

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Seeing the light

Paisley Hart performs a solo to lead off the junior high choir's rendition of "I See the Light" from the movie "Tangled" on Sunday evening during the Fort Recovery Local Schools spring choir concert. The junior high group also performed "Rockin' Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu" by Huey Smith, "Pure Imagination" from the "Willie Wonka & The Chocolate Factory" soundtrack and "Celebration" by Kool & the Gang.

Man arrested following a fatal accident

Langenkamp died at hospital after fall from ATV

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

A Pennville resident has been arrested in connection with a fatal all-terrain vehicle accident.

Terry D. Emerick, 48, 401 E. Pleasant St., was preliminarily charged Sunday with operating a vehicle while intoxicated causing serious bodily injury, a Level 6 felony.

Rural Portland resident Robert H. Langenkamp Jr., 68, died Sunday evening as a result of a head injury he sustained after falling off the vehicle.

According to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report, Emerick was driving a 2018 Polaris Ranger

east on Division Road just west of county road 200 East with Langenkamp in the passenger seat about 10:06 p.m. Saturday. Langenkamp, Emerick's father-in-law, instructed him to turn north onto county road 200 East as he approached the intersection. Emerick attempted to make the turn at an unsafe speed, according to the report, causing Langenkamp to fall out of the vehicle. Langenkamp appeared to have struck the road and rolled onto the side of it, leaving him unconscious, the report says. Langenkamp was flown to a hospital in Fort Wayne and later died. See **Arrested** page 2

New election website will be used tonight

Live election results will be available

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Jay County Clerk's Office will be utilizing its new website for election results today.

The site at uselection-slave.com/jayin will provide a place for voters and candidates to check for results as they come into the clerk's office after the polls close at 6 p.m. today.

Jay County clerk Jon Eads said that after information from precincts

arrives at Jay County Courthouse and results are compiled, the data will be downloaded to a flash drive. From there, it will be uploaded via a laptop computer to the new website. (He pointed out that representatives of the radio and newspaper at the courthouse during election night will be handed copies of results at the same time the results are downloaded to the flash drive.)

The website allows users to sign up for text message notifications to be alerted as results are filed.

"We haven't done this yet, so it'll be interesting to see — I think it'll go pretty smooth," said Eads.

See **Website** page 2

Older Hoosiers make up largest voting block

Those 50 and older accounted for 67% of voters in 2022

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana voter turnout rates have long lain among the lowest in the country. Despite that, some Hoosier voters cast ballots year after year.

And political parties rely on them. "These are people that wouldn't miss an election, even if there was very little competition, very few things on the ballot, you know, (a) general, (a) primary, whatever. They are there for it," said Laura Merrifield Wilson, a political science professor at the University of Indianapolis.

It's a small percentage of people, particularly in Indiana, which ranked second-last in the country for turnout in

the 2022 election. That's according to the most recent state Civic Health Index.

But the "overwhelming" indicator of a "sustained political participant" is age, per Wilson.

"The 50-plus are reliable," said Sarah Waddle, the state director for Indiana's branch of the AARP, formerly the American Association of Retired Persons.

"They're the driving force behind almost every election," she added.

That's because in Indiana, voters 50 and older are often the majority of the electorate, according to AARP data: 67% in 2022, a midterm year, and 56% in 2020, a presidential year.

Voters older than 65 were particularly enthusiastic. Wilson said they may have more skin in the game after moving to fixed incomes or using government programs like Medicare. And, they've typically got more time.

"For someone who is retired and now has a tremendous amount of free time, they have time to research the candidates; they have time to pay attention to the debates and forums," Wilson said.

See **Voting** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Plein air honor

Carol Kennedy accepts the award from Alcove president Kathy Ayers during a ceremony Saturday evening at Arts Place to close the inaugural Jack Ronald Spring Paint Out. Kennedy's winning piece for the 'plein air' event was a view of the Hood Building where Ronald worked for The Commercial Review for more than four decades.

Deaths

Steve Aker, 71, Richmond
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 73 degrees Sunday. The low was 59.

The forecast for tonight calls for a low in the upper 50s with rain expected after midnight. Expect mostly sunny skies Wednesday with a high of 80.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Development Corporation's board of directors has scheduled a special meeting for 4 p.m. Wednesday at Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Coming up

Wednesday — Coverage of this week's Portland City Council meeting.

Thursday — Results from Tuesday's primary election in Jay County.

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.



Arrested ...

