the nation’s capital, offers some hope that times — and minds — may be changing for the good.

Fetterman, 53, suffered a stroke last May shortly before the Democratic primary in Pennsylvania. He won the primary and the general election even though the stroke caused a lingering auditory processing disorder that makes him reliant on closed captioning when talking to other people.

In February, Fetterman’s office announced that he had checked himself into Walter Reed Medical Center; seeking treatment for clinical depression. More than a month after entering the hospital for treatment, Fetterman remains there, where his aides say he works regularly and continues to have daily briefings.

Clinical depression, or major depression, is one of the most prevalent mental health issues in the United States; the National Institutes of Health reports it affects approximately 8% of the population, or more than 21 million Americans.

Fetterman’s decision to seek treatment is what people with depression should do. By making that choice public, he may help others struggling with mental illness to reach out for help.

Politically, however, the decision was a risky one. Republicans savaged Fetterman on the campaign trail following his stroke, the effects of which were obvious in the run-up to the election. Checking into a hospital for mental health treatment might have invited further ridicule.

But aside from a few contemptible voices, the overwhelming response was one of support, concern and compassion — from

Guest Editorial

Fetterman’s fellow Democrats and from some leading Republicans.

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer wrote on Twitter that he was happy that Fetterman is “getting the help he needs and deserves,” and noted that millions of Americans struggle with depression.

Sen. Tina Smith, a Minnesota Democrat, rightly pointed out that “Seeking help when you need it is a sign of strength, not weakness...”

She knows what she’s talking about. Smith gave a Senate speech in 2019 describing her bouts with depression years earlier. She has made expanding mental health care one of her priorities.

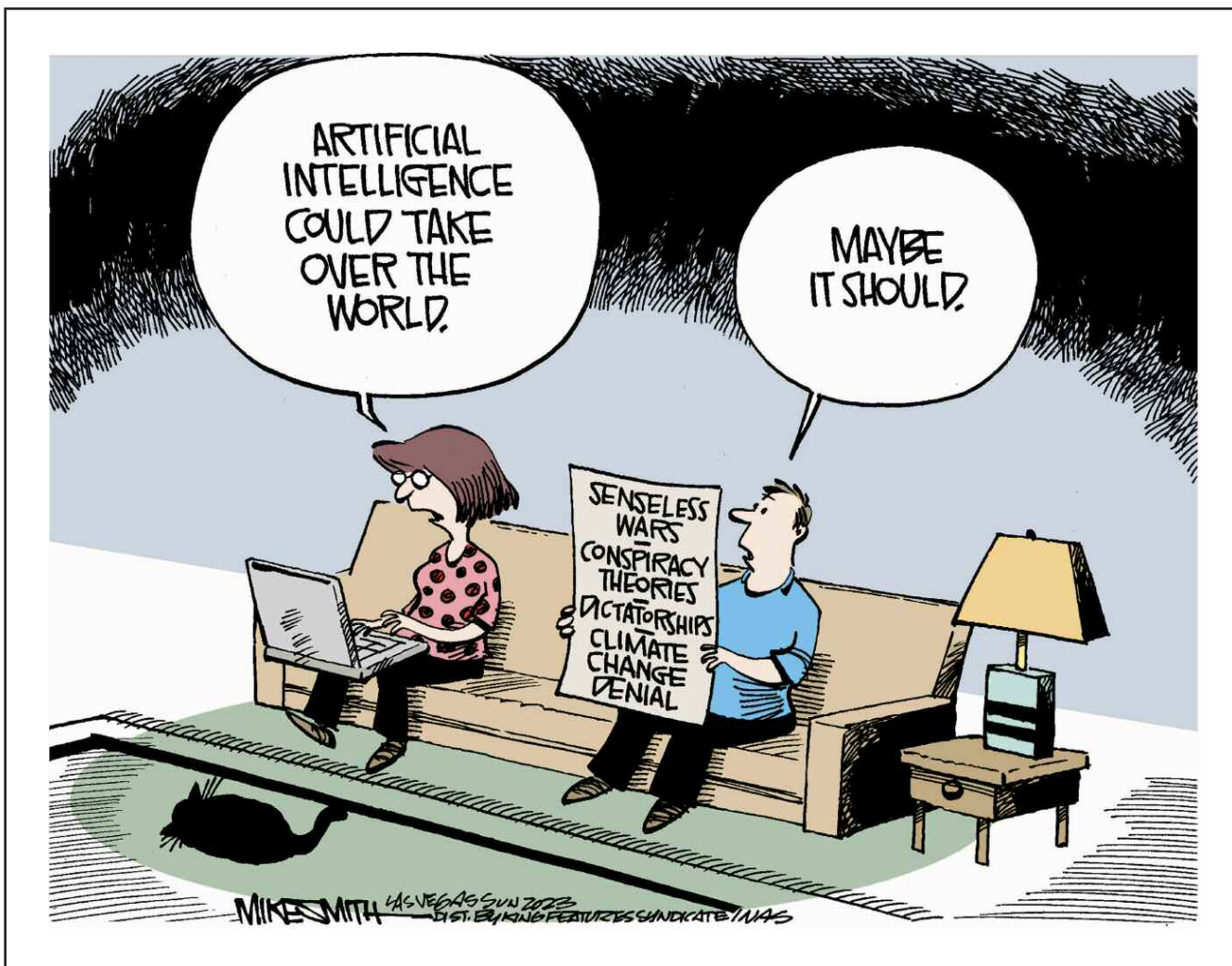
Republicans could have easily stayed quiet but conservative leaders such as Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas wished Fetterman a speedy recovery. Such humanity and decency is all too rare in our political discourse.

