

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

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## Bryant man found in flood waters

*Death of Gors believed to be a drowning*

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

A Bryant man was found dead Monday in a flooded area of rural Adams County.

Emergency responders located the body of 55-year-old Anthony Gors along a portion of Adams County road 300 West flooded with water from the Wabash River about 11:05 a.m.

Officials believe he drowned.

Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) public relations captain Jet Quillen explained this morning Gors called a friend — he would not release the friend's name — about 4:30 a.m. Monday about his vehicle stalling in the flood waters along county road 300 West. After the friend arrived to help, Gors attempted to get out of the van and started drifting away, prompting the friend to call 911.

The DNR and several other agencies, including Jay County Sheriff's Office, responded to the scene just north of Adams County road 850 South about 5:44 a.m. Monday.

Gors' body was found in water approximately 5 feet deep more than five hours later. He was discovered a short distance away from an unoccupied Chevy Express van, which had been driven around a swing gate with signs stating the road was closed, according to a press release from the DNR.

See **Found** page 2

## Issues discussed



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

State Rep. Matt Lehman (R-Berne) speaks to a group of about 25 area residents who gather Saturday morning for a Third House Session at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland. Topics ranged from the two-year budget and related education funding to health care to broadband internet expansion.

## Health care, education among key topics

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Health care and education, in addition to and in conjunction with the two-year budget, have been among the major topics in front of the Indiana General Assembly this year.

They were two of the points of focus of questions from area residents when they had an opportunity to address their legislators.

State Sen. Travis Holdman (R-Markle) and State Reps. J.D. Prescott (R-Union City) and Matt Lehman (R-Berne) addressed those topics as well as township trustees, broadband internet and others during a Third House Session on Saturday at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland.

Roy Adams and Jennifer Hartley, both of Adams Physical Therapy, and former Portland mayor and current mayoral candidate Randy Geesaman asked the legislators about health care, including about healthcare monopolies and costs, Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements and mental health.

Lehman, the house majority floor leader who now represents the northern third of Jay County along with all of Adams and Wells counties, said House Bills 1003 and 1004 attempt to address some of the issues Adams and Hartley asked about by addressing them from both the hospital side and the insurance side.

The bills, which Lehman co-authored, provide a tax credit for employers that implement health reimbursement arrangements and to increase competition among both insurance companies and health care providers. House Bill 1004 would penalize some hospitals if their rates exceed the national average.

See **Issues** page 5

## Sewer project about a month away

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

A flood mitigation project that has been in the works for nearly two years will begin soon.

Mayor John Boggs told Portland City Council on Monday that work on the Meridian Street storm sewer project is expected to begin in about a month.

The \$2.42 million project, which was proposed by Wessler Engineering of Indianapolis in March 2021, calls for installing about 2,000 feet of new sewer line from the north end of Portland's downtown area to the Salamonie River. It will drain three Meridian Street catch basin systems — those that cover the area between Main and North

streets — and take them off of the Millers Branch line that runs about a half-block to the east. The Millers Branch line has experienced issues with being overloaded and having water back up onto the streets over the last decade-plus.

Boggs noted that earlier in the day Watson Excavating met with Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) officials to discuss detours for the project. He said detour signs should go up within the next couple of weeks, with work to follow shortly after.

The work will begin between the Salamonie River and Water Street, with that section of the road closed.

See **Sewer** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Vocal 'Rescue'

Trinity Rammel sings Lauren Daigle's "Rescue" on Sunday during the Fort Recovery Local Schools choral department's cabaret concert. Rammel performed along with Aubree Heitkamp (background) and Haley Easton.

## Guard advances, choirs win

Saturday was a good day to be a Patriot in the performing arts.

Jay County High School's winter guard advanced to the Indiana High School Color Guard Association state semifinals while both of its show choirs won their categories at East Noble Knight Edition 2023.

The school's indoor percussion ensemble competed at the Franklin Community Invitational.

The Patriot winter guard scored 70.16 points to finish fourth in its round. The group was 11th overall in regional A Class, just 0.41 points behind 10th-place Northwestern.

The top 18 schools from each of two IHSCGA preliminary meets moved on to the semifinals, which will be held Saturday at Franklin Central. From there, the top 16 move on to the state finals.

Patriot Edition, Jay County's co-ed show choir, took the top spot in mixed division — tier II at East Noble, finishing ahead of runner-up Red Hot Blues of New Castle. The group also took the award for best vocals.

Just Treble, the school's all-girl group, won women's division — tier II ahead of second-place City Lights of Columbia City.

See **Win** page 2

## FR looking at street options

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — The village is weighing its options for street work.

Fort Recovery Village Council OK'd seeking engineering designs Monday for a couple street reconstruction projects.

Village administrator Randy Diller explained costs are anticipated at \$450,000 for reconstructing portions of Gwendolyn and Wiggs streets and \$300,000 for reconstructing two blocks of Main Street. (He indicated these estimates may be high.)

Diller suggested council select one project, pointing out the village has about \$150,000 in American Rescue Plan Act dollars available for road work.

"If we had enough money, I'd love to do them both," said Diller, who referenced his previous plan to apply for a grant through the Small Government Program offered by Ohio Public Works Commission. (He recently found out the village will not be eligible for the grant until next year.)

See **Street** page 5

### Deaths

Jon Juillerat, 96, Portland  
Michael Fullenkamp, 74, Fort Recovery  
Richard Shepherd, 77, Royse City, Texas  
Nancy Crites, 59, Indianapolis  
Joyce Glass, 83, Pennville  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 74 degrees Monday. The low was 42.  
Tonight's forecast calls for the low to drop into the 20s. Expect partly sunny skies Wednesday with a high near 44.  
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

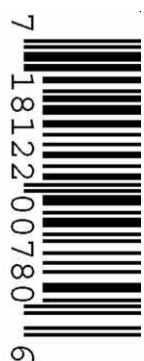
### In review

Jay County Commissioners have scheduled a special meeting for 2:30 p.m. Friday in the commissioners' room at Jay County Courthouse. The agenda calls for commissioners to discuss the purchase of real estate.

### Coming up

**Wednesday** — Results from tonight's Jay County junior high swim meet.

**Friday** — Concert will highlight music from imprisoned composers.



# Win ...

Continued from page 1  
It added the award for best choreography.  
It was the first win of the year for both JCHS groups, as Patriot Edition had placed second at the Feb. 11 Carroll Clas-

sic and Feb. 18 Homestead Classic Showcase while Just Treble was the runner-up March 4 at the Bishop Luers Midwest Show Choir Invitational.  
Both choirs also competed

Saturday at the Bishop Luers Midwest Show Choir Invitational, with Just Treble placing second and Patriot Edition finishing third.  
The JCHS indoor percussion group scored 62.35 points for

11th in Percussion Scholastic A. It finished 9.65 points behind 10th-place Vincennes.  
Jay County's winter guard advanced to the IHSCGA state finals under the new format instituted in 2017 for the first

time last season. It went on to finish in 10th place in Regional A Class.  
Patriot Edition and Just Treble will both compete again Saturday at the Columbia City Cup.