Continued from page 1
Emerick appeared to be intoxicated, according to the report, and he was administered a preliminary breath test as well as a blood test for blood alcohol level with results pending. (In Indiana, drunk driving is a criminal charge when

a person operating a vehicle has a blood alcohol level of at least 0.08%.)
Cadence Nibarger and Jake and Rachell Boolman told police they were sitting on a porch along Division Road and watched the vehicle drive past them at a high rate of speed. They

noticed the Ranger stop at the intersection and drove to the site of the crash. Jake Boolman called 911.
Indiana Department of Natural Resources assisted with the crash investigation.
Emerick was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay

County Jail. Jay County Sheriff Ray Newton said the case will be forwarded to Jay County Prosecutor's Office to determine charges that may be filed in court.
A person who "causes the death or catastrophic injury of another person

when operating a vehicle" with a blood alcohol level of 0.08% or more while intoxicated commits a Level 4 felony, according to Indiana Code. A Level 4 felony sentence in Indiana ranges from two to 12 years, with an advisory sentence of six years.

Obituaries

Steve Aker, Richmond, a former Portland resident, April 18, 1953-May 3, 2024. Services will be held at a later date at Mt. Zion Cemetery, rural Portland.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.
There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

Website ...

Continued from page 1
In March, Jay County Commissioners OK'd a \$20,000 grant application and approved a contract with website developer An Island to create the site. The funding came from Indiana's portion of the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grants program, which had been shared with Eads via the Indiana Secretary of State's office.
The website is expected to cost about \$7,000 annually to maintain.

Jay County's election supplies have changed significantly in the last few years. The county purchased 30 voter verifiable paper audit trail machines and 50 voting machines from Microvote Corporation for about \$140,000 in 2023. (Its previous machines dated back to 2004.) The state — it required all polls to have the voter verifiable paper audit trail machines by 2024 — had already purchased 20 of those devices for Jay County and contributed an additional

\$76,750 toward the 2023 purchase.
Created in 2018, the Federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Election Security Grants aim to provide "states with additional resources to improve the administration of elections for federal office, including to enhance technology and make certain election security improvements," according to its website.
Eads expressed excitement for folks to check out results online quickly.

"I know there's a lot of out-of-towners, for example, like, my son, who lives in Illinois. I've given him the site so that he can get the information from it," he said. "My wife is going to do the same thing ..."
As of about 10:30 a.m. Monday, about 1,167 registered voters had participated in early voting. (Early voting at the courthouse closed at noon Monday.) Another nearly 60 had sent their ballots by mail or travel board. That comes out to about 10% of registered voters.

CR almanac

Wednesday 5/8	Thursday 5/9	Friday 5/10	Saturday 5/11	Sunday 5/12
80/59	70/48	61/43	66/47	66/50
There's a slight chance of rain on Wednesday under sunny skies. The temperature may hit 80.	Thursday has a 50% chance of showers and thunderstorms throughout the day.	Another slight chance of thunderstorms Friday. Mostly sunny, with a low in the mid 40s.	Saturday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies with a high in the mid to upper 60s.	Sunday has a chance of rain. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high in the mid to upper 60s.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$214 million
45-50-52-57-62-67-70
Cash 5: 9-21-23-28-43
Estimated jackpot: \$248,500

Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$306 million

Hoosier
Sunday
Midday
Daily Three: 3-8-1
Daily Four: 6-6-5-1
Evening
Daily Three: 4-4-1
Daily Four: 1-5-3-4
Quick Draw: 1-6-13-14-18-20-23-25-30-32-37-39-40

Ohio
Sunday
Midday
Pick 3: 4-9-6
Pick 4: 4-0-0-6
Pick 5: 7-2-3-7-4
Evening
Pick 3: 4-9-5
Pick 4: 9-2-6-0
Pick 5: 4-1-3-9-1
Rolling Cash 5: 2-5-21-29-34
Estimated jackpot: \$120,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.53
June corn.....4.55
Wheat.....5.35

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.61
June corn.....4.66
July corn.....4.56

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....4.56
June corn.....4.51
Beans.....12.27

June beans12.29
Wheat 6.05

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.45
June corn4.48
Beans12.24
June beans12.27
Wheat4.45

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.50
June corn4.53
Beans12.00
June beans12.10
Wheat5.80

Today in history

In 1274, the Second Council of Lyons opened in France to regulate the election of the pope.
In 1429, Joan of Arc broke England's siege of Orleans.
In 1663, The Theatre Royal opened in London. Now known as the Drury Lane Theatre, it was built by dramatist Thomas Killigrew and is the oldest English theater still in use today.
In 1840, composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky was born in Votkinsk, Russia.
In 2021, Rielew Brewster hit a two-run home run and Haleigh Clayton went the distance on the rubber to lead the Jay County High School softball team to a 4-2 win over Adams Central.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Center.

Wednesday
4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Thursday
3 p.m. — Jay County Country Living Advisory Board of Directors, 1194 E. 200 North, Portland.
6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, auditorium, Jay County Courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Voting ...