All of that is a welcome sign of needed progress in the way our society deals with mental disorders. While most people are comfortable now disclosing physical ailments, many still fear the stigma associated with mental disorders. They fear people will consider such admissions a sign of weakness. They fear being judged unfit for the job. Politicians, who live in the spotlight, have been especially wary.

Fetterman’s struggle with depression reminds us of a truth too often forgotten in today’s harsh politics: Those who serve our country in elected office are human too.

Transparency is essential in a democracy, including transparency about officials’ physical and mental health. Gone are the days when Franklin Roosevelt could hide his paralysis, or Woodrow Wilson’s wife could essentially take over after a stroke left the president incapacitated.

Politicians — like most people — are a wary bunch, never eager to show vulnerability. But it is a sign of strength to know one’s limits. One hopes Fetterman’s decision can be an example to the American people, especially our youth, that seeking help is courageous, not cowardice.



EPA needs to do its job

By GEORGE NAYLOR
Progressive Perspectives
Tribune News Service

When I started farming corn and soybeans on our 320-acre family farm in Greene County, Iowa, in 1976, herbicides like dicamba were a go-to to control weeds. Dicamba is quite toxic, but it helped control broadleaf weeds in my corn crop — until it didn’t.

Like so many herbicides, dicamba became ineffective over time as weeds built up resistance. In a typical pattern, the pesticide companies would cook up new chemicals to keep us on a toxic, ecologically damaging treadmill to manage farming the same crops, year after year. But dicamba created other problems, too.

When I sprayed dicamba on fields of young corn, I often saw leaf damage on my soybeans or on my neighbors’ crops — sometimes quite a distance away from my farm. Weeks later, after a big rain, dicamba-laden water would run off a corn field into the soybeans and damage them again. Like many other farmers, I lost faith in dicamba.

Now, chemical and seed companies like BASF and Bayer (which now owns Monsanto) are pushing a weedkiller that includes dicamba to address the latest weed resistance problem for their glyphosate-tolerant genetically modified (GMO) Roundup Ready crops. Their “solution” was to genetically modify crops like soybeans and cotton so a combination of dicamba and glyphosate kills most weeds but won’t kill the crops.

I chose never to raise GMO crops. And eight years ago, I transitioned our farm to organic. Why,

then, does dicamba still bother me? Because it drifts through the air for miles, polluting not only my farm and crops but important habitats that keep our ecosystem healthy and vibrant.

As I told one reporter, “Pesticide drift, especially with dicamba, and its potential to hurt other crops, is huge.” I often hear conventional and organic farmers complain that their crops have been damaged, but because of the volatile nature of dicamba, they can’t tell which farms the drift is coming from.

One report in 2020 by the National Wildlife Federation found that since the EPA approved dicamba spraying on GMO soybeans and cotton in 2016, five million acres have been sprayed with the toxic herbicide, “an area roughly the size of New Jersey.” The report uncovered “Thousands of pesticide injury complaints over the past three years in states across the Midwest and South,” revealing that dicamba sprayings are “causing injury thousands of feet from treated crop fields.”

This means that farmers like me who choose not to spray dicamba still catch the toxic drift. That report also showed that dicamba drift harmed many crops including sweet potatoes, beets and other vegetables, and tree crops like peaches.