## CR almanac

Wednesday 3/8	Thursday 3/9	Friday 3/10	Saturday 3/11	Sunday 3/12
<b>44/26</b> Partly sunny Wednesday with a high in the mid 40s. The low may dip to 26.	<b>47/33</b> Thursday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies with wind gusts up to 20 mph. Chance of rain late.	<b>43/26</b> There's a 60% chance of showers Friday under mostly cloudy skies.	<b>39/27</b> Another day of mostly cloudy skies Saturday with lows in the mid to upper 20s.	<b>41/28</b> Sunday has a slight chance of rain. Otherwise, mostly cloudy.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 2-13-29-58-69 Powerball: 4 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$31 million	15-17-24-30-36-40-42-43-58-61-65-68-69-72-73-76 Cash 5: 7-12-13-14-37 Estimated jackpot: \$105,000
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$188 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 7-5-6 Pick 4: 1-5-3-6 Pick 5: 4-5-1-5-5 Evening Pick 3: 6-4-1 Pick 4: 2-8-4-4 Pick 5: 1-5-7-2-8 Rolling Cash 5: 7-14-17-24-31 Estimated jackpot: \$110,000 Classic Lotto: 2-5-16-17-37-41 Kicker: 9-2-5-2-0-2 Jackpot: \$6.2 million
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 0-4-1 Daily Four: 9-9-8-7 Quick Draw: 3-4-7-8-16-19-22-25-28-29-36-43-53-54-55-59-60-67-73-77 Evening Daily Three: 4-5-1 Daily Four: 5-4-7-4 Quick Draw: 6-9-11-13-	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....6.52 April corn.....6.52 Wheat.....6.74	Wheat.....6.40 July wheat.....6.84
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....6.49 April corn.....6.55 May corn.....6.57	<b>Central States Montpelier</b> Corn.....6.35 Late March corn.....6.35 Beans.....15.16 Late March beans.....15.16 Wheat.....6.83
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....6.37 April corn.....6.37 Beans.....15.09 April beans.....15.09	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....6.10 April corn.....6.12 Beans.....14.96 April beans.....14.96 Wheat.....6.44

## Today in history

In 161, Marcus Aurelius became emperor of Rome.  
In 1644, the first bicameral legislature in North America was established in Massachusetts.  
In 1850, U.S. Sen. Daniel Webster delivered his famous "Seventh of March" speech in which he urged a compromise regarding slavery. His push helped lead to the Compromise of 1850 that dictated how the issues of slavery would be handled in California, Utah and New Mexico.  
In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell received a patent for the telephone. He was able to produce the first intelligible speech with the device a few days later, and in 1877 Bell Telephone Company was formed to commercialize the invention.  
In 1938, auto racer Janet Guthrie was born in Iowa City, Iowa. She became the first woman to complete the Indianapolis 500 in 1977, placing 29th in the field of 33 drivers.  
In 1942, Michael Eisner was born in Mount Kisco, New York. Eisner served as chairman and CEO of Walt Disney Productions from 1984 through 2004. His efforts included overseeing Disney's partnership with Pixar.  
In 2022, Portland City Council held off on approving updates to the city's garbage collection ordinance, raising a variety of questions about the policies for the new Toters. Council members planned to send suggestions for changes to the proposed updates, which they ultimately approved.  
—The CR

## Citizen's calendar

**Today**  
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. — Salamonina 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.  
**Friday**  
2:30 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners special meeting, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

## Obituaries

### Jon Juillerat

Feb. 16, 1926-Feb. 11, 2023  
Jon A. Juillerat, age 96, of Portland passed away on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, in The Waters of Muncie.  
He was born in Jay County on Feb. 16, 1926, the son of Raymond and Vesta Electra (Thomas) Juillerat. He was married on Aug. 6, 1948, to Mary Catheryn Porter and she passed away on Aug. 25, 2022. Jon was a farmer and owner of Juillerat Trucking. He was a member of West Walnut Street Church of Christ, was a 1944 Portland High School graduate and member of Portland Rotary Club.



Juillerat

Surviving are one sister, Mary Helen Moore of Fort Wayne; and several nieces and a nephew.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, March 12, 2023, at 1 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Gil Alicea presiding. Burial will be in the Center Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to West Walnut Street Church of Christ. Baird-Freeman Funeral Home are handling the arrangements.  
Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

### Michael Fullenkamp

May 23, 1948-March 4, 2023  
Michael B. Fullenkamp, 74, of Fort Recovery, Ohio, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 4, 2023, at his home.

He was born on May 23, 1948, in Celina, Ohio, to the late Werner and Alvina (Jutte) Fullenkamp.

Michael is survived by his wife of 52 years, Theresa (Heitkamp) Fullenkamp, whom he married on April 18, 1970; his children, Doug Fullenkamp of Fort Recovery, Dan Fullenkamp of Fort Gratiot, Michigan, Deanna (Matt) Knapke of Fort Recovery, Derek (Katie) Fullenkamp of Cincinnati, Dawn (Brent) Willmann of Fort Recovery and Dustin (Lauren) Fullenkamp of Fort Recovery; his grandchildren, Grant, Madelyn and Aubrey Knapke, James, Hayden and Palmer Fullenkamp, Brynn, Reid, Evan, Leah and Ellie Willmann, and Riley, Ayden, Karlee and Lyndi Fullenkamp; his siblings, Elaine (Lavern) Fortkamp, Alice (Bud) Wuebker and Edna (Gary) Dietz; his sister-in-law, Rosie Fullenkamp; and his in-laws, Carol



Fullenkamp

(Carl) Evers, Barb (Bruce) Batty, Kathy Heitkamp, Diana (Dave) Hartke, Linda (Dale) Fleck, Rick (Margie) Heitkamp, Gary (Denise) Heitkamp and Jerry Heitkamp.

In addition to his parents, Michael was preceded in death by his brother, Wayne Fullenkamp; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Jerome and Mary Ann Heitkamp; and his in-law, Leo Heitkamp.

Michael was a 1966 graduate of Fort Recovery High School. He was a member of the Indiana National Guard and Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church. Michael was a life-long dairy farmer. He also worked for Winner Trucking Inc., in Osgood, Ohio, until he retired. If he was not working, Michael could be found enjoying the sunshine and the great outdoors. Above all, Michael loved spending time with his family, especially his 15 grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 2 p.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, with Father Mike Kapolka celebrating. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Cleveland Clinic Foundation, P.O. Box 931517, Cleveland, OH 44193-1655.

Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home is serving Michael's family.

Condolences may be shared with the family by visiting brockman-boeckmanfh.com.

### Richard Shepherd

July 1, 1945-Feb. 19, 2023  
Richard Allan Shepherd, age 77, of Royce City, Texas, passed away Sunday, Feb. 19, 2023, at Baylor Scott and White Hospital in Rowlett, Texas.

Richard was born July 1, 1945, the son of George and Mildred Shepherd. He was a graduate of Portland High School, class of 1963. He served proudly in the United States Marine Corps from 1965 to 1968. He was stationed at Da Nang, South Vietnam, as a member of the Marine Wing Support Group-17.



Shepherd

After returning from Vietnam, he was an employee of Maitlen Motors, Portland, Indiana, for 21 years. In 1981, he relocated to Rowlett, Texas, with his wife Patti and son, David. He never met a stranger and was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and camping and old Fords.

He was a loving husband, brother and father.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Patti (Hanks) Shepherd of Royce City, Texas; sons David Shepherd of Royce City, Texas, Bryan Shepherd and daughter-in-law Joanne Shepherd of Carmel, Indiana.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents George and Mildred Shepherd; and sister Barbara (Shepherd) Deming all of Fort Wayne.

A memorial service will be held in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home in Portland on March 10, 2023, from 1 to 2 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to The American Heart Association.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

### Nancy Crites

June 29, 1963-March 3, 2023  
Nancy Ann Crites, age 59, of Indianapolis passed away on Friday, March 3, 2023, at her residence.

She was born in Portland on June 29, 1963, the daughter of William and Betty (Stahl) Coy Sr. She was a 1981 Jay County High School graduate and attended International School of Business in Fort Wayne. She loved gardening and caring for animals. Nancy had worked for Home Depot and Goodwill, and was a secretary for a real estate company.