Continued from page 1
"But they also have just — period — more time to be engaged, more time to vote, more time to be engaged in the democratic process, compared to anyone with any type of job or (dependent children)."
Still, voters 50-plus aren't "a uniform" voting bloc, according to Waddle, despite facing similar issues, like caretaking and saving for retirement.
The vast majority of voters over age 50 are white (91%), slightly more are women (52%), most haven't gone to college (66%) and most live in suburbs (63%) or rural areas (35%), per AARP data.
Waddle dubbed the organization's "Our voices decide" slogan an "empowering

internal reminder" to older voters and a "message to candidates that you need to be talking about the everyday issues that affect people at home."
But political parties also count on other voters.
Indiana's two major political parties say widespread appeal powers their efforts.
"I don't think there's any one or two or three demographics," Indiana Republican Party Executive Director Joe Elsener said.
The party typically remains neutral during primary elections. But for the general election, Elsener said, the party "works hard," through its candidates and platform, to "tell the story of the last 20 years of leadership."

Felony arrests

Providing porn
A Portland man was arrested Thursday for providing obscene material to minors.
John Clem, 73, 604 S.

Western Ave., was preliminarily charged with a Level 6 felony.
He was being held on a \$3,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

Capsule Reports

Backing accident
A Portland woman backed her vehicle into a parked car in the Clear Choice Chiropractic parking lot in Portland about 4:50 p.m. Thursday.
Barbara J. Caster, 62, Portland, was backing her

2017 Buick Envision out of a parking spot in the lot at 609 N. Charles St. when she hit a parked 2013 Ford Expedition.
The vehicle is registered to Eric R. Butcher of Portland. Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Felony courts

Child molestation
A Portland man was sentenced to nearly four decades in prison for child molesting and related crimes.
Nathan M. Ross, 42, was found guilty by a Jay Circuit Court jury of child molestation, a Level 1 felony, along with five counts of contributing to the delinquency of a minor, all Level 6 felonies.
He was sentenced to 38 years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served. Ross was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$500 sexual assault victim assistance fee. Two additional Level 6 felony charges for contributing to the delinquency of a minor were dismissed.

\$50 domestic violence prevention and treatment fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for confinement was dismissed.
Juan Jesus Gaona Jr., 31, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to the Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to two years in Indiana Department of Correction and given credit for time served. Gaona was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$50 domestic violence prevention fee.

Domestic battery
Two men were sentenced to serve time for domestic battery charges.
Shawn P. Southworth, 44, 106 W. Main St., Bryant, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and given 90 days credit for time served. Southworth was fined \$25, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a

Narcotic drug
A Portland woman was sentenced to jail for possession of a narcotic drug.
Kerry L. Meredith, 42, 5731 South U.S. 27, Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail and given 250 days credit for time served. Meredith was assessed \$189 in court costs, fined \$25 and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for maintaining a common nuisance and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

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THANK YOU MR. LeMaster
I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Attorney Greg LeMaster for his prompt response to the Election Integrity Survey, which I recently distributed to both Republican candidates for the Indiana State House of Representatives. Mr. LeMaster's thoughtful and thorough answers have been invaluable in providing insights into his stance on election-related issues.
If anyone would like to discuss the survey questions or Mr. LeMaster's responses in greater detail, please feel free to reach out to me at either Clayto55@aim.com or at (765) 730-3301. I would be happy to engage in further discussion.
Thank you once again, Mr. LeMaster, for your time and cooperation.
Best regards,
J. Clayton Phillips
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Fishing stories will continue in Alaska

By HANK NUWER

My switch to Alaska resident is complete.

I have an Alaska voting card. I'm paying Alaska property taxes. My vehicle has an Alaska brown bear license plate where Indiana vanity plate Moby Van once resided.

But most importantly, I qualified with Alaska Department of Natural Resources (at my advanced age) for a fishing, hunting and trapping license. I'll be on the lakes near Chena Hot Springs as soon as the ice thaws. I already have rented two cabins for fishing from the State of Alaska.

With my mind on fishing, I wanted to relate a tale about a big one I caught.

The year was 1983. The

Far From Randolph County



place was the Chattooga River in northeastern Georgia in scenery you might have admired in the movie "Deliverance."

My companions were a Clemson instructor named Ron Rash and my son Chris.

Ron was having a good day taking trout, several under a cutbank in shallower water.

I had struck out until — whoa — my line went rigid and the rod practically flew out of my hands.

My shout of joy mildly raised the interest of Ron and Chris. I went into the water nearly to my belt as I tried to land what had to be a monster trout.

About that time, my quarry rose like the shark in "Jaws," and I saw its big clacking jaws.

I might have thrown down the rod; I'm not sure.

But I'm sure all that giant snapping turtle saw was my feet and butt as I churned the water to get back to shore.