George Naylor

Dicamba is also hurting bees — vital pollinators that help us produce so many popular foods, such as almonds, apples, peaches and tons of other fruits, nuts and veggies. Already suffering a “colony collapse” epidemic due largely to toxic pesticides, farmers are reporting that honeybees are losing many of the weeds that nourish them, due to dicamba.

Despite all of this, the EPA has failed to do the job we taxpayers pay them to do — protect our environment, and all of us, from toxins like dicamba. In the summer of 2021, while I was out monitoring my crops, the agency found that dicamba drift damaged more than one million acres of soybean crops in that season alone. Many other crops were also harmed, as were endangered species in more than 60 farming counties across the country.

It’s time for the EPA to do its job and prevent all this damage from dicamba drift. A group of farmers and advocates, represented by the Center for Food Safety, had hoped this was settled in June 2020 when the 9th Circuit Court ruled that the EPA’s approval of Monsanto’s dicamba herbicide was unlawful.

Yet more than two years later, these groups are being forced to sue again, because the EPA has failed to stop this unlawful spraying and its harmful effects. The government must protect our farmers and our food and not cater to the pesticide industry.

Naylor is a farmer in Iowa, and past president of the National Family Farm Coalition. He is on the board of directors at the Center for Food Safety.

The Commercial Review



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“Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter.”
—Thomas Jefferson

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

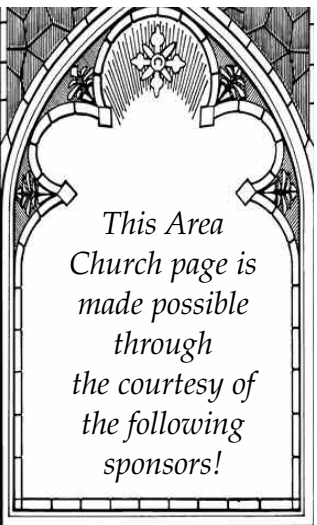
Union Chapel
6200 N. 375 West, Bryant
Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

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

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

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

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



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Thwaits ...

Continued from page 8
He notched a pair of saves as he worked tirelessly out of the bullpen. He is part of a pitching staff that also includes the Padres No. 6 and No. 7 rated prospects in right-handers Adam Mazur and Victor Lizarraga. San Diego's top prospect, 19-year-old shortstop Jackson Merrill, will also start the 2023 season in Fort Wayne.

Thwaits was a two-time Midwest Athletic Conference Player of the Year for Fort Recovery, going 8-3 with a 0.97 ERA and 149 strikeouts in 79 2/3 innings over his final two seasons. He helped lead the Indians to the second of their back-to-back Division IV state final four appearances during his sophomore year.

Some Hendrick penalties rescinded

By ALEX ZIETLOW
The Charlotte Observer
Tribune News Service
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Some Hendrick race teams just got a big boost in the points standings.

Wednesday, the National Motorsports Appeals panel ruled on the appeal of an L2 penalty for the unapproved adjustment of single-vendor parts assigned to Hendrick, upholding some of NASCAR's initial rulings and rescinding others.

The panel upheld the \$100,000 fines and four-race suspensions to all four Cup Series crew chiefs at Hendrick. That \$400,000 fine to one team remains the largest combined fine to one organization in NASCAR history.

But the panel also rescinded the penalties of 100 driver points and 10 playoff points levied against Kyle Larson, William Byron and Alex Bowman. It also rescinded the 400-point deduction to Hendrick Motorsports in the owner's standings.

The penalties in question arose after the race at Phoenix Raceway, where NASCAR found each of the four Hendrick Cup Series cars guilty of the "unapproved modification to a single-source vendor supplied part," per NASCAR's penalty sheet. The penalty referred

specifically to the modification of Hendrick cars' hood louvers, the vents in the hood that help transfer air out of the radiator. Hendrick's hood louvers were seized the Friday before the Cup race, taken back to NASCAR's R&D center in Concord and subsequently deemed illegal.

"We are pleased that the National Motorsports Appeals Panel agreed that Hendrick Motorsports violated the rule book," a statement from NASCAR said. "However, we are disappointed that the entirety of the penalty was not upheld. A points penalty is a strong deterrent that is necessary to govern the garage following rule book violations, and we believe that it was an important part of the penalty in this case and moving forward."