Crites

Surviving are three daughters, Sarah Kear of Fishers, Lauren Crites of Indianapolis and Courtney Crites of Indianapolis; two step-daughters, Amanda Waggoner of New Palestine and Lindsay Crites of Indianapolis; her companion, Tom Vice of Indianapolis; two sisters, Kathy Fitzgerald of Fulton, Kentucky, and Linda Goldacker of Monclova, Ohio; and six grandchildren, including Julia Brooking and Skylar Padilla.

She was preceded in death by a brother, William E. Coy Jr.

Funeral services will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home with Pastor Bob Denney presiding. Burial will follow in the Little Salamonina Cemetery. Visitation will be Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Humane Society or Jay County Cancer Society.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Joyce Glass, Pennville, July 8 1939-March 3, 2023. There are no services scheduled at this time.

## Found ...

Continued from page 1  
The portion of county road 300 West where he was recovered had been closed to traffic because of flooding, which stretched north of the Wabash River. Quillen noted although flooding can appear only a few feet deep, steep drop offs can develop in the water.

Quillen said this morning that the DNR believes Gors drowned, but he added that an autopsy was scheduled for later this morning.

"It appears to be a tragic accident," said Quillen. "That's why we urge everyone to obey those swing arms and any type of signage that warns of flooding or deep water.... It's just not worth taking the risk of driving through any type of flood water because this is what can happen."

**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.

### SERVICES

**Wednesday**  
Crites, Nancy: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Thursday**  
Fullenkamp, Michael: 2 p.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery.

**Friday**  
Shepherd, Richard: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

**Sunday**  
Juillerat, Jon: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by  
**PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS**  
120 N. Meridian St.  
Portland, Indiana 47371  
(260) 726-9201  
progressiveofficeproducts.com

## Fiber Festival

### March 10-11, 2023





**Jay Community Center**  
115 E. Water St. • Portland, Indiana  
Admission \$1 • 12 and under FREE  
**Friday 9-5 and Saturday 9-4**  
Lecture Friday at 5pm

**Classes • Artists • Food • Vendors**  
**Wood Carving • Kids Area Demonstrations**  
**Sheep Shearing**

Event sponsored by **Richards Restaurant**  
Visitor & Tourism Bureau  
118 S. Meridian St., Ste C • Portland, IN 47371  
260-726-3366

for more info fiberarts.visitjaycounty.com  
www.facebook.com/JayCoTourism

# Woodcarving show was entertaining

By DIANA DOLECKI

Special to The Commercial Review

March certainly came in like a lion at our house. We had a water leak that the local plumber fixed for us. This was followed by heavy rains, flood warnings and a trash can that decided it didn't want to live where we put it. After the weather calmed down, I put it back where it belonged.

The mail brought a late birthday present in the form of pictures of the grandchildren. The granddaughter looked like a 1940s movie star. The next photo was of the youngest with some kind of lizard on his face. As if that wasn't bad enough, I happened upon a picture

## As I See It



of the middle child holding a snake. The following photo showed a close-up of his hand where the snake had bitten him.

The weekend wrapped up with a visit to a woodcarving show in Ohio. We missed a turn and it took awhile to find the place but we finally made it. Our friends had been there for at least a half hour.

We hadn't seen them in several years, mostly

because of the pandemic. They asked me about my hair. I said that the color was all God's doing. I quit having it "restored" to its proper color several years ago. Now most of it is much lighter in color than it used to be. My friend's husband lifted his hat to show me that his hair had also changed. There is much less of it than there used to be. Even my friend displayed a change of hair color. She blamed it on her husband.

We did have a good visit while we walked through the aisles. As usual, I was amazed at the talent on display. One lady did a portrait of her dad. It looked as realistic

as a photograph. Even the grain of the wood enhanced her carving.

Another display was of driftwood that the artist had found. He had cleaned it up, applied a shiny finish and priced it at well over a thousand dollars. Granted, it was beautiful but it would take a special person to spend that kind of cash.

As usual, the only thing woodcarvers like more than creating art out of wood is talking. They were more than happy to talk about their hobby. One guy got tired of people asking what kind of wood was used for the intricate bowls he made so he wrote the answers on the bottom of

each of the pieces he created.

I have found that most carving shows have a few artists who create realistic pieces. Not this time. Most of the displays featured at least one realistic piece. I had chosen a portrait of a female face as my favorite. The hair was as perfect as could be. I decided that was the most impressive one I had seen.

Then I happened upon a booth that had a small hollowed out log with a tiny carved nude female face down in the top of the log. Her legs and feet were positioned so that it looked like she had fallen into the log and couldn't get out. That became my favorite because it had

exquisite carving and a delightful sense of humor.

I bought a few supplies and took advantage of all the free chocolate that people were giving away. We said goodbye to our friends and went on our way. The trip home took much less time that it took to get to the show.

It was a good, if busy weekend. I am so grateful we don't live in the path of the tornados and snow storms that some parts of the country are experiencing. A water leak is nothing compared to what others are dealing with.

Experience tells me that March delights in causing trouble. Even so, every day that passes brings us closer to spring.

# Reader torn between two romantic interests

DEAR ABBY: Recently I have found myself in a difficult spot. My whole life I dreamed about marrying a college football player and, for the past eight months, I have been in a serious relationship with one. Last week he called me and told me we should take a break.

Immediately afterward, I have met up with a close friend from high school, and I think I may be developing feelings for him. He doesn't have the great looks my boyfriend has, but he is much kinder to me and he treats me right.

I'm stuck because my boyfriend called me last night saying he wants to talk over din-

## Dear Abby



ner, and I think he wants to get back together. Should I stick with my longtime, super-good-looking boyfriend, or leave him for the guy I know will treat me right? — HARD CHOICE IN THE WEST

DEAR HARD CHOICE: You do not marry an occupation; you marry a person. A hand-

some partner who distances himself from you one week and wants to reconcile the next would make a terrible husband. Take it slow and stick with someone who will treat you right and you will have a far happier life. Trust me.

DEAR ABBY: I'm 24, married and have no children. I don't consider myself to be nervous when I'm around children, but when they're in my home or car, shouldn't I be allowed to ask them to stop whatever they're doing wrong without the mother getting upset? My neighbor and I carpool twice a week to

our dance workout classes. Her child was topsy-turvy all over the back seat with her shoes leaving marks on my back window. When I asked the child to please take her feet off the window, her mother, to my surprise, announced that next time she would drive her own car; that SHE was uncomfortable and "hoped my future children would be perfect"! She also remarked that I'm the same way in my home.

Abby, was I wrong not to let it go when I was uncomfortable in my car? — SOILED IN SANTA FE

DEAR SOILED: No, you were not wrong. In case you

have forgotten, children are required by law to wear seat belts (or sit in a car seat) when in a moving vehicle. In your car and your home, your rules should prevail. No one should create a mess, and if an accident does happen, the parent should clean it up. The woman overreacted. "Mother of the Year" she is not.

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

# Community Calendar

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

## Today

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

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creagor Ave. in

Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

## Wednesday

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

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

BRYANT/NEW CORYDON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

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

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the board room at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — For caregivers

of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, the group will meet at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Blackford Community Hospital conference room, 410 Pilgrim Boulevard in Hartford City. For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-3900.

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

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

## Thursday

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

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

## Saturday

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

Sunday  
A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE — A faith-

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

## Monday

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

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

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

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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# Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

## Saturday's Solution

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

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.

# Tax Season is Here!

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# Police flouted public access law

Herald Bulletin (Anderson)  
HSPA Infonet

Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter had some bad news for the gathered reporters.

"While I know you are all expecting final details today concerning this arrest, today is not that day," he said. "Today is not that day. This investigation is far from complete, and we will not jeopardize its integrity by releasing documents or information before its proper time."

There will always be some tension between the news media's role in keeping the public informed and a police agency's role in protecting an investigation.

Still, Oct. 31, 2022, was not the day law enforcement authorities

## Hoosier Editorial

should have been releasing information about the long-awaited arrest of a suspect in the deaths of two Delphi teenagers.

That announcement should have come days earlier, on Oct. 26, the day authorities actually made the arrest and put the suspect in jail. But police did not make the announcement that day.

Nor did they make it the next day, the day they should have made available for public inspection a daily log listing the depart-

ment's activities from the day before.

Police also did not release information the next day, Oct. 28, the day Ron Wilkins, a reporter for the Journal & Courier in Lafayette, filed a public records request. Nor did they release it the day after that, the day Wilkins' request was denied.

By the time police finally acknowledged they had made an arrest, the suspect had been in jail for five days. He had made an appearance in court, and a judge had sealed the probable cause affidavit, the document on which his arrest was based.

This is not the way the American system of justice is supposed to work.

Days after the news conference, Wilkins filed a complaint with

the Indiana Public Access Counselor, and that office issued a ruling Feb. 10.

Maddeningly, the state police responded using an argument the access counselor had rejected more than two years earlier when a reporter for The Herald Bulletin sought a copy of the agency's daily log. They argued that while the law requires creation of such a log within 24 hours, it does not require that the log actually be made available for public inspection. Instead, they insisted, the law allows public agencies 21 days to respond to records requests and that same time period should apply here.

In the Delphi case, Luke Britt, the access counselor, said again what he had said before: The law requires police agencies to main-

tain a public record of their activities, and it stands to reason that record should be readily available to the public.

Britt also rejected a second argument, that sealing court records complicated the role of police agencies in releasing information. He pointed out that a police log isn't a court record and thus isn't covered by a judge's seal.

Britt shouldn't have to keep repeating himself for the state police to get the message.

They are charged with enforcing the law. They shouldn't also be flouting it.

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

## Former leader reflects, regrets

By TOM RIDGE  
The Philadelphia Inquirer  
Tribune News Service

This was my second draft notice. The first came from Richard Nixon in 1969 and took me to Southeast Asia. More than 30 years later came notice number two, this time from George W. Bush. The president called me to leave my post as Pennsylvania's governor to serve in the White House Office of Homeland Security. I accepted the call to duty, knowing full well the challenge that awaited.

Some people had cautioned me not to take on the assignment. They warned it would be impossible to succeed. I never saw it that way.

On Sept. 11, 2001, terrorists attacked our nation, a manifestation of evil. I wanted to join the effort to fight back. Led by President Bush, our nation responded to a nonpartisan call to protect our country from all future terrorist attacks. All options were on the table. During this remarkable time in our history, the blueprint for today's Department of Homeland Security was forged.

I will never forget going to Capitol Hill in April 2002 with draft legislation to create DHS. All four leaders of Congress, Republican and Democratic alike, greeted me and said they would get this done. In less than a year, legislation was enacted that constituted the largest reorganization of the federal government since the joint system of command was conceived by our former military leaders after World War II. Monumental change was called for, and the results have been a stronger and safer America.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security first opened its doors on March 1, 2003. In those early days, we referred to our colleagues as plank holders. Every detail of standing up the new department required tremendous attention to detail and effort. We had challenges with our facilities, our budget, and congressional jurisdictional issues. Even today, as I keep in touch with people in the department all these years later, they face many of the same challenges.

If I have one regret 20 years later, it is that America is still without a 21st-century immigration policy. This is not the fault of the department but lies with Congress and the many administrations that have come and gone — Republican and Democratic alike. DHS oversees America's

Tom Ridge



immigration system, yet it does so with one hand tied behind its back. Our nation remains unable to establish a modern and sustainable immigration policy because we have yet to find a way to deal with illegal immigration at the southern border.

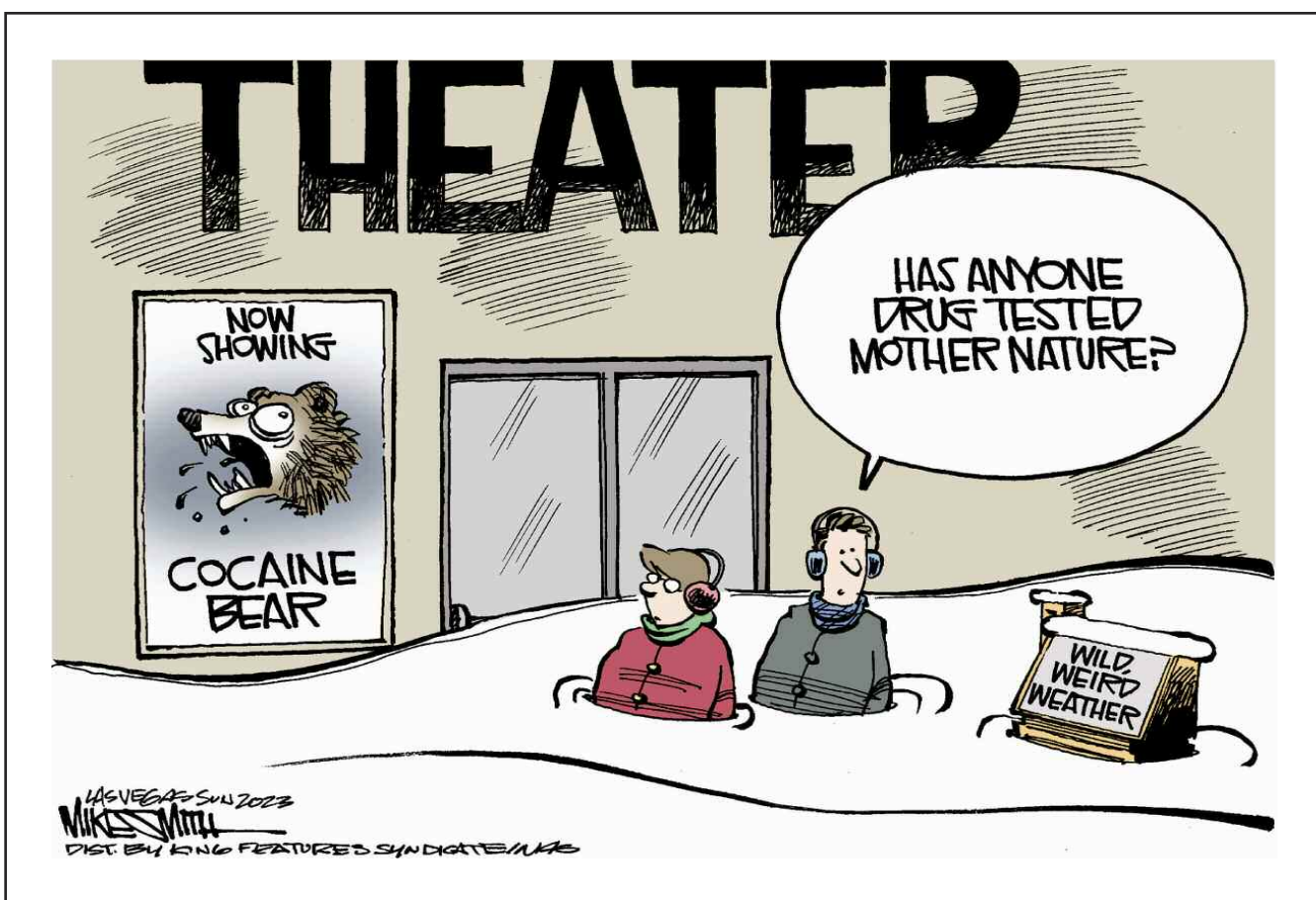
Both parties hold strong views on key components of immigration policy. Hidden behind pointed rhetoric and outside political posturing is the critical need to fashion an immigration policy that secures the southern border, shows compassion to "Dreamers," builds a foreign worker entry and exit system, provides H-2B visa cap relief, and resolves the fate of those who, while entering illegally, have been lawful and contributing residents. I have been pleading for such changes for more than 20 years now. It is well past time to govern.