"We will continue to inspect and officiate the NASCAR garage at the highest level of scrutiny to ensure a fair and level playing field for our fans and the entire garage." This decision shakes up the standings early in the Cup Series season, but the Hendrick cars were likely making the playoffs anyway.

William Byron has already notched two wins. Alex Bowman sits 16th in the points standings after a remarkably consistent start to 2023.



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Clive Brunskill

Sorana to semifinal

Sorana Cirstea of Romania plays a backhand against Aryna Sabalenka in their Miami Open quarterfinal match at Hard Rock Stadium on Wednesday in Miami Gardens, Florida. Cirstea will play in the semifinal round Friday.

Panel: Standards needed

By ORION DONOVAN-SMITH
The Spokesman-Review
Tribune News Service

As March Madness nears its conclusion, House lawmakers on Wednesday turned their attention to a different kind of collegiate chaos: the nascent billion-dollar industry of college athlete endorsement deals.

In the first hearing on Capitol Hill since a 2021 Supreme Court ruling gave collegiate athletes the right to profit from the use of their name, image and likeness — known as "NIL" rights — a panel of six witnesses mostly agreed Congress needs to set national standards for the booming industry. Without such guardrails, the influx of money "threatens to cause irreparable damage to the student-athlete experience," Washington State University athletic director Pat Chun told a

subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

"Unfortunately, the Supreme Court's ruling did not offer clear rules of the road," said Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, a Republican who chairs the full committee. "The current NIL chaos means student-athletes are left to fend for themselves, and those at the top of their game must figure out how to maneuver through a multitude of agents, collectives and high-dollar contract offers all while maintaining their academic and athletic commitments."

The absence of federal guardrails has made for a Wild West of endorsement deals, where college athletes are subject to confusing rules and vulnerable to predatory agents.

More than half of the nation's states have enacted different laws

governing NIL rights, while others have none.

While comprehensive data on NIL deals is scarce — another reason lawmakers on the panel called for congressional action — the endorsement platform Opensea estimates the college NIL industry will be worth \$1.14 billion in its second full year. Coincidentally, that's roughly the same amount as the revenue earned in 2022 by the National Collegiate Athletic Association, or NCAA.

From July 2021 through February 2023, football and basketball have accounted for the overwhelming majority of NIL dollars, according to Opensea data — 55.1% to football, 20.6% to men's basketball and 10.2% to women's basketball.

The biggest chunk of that money — nearly 40% — has been spent on social media posts.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Baseball at Houston — 5 p.m.; JV baseball at Anna — 5 p.m.; JV softball at Shawnee — 5 p.m.

Friday
Fort Recovery — Baseball vs. Mississinawa Valley — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Mississinawa Valley — 5 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Softball vs. Winchester — 11 a.m.
Fort Recovery — Softball vs. Bath — 11 a.m.; Baseball vs. Crestview — noon; JV baseball doubleheader at Fort Loramie — 11 a.m.; JV softball vs. Bath — 1 p.m.

TV sports

Today
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)

Friday
2:30 p.m. — High school basketball: Geico Nationals — Semifinal (ESPN2)

4:30 p.m. — High school basketball: Geico Nationals — Semifinal (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Oklaho-

ma City Thunder at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)

7 p.m. — Women's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — LSU vs. Virginia Tech (ESPN)

9 p.m. — Women's college basketball: Iowa vs. South Carolina (ESPN)

9 p.m. — High school basketball: The Throne National Championship — Semifinal (FS1)

Saturday
10 a.m. — High school girls basketball: GEICO High School Basketball Nationals — Championship (ESPN2)

Noon — High school boys basketball: GEICO High School Basketball Nationals — Championship (ESPN)

Noon — Women's amateur golf: Augusta National Women's Amateur (NBC)

12:30 p.m. — Soccer: Premier League — Aston Villa at Chelsea (USA); Bundesliga — Borussia Dortmund at Bayern Munchen (ABC)

12:50 p.m. — National Women's

Soccer League — Portland Thorns at Kansas City (CBS)

1 p.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Xfinity Series — ToyotaCare 250 (FS1)

1:30 p.m. — High school boys basketball: The Throne National Championship (FOX)

3 p.m. — NHL hockey: Boston Bruins at Pittsburgh Penguins (ABC)

3 p.m. — College football: Michigan Spring Game (BTN)

3:30 p.m. — PGA golf: Texas Open (NBC)

4:05 p.m. — Major League Baseball: San Francisco Giants at New York Yankees (FOX)

4:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

4:30 p.m. — Auto racing: NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series — Speedy Cash.com 220 (FS1)

6:09 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Florida Atlantic vs. San Diego State (CBS)

7:30 p.m. — Major League Soccer:

Seattle Sounders at Los Angeles Galaxy (FOX)

8 p.m. — NHL hockey: New Jersey Devils at Chicago Blackhawks (ESPN2)

8:49 p.m. — Men's college basketball: NCAA Tournament — Miami vs. Connecticut (CBS)

9 p.m. — Professional Fighters League (ESPN)

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 running from April through August. Awards are presented in nine divisions.