As I have stayed in close contact with my successors and many of the men and women I served with originally at DHS, what has never changed is the department's total commitment to protecting our citizens. I can say confidently that the dedication of the public servants at DHS, with all of the pressures of a still-young agency, is unmatched in our federal government.

DHS remains the epicenter of so many of our nation's most difficult security and political challenges, and yet, the men and women of DHS continue to serve our country with integrity and without complaint. I am blessed to have served with our nation's best, and I know that today's DHS workers continue the tradition of selfless service to our nation.

I reach this 20-year anniversary with optimism that our department will continue to protect us from terrorists, help us recover from the challenges of nature, and deal smartly and compassionately with immigration, despite the lack of a cohesive road map.

Ridge, a twice-elected Republican governor of Pennsylvania, served as the first secretary of Homeland Security.



## Business, government lose trust

By JULIANNA GOLDMAN  
Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

Note to politicians with presidential aspirations: Joining the Cabinet makes the path that much harder. Just ask Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg.

Cabinet secretaries are just one of more than a dozen top bureaucrats in the executive branch. They're tied to the popularity or unpopularity of the administration. Their lot is to labor in obscurity unless and until something bad happens — and then to take criticism and absorb blame.

Once upon a time, serving as a Cabinet secretary could lead to the presidency. But the last one to take that step was Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover, in 1928. Since then, no sitting or former Cabinet secretary has been elected president, and only one has been nominated — former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2016. Her circumstances were unique, but from Benghazi to her private email server, Clinton's experience as the nation's top diplomat was more a political liability than a benefit.

So when a Norfolk Southern train carrying toxic materials derailed three weeks ago in East Palestine, Ohio, leaving residents unsure whether they could even drink their own water, the political finger-pointing inevitably turned ugly. Buttigieg, who hasn't ruled out another presidential bid and who hasn't shied away from sparring with the MAGA crowd, has become Republicans' main target.

They charge that Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, has been MIA, and that he should have visited the crash site sooner. Donald Trump, who went to East Palestine last week and handed out Trump-branded water, used the occasion to mock "Pete Boot-Edge-Edge." Republicans (and a few Democrats) are calling for hearings, with Senator Marco Rubio saying he should be fired. Fox News host Tucker Carlson, who mocked Buttigieg

Julianna Goldman



for taking parental leave last year when he welcomed twins with his husband, called him "flamboyantly incompetent," a brazen dog whistle.

The outrage at Buttigieg is misguided and opportunistic. Not only does it obscure the history of the rail industry spending heavily and working with some Republicans to roll back, stop or water down safety regulations, it also ignores the law: In a situation like this, the Transportation Department is not in charge. The EPA is on the front lines of the federal response. The National Transportation Safety Board, which is an independent agency, investigates the how and the why of the crash. The Transportation secretary has no role in the immediate response and cleanup efforts.

"Congress sometimes forgets to read their own laws," says Craig Fugate, former director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Buttigieg did visit the crash site last week, promising tougher regulations and pledging to hold Norfolk Southern accountable. It's still unclear whether the tighter rail regulations that were rolled back during the Trump era would have prevented this accident. But Buttigieg also acknowledged he waited too long to respond, noting that he "was taking pains to respect the role that I have and the role that I don't have."

Politico reported last week that after the derailment, Buttigieg was prepared to answer any questions for 10 days, but no interviewer asked him. That's a pretty passive response, especially considering that he was already under fire by Republicans for a series of transportation-related issues under his watch,

including January's FAA computer meltdown.

Yes, the political circus obscures the real victims, who just want to know if they're safe and what kind of financial losses they face. But the circus is the reality.

That said, there are larger forces at work here: The accident is illustrative of an across-the-board failure of institutions, which plays into a deep public distrust of public and private institutions. Just 45% of the country trusts the government and media, while 55% trust business, according to the 2022 Edelman Trust Barometer. In the Midwest, the figures are 40% and 51%, respectively. Among low-income Midwesterners, just 28% trust key institutions.

The Midwest is the most likely region to say that businesses should prioritize "stakeholders" — customers and employees — over "shareholders." And of all the regions in the US, it's the most disappointed in business support for local communities — with a 49-point gap between those who say it's what they expect versus what they see in terms of performance.

"People suspect that business has prioritized profit over the community," says Tonia Ries, executive director of intellectual property for Edelman's Trust Institute. And in East Palestine, she says, government has also "not provided the oversight to protect the communities."

The bottom line, to use a business term: People see both business and government as failing their communities. Restoring trust in those institutions is a job bigger than even the most powerful Cabinet secretary. Until that's accomplished, the kind of anger-inducing political fallout seen in East Palestine, Ohio, will keep arising.

Goldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist who was formerly a Washington-based correspondent for CBS News and White House correspondent for Bloomberg News and Bloomberg Television.

# The Commercial Review



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# Issues ...

Continued from page 1  
A significant portion of the conversation focused on Indiana University Health.  
"IU Health has a larger surplus than the State of Indiana," said Lehman. "And they're a not for profit. That's what we have to address."  
Regarding efforts to make progress on mental health, Holdman said it's too early to tell how much impact has been made, but acknowledged that the coronavirus pandemic "did a number on us as a society."  
Questions from Dillon Muhlenkamp, a Purdue University student who does his student teaching at Tipton High School, and Kent McClung, a teacher at Winchester Community High School and also a Portland City Council member, focused on funding for agriculture programs and whether the

state will provide funding to cover the cost of books as it looks to eliminate charging families book fees.  
Prescott, who represents all of Jay, Randolph and Blackford counties and part of Delaware and Henry counties, responded to Muhenkamp saying that the proposed budget includes an increase in funding for career and technical education. He also noted House Bill 1002, which addresses a variety of issues regarding career readiness.  
"The big thing with House Bill 1002 is getting kids career-ready in general, whether that be with going straight from high school into the workforce through college-ready programs," he said.  
Lehman told McClung that while the budget does not specifically earmark funding for books, those costs were factored into the overall increase in funding

that is being provided for K-12 education.  
Also addressing the legislators Saturday:  
•John Bartlett, a Blackford County Democrat who ran against Prescott last year, asked Holdman to oppose House Bill 1355, which calls for the merger of all townships in Blackford County to a single township, as it moves to the Senate. He also asked pushed for an expansion of rural broadband service, saying the general assembly could have used part of the state surplus for that purpose instead of providing refunds.  
•Joshua Kimbrell, vice chair of the Randolph County Democrats, was critical of Prescott for House Bill 1142, which would allow a state or local agency to charge for labor costs required to provide a copy of a law enforcement recording, and asked Hold-

man to oppose it in the Senate.  
•Geesaman asked legislators to be conscious of making sure municipalities, counties, school boards, libraries and other local units of government do not lose funding as part of efforts to reduce taxes.  
•Brandon Kloer, whose wife has run against Prescott twice, questioned how legislators provide information about public events, saying he finds it difficult to locate.  
•Todd Wickey, a candidate for mayor of Portland and a former classmate of Lehman's, offered praise for work to reduce taxes and cut ties with investments connected to the Chinese Communist Party.  
In response, Holdman, who serves as majority caucus chair and represents all of Jay, Blackford, Adams and Wells counties and part of Allen County, told both Bartlett and Kim-

brell that he would review the house bills at their request. Lehman noted that a key to rural broadband is removing the push for profit and instead seeing it as a public service, similar to rural electrification in the 1930s.  
Holdman, who earlier in the event mentioned a bill he authored to create a two-year tax study committee with a focus on eventually doing away with the individual state income tax, said initial talks would leave the local income tax structure untouched.  
"Because that's so integrated with the property tax structure," he said, while acknowledging that another bill intended to provide property tax relief would, in its current form, result in a hit to local units of government.  
The legislators responded to Kloer by saying the events are listed in each of their weekly newsletters.

During the introductory comments, Holdman touted legislation that will allow some small businesses to deduct a larger amount of their state income tax on their federal taxes, estimating a total annual savings of \$60 million per year; Lehman pointed out House Bill 1006 that provides a mechanism to move those who need mental health services from jails to the proper facilities and House Bill 1007 that calls for decision making on energy infrastructure take into account reliability, affordability, resiliency, stability and environmental sustainability; and Prescott focused mostly on the budget, including the \$2 billion increase for K-12 education and additional funding for Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI).

# Sewer ...

Continued from page 1  
Watson Excavating then plans to move north block-by-block, maintaining two-way traffic for the remainder of the project.  
The city is using the entirety of its \$1.355 million in federal coronavirus relief funds from the American Rescue Plan Act for the project. It also received a \$780,450 State Transportation and Stormwater Grant from the State Water Infrastructure Fund and \$350,000 from the city's redevelopment commission.  
INDOT is scheduled to pave U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) through the city in 2024.  
Council member Janet Powers pushed an idea she previous suggested to increase fines for semis that are off the truck route. Council members agreed to send suggestions to city attorney Wes Schemenaur with a goal of addressing the issue prior to the project getting underway.  
Also Monday, Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation, pre-

sented a tax abatement request on behalf of FCC (Indiana). The firm is requesting a three-year abatement on \$3.42 million in new equipment that is expected to create 10 new jobs.  
The abatement would save FCC an estimated \$85,000 in taxes over the three years. The new equipment would generate an estimated \$274,000 in property taxes over a 10-year period.  
Council members Kent McClung, Don Gillespie, Michele Brewster, Dave Golden, Mike Aker and Powers, absent Matt Goldsworthy, agreed to send the abatement request to the city's tax abatement advisory committee for its review.  
Jenny Bricker, who has been leading an effort to save the Indiana 26 bridge over the Salamonie River on the east edge of Portland, provided another update, acknowledging that the bridge is likely to be demolished. Last month, she had informed council that INDOT was willing to dismantle the bridge to be stored

locally and eventually relocated only if a local government unit commits to reimbursing the \$500,000 cost within one year of removal.  
Bricker offered additional proposals Monday including salvaging part of the bridge to be used to create a sculpture or a smaller replica in the form of a foot bridge.  
Council members thanked Bricker for her efforts but took no further action.  
In other business, council:  
•Learned from Boggs that Portland Fire Department has been selected as a future regional training site by state officials. About \$13 million has been earmarked to increase the number of training sites statewide.  
•Heard a report from Richards regarding JCDC's activities over the last year and plans for the rest of 2023, including the Launch Jay business pitch competition, tax abatements, working with small businesses, the Yodel community calendar, the Make My Move ini-

tiative and the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP). Powers thanked Richards and the JCDC staff for their efforts. McClung and Golden echoed her feelings, with Golden adding, "I hope that you continue to be fully funded." (Jay County Commissioners last month tabled JCDC's claim for its \$210,000 annual budget.)  
•Voted to split the city's portion of funding from a nationwide opioid lawsuit settlement between Youth Service Bureau and 2nd Chance at Life Ministries. The city is expected to receive a total of about \$21,772.99 over a 16-year period. (Portland assistant police chief Michael Brewster had recommended those two organizations as well as Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition for the split, but several council members said they wanted the funds to focus on the drug abuse problem within the city. Boggs pointed out that all three organizations provide services to city and county residents.)  
•Approved the following: an additional appropriation of

\$150,000 in economic development income tax (EDIT) funds for the purchase of land adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant for future expansion; closures of sections of Main, Walnut and Commerce streets on the west side of the downtown area from noon to 8 p.m. May 20 for an Arch Bridge Kroozers car show; a road closure for Main Street between Meridian and Harrison streets from noon to 3 p.m. April 15 for a Prevent Child Abuse of Jay County event.  
•Answering questions from council members, Boggs and Schemenaur gave updates regarding a planned Wendy's and environmental clean-up work at the former Sheller-Globe South property, reiterating action taken at recent Portland Board of Zoning Appeals and Portland Board of Works meetings. Powers asked for a running total of how much the city has spent working on environmental remediation on the property. Phillips said she would gather that information.

# Felony arrests

**Failed to appear**  
A Portland man was arrested Saturday for failing to appear in court.  
Skyler L. Petty, 30, 230 W. Votaw St., is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for possession of a narcot-

ic drug, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.  
He's being held without bond in Jay County Jail.

# Street ...

Continued from page 1  
He asked council if it would like to move forward. Council gave Diller the OK to seek proposals from Choice One Engineering for designs.  
Regardless, Diller said, he would like to patch portions of Butler Street (Ohio 119) this summer, which will be paid for using some of village's overlay budget.  
Also Monday, council learned the village has received its \$300,000 from Mercer County Commissioners — the dollars are allocated from American Rescue Plan Act funds — for installing a traffic signal at the intersection of Elm and Butler streets (Ohio 49 and Ohio 119). Choice One Engineering is putting together information for the village to submit to Ohio Department of Transportation in order to get the department's approval to install it.  
Council members also approved an extension on two tax abatements with J&M Manufacturing per a recommendation from the village's tax incentive review council. (Per Ohio law, tax abatements are reviewed and approved annually.) Both are 10-year abatements, with one set to expire in 2024 and another in 2025, that were established for separate building projects. The company is expected to save \$22,000 total in taxes with the abatements.  
Diller noted the company is at its highest employment level to date with 228 jobs, 202 of which are full-time positions.  
"Things are going really well for them right now," Diller said.  
In other business, council members Greg Schmitz,

Scott Pearson, Al Post, Cliff Wendel and Erik Fiely, absent Luke Knapke:  
•Were reminded Fort Recovery Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual awards banquet at 5:30 p.m. Sunday in the auditoria at Fort Recovery Elementary/Middle School.  
•Heard the village's wastewater lagoons have had a drop in dissolved oxygen levels but that they are still getting OK results from testing and that the lagoons have not been emitting bad odors. Diller pointed out Kainos Ag, which has been applying product to the lagoons, will modify its regimen as the weather changes.  
•Learned the village has received initial renewal information for its health insurance, which is expected to increase by 28%. (The village currently uses

Anthem brokered by McGohan Brabender out of Dayton, Ohio.) Diller noted the village is looking into its options.  
•Transferred \$100,000 from the general fund to the street construction, maintenance and report fund and \$40,000 from the general fund to the water capital fund.  
•Approved a five-year renewal with Park National Bank as a depository for village funds.  
•Heard both village trucks posted on auction website GovDeals.com sold for more than anticipated, with the 2011 Ford F-150 selling for \$7,501 and the 2006 Ford F-750 dump truck selling for \$41,500.  
•Learned new signs were installed at cemeteries in town. Plans are to also install solar lights beneath them to illuminate the signs at night.

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## Defense absent in Pacers' defeat

**By KEITH POMPEY**  
The Philadelphia Inquirer  
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — Ninety-seven minutes before tipoff Rick Carlisle was asked a question about defending 76ers All-Star Joel Embiid.

The Indiana Pacers coach snickered at the question before playfully deferring it.

"Will Ferrell is going to be here tonight," Carlisle said. "He's going to be sitting near our bench. I'm hoping he can help us with Joel and be the next answer I have for you."