The opening race in the circuit is the Sprint to Spring 5K at 9 a.m. April 22. Registration is \$20.

For more information, visit 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.

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

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90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall, Jay County Fairgrounds, Portland, IN
Saturday Morning
APRIL 8th, 2023
9:30 A.M.

OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS

Victor set of scales; metal barn cupola, Dutch Boy pail; egg baskets; large assortment vintage license plates; feed sacks to include Haynes Mill, Wayne, D&H feeds to name a few; Large assortment of crocks and jugs; copper boiler; tractor seat; steel wheels; pulleys; aluminum Pepsi carrier; and many other items not listed.

TRACTOR-EQUIPMENT
John Deere 5410 FWA diesel tractor with John Deere 5410 loader, cab, 3pt and 3200 hours; Troy built self propelled snow blower; Honda 250 moped; White 8hp. Chipper/vacuum; Craftsman 6hp weed whip.
Auctioneers Note: Auction preview to be held on Friday April 7th from 1pm to 5pm.
ROGERS FAMILY
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: 2628 E 300 S, HARTFORD CITY, IN
SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2023
10:00 A.M
TRACTOR-FARM EQUIPMENT-SHOP TOOLS

1996 JD 5300 utility tractor w/ JD 520 hydraulic loader 5704 hrs., New Idea GD manure spreader, 200 small bales of hay, 100 small bales of straw, Craftsman 20gal air compressor, Craftsman 10in table saw, pressure washer, Dewalt radial arm saw.

GUNS-KNIVES
Winchester model 74 22cal. tube fed, Japanese 7.7 military rifle, Smith & Wesson 22cal. 6 shot revolver w/box, holsters and barrels.

ANTIQUES-FURNITURE-HOUSEHOLD
Maytag wringer washer, 4ft. buzz saw blade, (3) military trunks, Shamrock military cooler, army and military uniforms, hats, sleeping bags and canteen, Tiffany, Aladdin, and oil lamps, much more
OWNERS: Rill Ford Estate by Drinda Ford Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Pete D. Shawver
AU19700040

90 SALE CAELNDAR

260-726-5587
Zane Shawver
AU10500168
260-729-2229
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Located: 8909 S 1150 W REDKEY, IN
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2023
10:00 A.M
VEHICLES—UTV—TRAILER—EQUIPMENT

2019 Buick Envision 40,380 miles (nice), 2005 Chevy Monte Carlo Tony Stewart edition 93,640 miles (1 of 1100 made), 2020 5ft x 8ft utility trailer w/ ramp gate.
PEDAL—TRACTORS—TOYS—ANTIQUES
JD 4440, JD 720, AC D17, JD 10 w/ 3 holes and engine compartment pedal tractors, Standard oil glass crown for premium fuel, 7-up cans w/advertisement from the Anderson.
COINS—FURNITURE—HOUSEHOLD
4 troy ounce clown silver bar, JD 5 coin collection .999 silver, gold and silver jewelry, much more.
LAWN AND GARDEN—SHOP TOOLS— MISC.
JD X590 riding mower 54in cut 305hrs, DR 28in brush cutter self-propelled w/ 3hrs, Craftsman roll away tool

90 SALE CALENDAR

boxes, Craftsman shop and hand tools.
OWNERS: Thomas B. & Phyllis J. Johnson Trust
Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
Pete D. Shawver
AU19700040
260-726-5587
Zane Shawver
AU10500168
260-729-2229
Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.

130 MISC. FOR SALE

PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

ALUMINUM SHEETS

23"x30", .007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

FOR SALE 41 FIBERGLASS

Re-usable skids. First Come. First Serve. \$50.00 for all. Call to arrange pick up. The Commercial Review 260-726-8141.