But the focus should have been on defense on a night when entertainers Ferrell and 50 Cent were in attendance Monday night at Gainbridge Arena.

The Sixers prevailed, 147-143, in a game where making defensive stops were rare.

Philly (42-22) shot 58.5% from the field while the Pacers were slightly better at 58.9%. There were a total of 13 double-digit scorers.

Indiana led, 79-78, at intermission thanks to Tyrese Haliburton's three-pointer before the buzzer. That shot capped a 61.1% first-half shooting

by Indiana, while the Sixers shot 61% during that time.

The Sixers played without starting forwards Tobias Harris (bruised left calf) and P.J. Tucker (back spasm). Without them, the Sixers unveiled a starting lineup of De'Anthony Melton, Jalen McDaniels, James Harden, Maxey and Embiid.

Embiid had a game-high 42 points to go with five rebounds and three assists. Harden added 14 points, a game-high 20 assists and nine rebounds. Maxey had 24 points, while McDaniels contributed 20 points and eight rebounds. Shake Milton (15 points) and Danuel House Jr. (10) were the Sixers' other double-digit scorers.

The team also finished with a season-high 37 assists.

Meanwhile, Haliburton, an All-Star point guard, paced the Pacers with 40 points and 16 assists. Jordan Nwora followed with 16 points on 7-of-12 shooting, and Buddy Hield (15), Jalen Smith (14), Ben Mathurin (13), T.J. McConnell (12) and Myles Turner (10) also reached double figures.

Cubs pitcher Brailyn Marquez delivers to the White Sox in the eighth inning on Sept. 27, 2020, at Guaranteed Rate Field. Marquez has not pitched since then and is still working his way back from a shoulder injury and multiple bouts with COVID-19.



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Brian Cassella

## Path is still unclear

**By MEGHAN MONTEMURRO**  
Chicago Tribune  
Tribune News Service

MESA, Ariz. — Brailyn Marquez's winding road to get back on a baseball field continues to challenge the Chicago Cubs' former top prospect.

The last two years certainly have tested Marquez. Two bouts with COVID-19 at the onset of spring training in 2021 and 2022 eventually led to both of his seasons being wiped out by ripple effects of the illness. He developed myocarditis and was sidelined for eight months until November 2021.

Then Marquez, who was double vaccinated, caught COVID again shortly before coming to spring training last season. Left shoulder fatigue also cropped up, and he didn't get into a game before season-ending surgical debridement on his shoulder in June.

It remains unclear when Marquez will be back on a mound, let alone pitching in a game.

Marquez has not yet started playing catch as he continues to come back from surgery nine months ago. He was in big-league camp as a non-roster invitee, but he was among the eight players reassigned to minor-league camp Monday.

When Marquez arrived in Arizona in February, Cubs doctors found his

### Prospect still on path back from COVID, injury

shoulder was too tight and didn't want him to begin throwing. He has been on a stretching program for the last three weeks and needs to generate strength in his shoulder to be cleared for a throwing program. Marquez expects it will be a slow progression.

"I didn't take it negatively," he told the Tribune through an interpreter. "I took it positively because the Cubs are caring for me, wanting to make sure that I knew what I needed to do and wanting to stay healthy."

Marquez's shoulder issue initially presented near the end of the 2021 season. Once rehab didn't resolve the flare-ups of inflammation, he went under the knife for doctors to get a better understanding of what was going on in his shoulder, which was cleaned out.

Marquez, 24, hasn't pitched in a game since September 2020, when he made his major-league debut. He last appeared in a minor-league game in 2019 and hasn't pitched above High A.

Hottovy anticipates Marquez will begin to play catch soon, explaining that the training staff wanted to make sure Marquez had time to build up strength before ramping up.

Marquez's health issues led the Cubs to non-tender the lefty in November. He could have signed with another organization. The Cubs, though, are where he wants to be — the only franchise he has known since signing as a teenager out of the Dominican Republic in 2015.

"I don't think any of the other teams would have given me the support that Chicago has given me, and so I'm really grateful after going through two years of rehab and trying to get healthy," Marquez said. "They were still behind me. They could have let me go and they didn't. I just wanted to continue to be with the club."

"It's been really hard trying to recover from what I've had when there's things that are out of my control. Having the support of the Cubs behind me, my family — both those things helped me maintain my focus and maintain positivity."

## Tankers ...

Continued from page 8  
Laux won the 100 IM in 1:15.04.

Other individual victories for the Patriot boys came from Rockland Beiswanger with a time of 5:12.59 in the 400 freestyle and Glentzer in 1:09.26 in the 100 backstroke.

Laux, Fisher and the Byrums teamed to take

the girls 200 freestyle relay in 2:00.86 and 300 freestyle relay in 3:17.23. Ariel Beiswanger, Alyvia Muhlenkamp, Kali Wendel and Lila Wendel had a time of 2:35 flat to take the top spot in the 200 medley relay.

Glentzer, Westgerdes and the Beiswangers were first in the boys 300 freestyle relay in 3:04.34.

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Today**  
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. South Adams — 6 p.m.

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Junior high wrestling in Allen County Athletic Conference Tournament at Adams Central — 5:30 p.m.

**TV sports**  
**Today**  
3 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Champions League — Borussia Dortmund at Chelsea (CBS)  
6 p.m. — Soccer: CONCACAF Champions League — Austin at Violette AC (FS1)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Horizon League championship (ESPN); NEC Championship — Fairleigh Dickinson vs. Merrimack (ESPN2)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Minnesota Timberwolves (TNT)

8 p.m. — Soccer: CONCACAF Champions League — Philadelphia Union at Allianz (FS1)

9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: WCC Championship (ESPN); Summit League Championship (ESPN2)

9 p.m. — NHL hockey: St. Louis Blues at Arizona Coyotes (Bally Indiana)  
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)

11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big Sky semifinal (ESPN2)

**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — Men's college basketball: Atlantic 10 Tournament — St. Bonaventure vs. Davidson (USA)

Noon — Men's college basketball: ACC Tournament — Wake Forest vs. Syracuse (ESPN)

2 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Atlantic 10 Tournament (USA)

2:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: ACC Tournament (ESPN)

3 p.m. — Soccer: UEFA Champions League — Milan at Tottenham Hotspur (CBS)

5 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Atlantic 10 Tournament (USA); Southland Championship (ESPN2)

5:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big East Tournament — DePaul at Seton Hall (FS1)

6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big Ten Tournament — Ohio State at Wisconsin (BTN)

7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: ACC Tournament (ESPN2)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Dallas Mavericks at New Orleans Pelicans (ESPN)

7:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Atlantic 10 Tournament (USA)

7:30 p.m. — NHL hockey: Chicago

Blackhawks at Detroit Red Wings (TNT)

8 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big East Tournament — Georgetown vs. Villanova (FS1)

9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big Ten Tournament — Minnesota vs. Nebraska (BTN)

9:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: ACC Tournament (ESPN2); SWAC Tournament: Texas Southern at Alcorn State (ESPN2)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Toronto Raptors at Los Angeles Clippers (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NHL hockey: Anaheim Ducks at Vancouver Canucks (TNT)

11:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Big Sky Championship (ESPN2)

**Thursday**

Noon — Men's college basketball: Big Ten Tournament — Rutgers vs. Michigan (BTN)

6:30 p.m. — Men's college basket-

ball: Big Ten Tournament — Penn State vs. Illinois (BTN)

7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Houston Rockets at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Golden State Warriors at Memphis Grizzlies (TNT)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: New York Knicks at Sacramento Kings (TNT)

### Local notes

**PJL registration set**  
Portland Junior League baseball and softball leagues are now open for registration.

Portland Junior League is hosting registration sessions from 9 a.m. to noon March 11 at Jay Community Center. There will also be a sign-up session from 6 to 8 p.m. March 15 at JCC.