170 PETS

USE ITCHNOMORE@SHAMPOO on dogs & cats to relieve irritation from fleas & grass allergies: eliminate doggy odor. At Tractor Supply @ (www.fleabeacon.com)

190 FARMERS COL-UMN

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200 FOR RENT

PIEDMONT APARTMENTS, 778 W 7th Street, Portland, Indiana, accepting applications for 1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments, no application fee. Rent base on 30% of your gross income. Call 260-726-2920, TDD 800-743-3333. This is an Equal Opportunity Housing Complex. This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

200 FOR RENT

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.com

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230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

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Moser delivers against Bethel

A former Patriot got his bat going in a four-game set against Bethel College.

Max Moser, a 2018 Jay County High School graduate, hit .400 for the Huntington University baseball team in the four-game set against the Pilots.

A graduate student, Moser started at designated hitter and clobbered Bethel in the opening game of the series March 23. He smacked a solo home run for the Foresters (19-8) in the fourth inning as part of a 4-for-5 effort. He also doubled and scored on a sacrifice fly by Ian McCutcheon in the seventh in the 9-8 HU victory.

He totaled six hits in the series, going 2-for-4 in a 6-2 loss Friday. He also walked and scored a run in the second game of the March 23 doubleheader (a 13-1 win) and had an RBI in the final game (a 12-2 victory) of the series Saturday.

Noah Arbuckle, a 2020 JCHS graduate, started in Friday's game against Bethel and took the loss, allowing six runs on 10 hits and four walks in 7 1/3 innings. He struck out six batters.

Jalyn Bruns Fort Recovery - 2022

Finished in the top 10 for the Indiana University - East women's golf team as it won the 54-hole Heritage Hill Collegiate tournament Saturday and Sunday in Shepherdsville, Kentucky.

Bruns was consistent across the two-day tournament, opening with a round of 86. She then shot back-to-back 84s to close with a 254 and finish in seventh place.

The freshman was the No. 2 scorer for IU-East as her teammate Brooklynn Cromwell finished as the runner-up.

The Red Wolves shot 1,016 to trail only champion Spaulding

Collegiate Check-up

(998) in the seven-team tournament.

Brenna Homan Fort Recovery - 2021

Scored twice for the University of St. Francis softball team Friday in its 10-9 loss to Spring Arbor.

Homan singled and scored on an Aubrey Dunnuck double in the second inning. She reached base on an error in the fourth inning and came to the plate on a double by Abby Erwin.

The sophomore also went 1-for-2 for the Cougars (5-13) in an 11-6 loss in the second half of the doubleheader against Spring Arbor.

Kenzie Ring Jay County - 2021

Helped the Trine University acrobatics and tumbling team get above .500 with a 239.685-234.63 win Sunday over Concordia.

The Thunder (3-2) dominated the team event 83.26-80.63. It was also strong in the acro event, totaling 25.75 points compared to 22.35 for Concordia.

Griffin Mann Jay County - 2021

Competed for the Hanover College men's golf team this weekend as it tied for second in the Great Lakes Intercollegiate tournament hosted by Rose-Hulman at Country Club of Terre Haute.

Mann posted the No. 5 score for the Panthers with an 87. Hanover shot 313 to tie with Indiana Tech, finishing four strokes behind the host Fightin' Engineers.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Hart ahead

Fort Recovery High School's Jenna Hart runs in front of Josie Bruns of Marion Local during Tuesday's track season opener at Barrenbrugge Athletic Park. Hart finished second in the race and the Indian girls tied 2022 Midwest Athletic Conference runner-up Coldwater for first place in the four-team meet.

Thwaits returning to FW

A former Indian will be close to home again this season.

Fort Recovery High School graduate Nick Thwaits will return to the Fort Wayne TinCaps, the High A affiliate of the San Diego Padres, as part of their 2023 roster that was announced this week.

Thwaits, a 15th-round draft pick for San Diego in 2018, was stellar down the stretch last season for the TinCaps, recording a 1.52 ERA over his final 13 appearances.

His strong finish in Fort Wayne led to a September call up to the Class AA San Antonio

Missions. He made one appearance, giving up one unearned run on two hits in 1 1/3 innings against the Amarillo Sod Poodles.

Thwaits finished the 2022 season with a 3-5 record, striking out 53 in 63 1/3 innings.

See **Thwaits** page 7

Help us choose our first

TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Commercial Review will honor its inaugural Teacher of the Year in a special section April 14.

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

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



The deadline is March 31.

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

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