Online registration is also available via the Portland Junior League page on Facebook.

Leagues are open to players ages 5 through 15.

**Soccer/football sign-ups open**  
Registration is open for Jay Community Center's Boomer spring soccer and flag football leagues.

Soccer is open to players ages 3 through 14 while flag football is open to ages 3 through 12. The registration fee is \$60 for each. The deadline is Monday.

For more information, visit [jaycc.org](http://jaycc.org).

**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](http://jaycc.org).

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to [sports@theocr.com](mailto:sports@theocr.com).

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### 90 SALE CALENDAR

**MARION YOUNG FARMERS**  
Consignment Auction  
Mercer Landmark,  
Chickasaw, Ohio  
Between U.S. Rt. 127 &  
New Bremen  
on St. Rt. 274  
SATURDAY, MARCH 18  
10 A.M.  
TRACTORS- TRUCKS-  
CONSTRUCTION  
EQUIPMENT  
1999 International 9400,  
2001 Ford F-150 XL  
212k miles, etc.  
DRILLS-PLANTERS-  
PLOWS-DISK-TILLAGE-  
AUGERS  
International 490 disk  
25ft w/ hydraulic fold,  
6in upright bin unload  
auger w/ motor, etc.  
WAGONS-MANURE  
EQUIPMENT-HAY  
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 feed-  
ers, Nursery fans w/  
controls, Flex line feed-  
ers, 100 gal fuel transfer  
tank, and more.  
This is only a partial list-  
ing of equipment that  
will be at the Auction.  
We are still accepting  
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March 16th and Friday,  
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**HELP WANTED CITY OF PORTLAND** Position: Mayor's Assistant — Full time. The Mayor's Assistant is responsible for performing a variety of clerical, administrative and technical tasks in support of the city government. 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,

### 110 HELP WANTED

complete special assignments, projects, correspondences, filing, copying, faxing and printing as directed by the Mayor. Applications are available at Portland City Hall, 321 North Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday thru Friday until March 8th. Application deadline is March 8th, 2023. No applications will be accepted after this time. The City of Portland is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**130 MISC. FOR SALE**

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

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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES  
STATE OF INDIANA  
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:  
CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF JAY COUNTY  
PORTLAND, INDIANA  
PLAINTIFF  
vs  
CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED;  
OLIVER JACKSON, MINOR HEIR OF  
CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED;  
A YLA JACKSON, MINOR HEIR OF CHRISTOPHER  
EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; UNKNOWN  
HEIRS AND/OR DEVISEES OF CHRISTOPHER  
EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED; ESTATE OF  
CHRISTOPHER EUGENE JACKSON, DECEASED  
DEFENDANTS  
CAUSE NO: 38C01-2211-MF-000026  
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
By virtue of an Order of Sale, directed to me from the Clerk of the Jay Circuit Court and pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered on 02/08/2023, I will expose to public sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, at the office of the Sheriff, of Jay County, in Jay County, Indiana, located at Courthouse, 3rd Floor, Portland, IN 47371 on April 6, 2023, at 10:00 AM Local Time, the fee simple title together with the rents, profits, issues and income or so much thereof as may be sufficient to satisfy said judgment, interest, costs and accruing costs of the following described real estate located in Jay County, Indiana, to-wit:  
Lot Number Eighteen (18) in Thomas Addition to the Town, now City of Dunkirk, Indiana, according to the plat thereof, recorded in Plat Record A, page 63 in the Office of the Recorder of Jay County, Indiana.  
Commonly known as: 603 South Franklin Street, Dunkirk, IN 47336  
State Parcel Number: 38-09-08-402-013-000-014  
This sale is to be made in all respects pursuant to an act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, approved March 7, 1931, and entitled An act concerning proceedings in actions to foreclose real estate mortgages, providing for the sale and custody of the mortgaged premises and repealing all laws conflicting therewith (see Indiana Code).  
It is further provided by law that there shall be no redemption from such sale, and the purchaser at such sale, upon complying with the terms of his purchase, shall be entitled to immediately receive from the undersigned, Sheriff of Jay County, a deed conveying to him, the purchaser, the fee simple title in and to said real estate.  
Taken as the property of the Defendant(s) stated above at the suit of CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC. Said sale to be without relief from valuation and/or appraisal laws.  
Larrv R. Newton, Jr., Sheriff of Jay County  
Attorney for Plaintiff  
Codilis Law, LLC  
8050 Cleveland Place  
Merrillville, IN 46410  
15-22-01498  
THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE DOES NOT WARRANT THE ACCURACY OF THE STREET ADDRESS PUBLISHED HEREIN.  
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CR 3-7,14,21-2023-ISPAXLP

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# Sports



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Jay Co. tankers defeat Braves

DECATUR — The Patriots girls took the top three spots in the 100-yard freestyle.

The boys went one-two in four individual events.

Stacking swimmers at the top of the results powered the Jay County Junior High School swim teams to victories Monday over the host Belmont Braves by scores of 109-61 for the girls and 96-77 for the boys.

Brooklynn Byrum led the 100 freestyle effort for the Patriots while Elly Byrum was the lone double winner. The former finished in 1:09.19 ahead of teammates Ariel Beiswanger and Gabby Gibson while the latter had winning times of 2:28.16 in the 200 freestyle and 1:30.52 in the 100 breaststroke.

Grady Warvel led two of the one-two efforts for the boys team, finishing ahead of Jaxson DeHoff in the 100 individual medley in 1:22.76 and Benjamin Fisher in the 100 breaststroke in 1:34.03. Raif Beiswanger and Cooper Glentzer took the top two places in the 50 butterfly with the former winning in 31.22 while Carson Westerdes won the 200 freestyle in 2:16.46 ahead of teammate Rockland Beiswanger.

Kaitlyn Fisher and Maria Laux went one-two in the 50 butterfly for the girls team, with Fisher winning by 0.23 seconds in 33.32.

See Tankers page 7

Gabi Bilbrey of Jay County High School launches the shot put April 30 during the Muncie Central Relays. Bilbrey, a state qualifier last season in the discus, had a strong start to the indoor portion of the 2023 season Friday as she finished second in the shot put at the Indiana Wesleyan University/Marion Hoosier State Relays #1 event at IWU.

## Bilbrey second at IWU

MARION — After advancing to the state finals in the discus last season, Gabi Bilbrey started strong in the other throwing event.

Opening the indoor track season, Bilbrey finished as the shot put runner-up Friday for the Jay County High School track team during the Indiana Wesleyan University/Marion Hoosier State Relays #1 event at IWU.

Jenna Dues and Isaac Kunkler each added third-place finishes Friday.

Bilbrey was one of only three girls at the meet to clear the 32-foot mark. Her toss of 34 feet, 6 inches, put her a foot behind champion Emery Carrico of Homestead.

Dues gave the Patriots another third-place effort in the high jump. She cleared the bar at 4

feet, 10 inches, following Ellie Irwin of Homestead and Marisa Baker of Brebeuf Jesuit.

Kunkler led the Jay County boys with his time of 9.08 seconds in the 60-meter hurdles. He finished behind Andres Langston of Mt. Vernon and Tremayne Brown of Anderson.

The Patriot team of Brayden Collins, Joseph Boggs, Tony Wood and Dylan Marentes

placed third in the 4x800 relay. They finished in 9 minutes, 1.42 seconds.

Natalie Wehrly, Morgan DeHoff, Jenna Dues and Anastasia Fomina teamed to place fourth for the JCHS girls in the 4x200 relay in 1:56.77. DeHoff tied for fifth in the long jump at 14 feet, 9 inches, and she also teamed with Johanna Andres, Maria Hemmelgarn and Wehrly.

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