If you think my fishing companions offered commiseration you'd be badly mistaken. Chris was on the bank holding his stomach laughing, and Ron was a close second in the bemused category.

I might just finally forgive them one day.

Nah, nah. Ain't gonna happen.

Another bad but true fishing story was the time I took my son trout fishing in the remote Humboldt Forest region of eastern Nevada.

Knowing that we'd be far from anything resembling a sporting goods store, I instructed my son to bring two of everything in the way of fishing gear.

It was a clear case of do as Dad says, not as Dad does.

On my very first cast, my line zipped over a deep bend in the river, and I buried the lure in a tree limb.

No problem, I thought, as I cut the lines.

Which was when I found that I hadn't brought fishing line, and

there wasn't enough line left on my reel to catch a fish in a barrel.

I couldn't deprive my son of a fishing outfit, so I spent the day organizing my tackle box. I had enough time to arrange it about 79 times.

I loved fishing in Indiana on the White River. As often as not, a great blue heron alighted nearby and owls would provide a concert, although I rarely caught sight of them. There's no more satisfying sight than rounding a river bend and seeing a doe and fawn alight for a moment.

The downside was that too many folks like to think the White River is their own private landfill. I once surprised a mother and two boys dumping a bunch of trash bags near

a bank. They glared at me with impudence and drove off when I asked them to pick it up. I ended up carting two smelly bags home to put in my trash container.

Once while canoeing I saw a white Chevy hood blocking a shallow part of the river one dry season.

"What we need is an otter," the owner of the canoe rental operation told me.

"Why's that?"

"He 'otter' eat up all this trash," he joked.

Nuwer is a Franklin College emeritus professor and elected member of Ball State University's Journalism Hall of Fame. Now living far from Union City in Alaska, Hank's email address is Nuwer-hank@gmail.com.

Relative's gift choices are not interesting

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 77-year-old woman with a 27-year-old granddaughter who loves electronic gadgets and toys. She's comfortable financially and often buys expensive gifts for me. While I appreciate her generosity and her desire to make my life "easier and more fun," I simply am NOT INTERESTED in them.

I find these devices more frustrating than enjoyable. I don't NEED anything, and I don't WANT anything. I have asked her repeatedly to please not spend her money on me, but it falls on deaf ears. Perhaps if you print this, she might realize how difficult it sometimes is for us older folks to use these gadgets. How can I get my point across without hurting her feelings? — GOOD INTENTIONS

DEAR GOOD INTENTIONS:

Dear Abby



Tell your granddaughter you love her and appreciate her generosity, but electronic gadgets are not enjoyable for you, and you wish she would stop giving them to you. If she asks what you might like, explain (again) that you do not need anything but would instead like to spend time or go to an event with her. That message should not cause hurt feelings.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I have one sibling, a sister, who is three years younger than I am. Our mom is very elderly. My sister and I have a terrible relationship. We cannot get along.

When Mom dies, would it be OK for me not to go to the funeral? We have no other family, and I have no desire to see my sister. Mom and I have a great relationship. Do other people experience this? I told her lawyer I can't go. He said he understands. — ON MY OWN IN NEW YORK

DEAR O.M.O.: Funerals may seem to be "for" the deceased, but they are really to comfort the living. The time to demonstrate respect and affection is while someone is living. You have done that with your mother for many years. I doubt there is

much left unsaid between you. When your mother passes, do what feels right to you. Your mother's lawyer said he understands. That should be enough dispensation.

.....

DEAR ABBY: After spending hours preparing a meal, is it appropriate for your guest to cover the food on their plate with salt and pepper without first tasting it? Beyond being inappropriate, isn't it just plain rude? Should I say something? Never invite them for a meal again? Or just let it go? — IN A STATE IN THE GARDEN STATE

DEAR IN A STATE: The next time a guest reflexively gestures toward the saltshaker without having taken a bite of your food, you would be within your rights to ask

WHY. Perhaps your cooking tends toward the underspiced.

If you are truly offended by this, no rule of etiquette decrees that you must invite the person again. (I also know of no rule of etiquette that states a host MUST put salt and pepper on the table.) If a friendship is a warm one, I'm inclined to allow my guests to do whatever makes them comfortable, appreciate them for who they are and let something like this go.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP — A group for anyone with a substance use disorder that helps individuals find connections as they develop long-term recovery meets at noon each Tuesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship

Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk.

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.

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.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention for helping families affected

by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in the boardroom at Arts

Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.

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

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Sudoku

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

Level: Beginner

Saturday's Solution

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

The objective is to fill a nine-by-nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-by-three boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.

Optimist clubs say thank you

To the editor:
The Jay County Optimist Clubs would like to thank the citizenry of Jay County for taking the opportunity to encourage the show of respect for all the law enforcement officers of Jay County.

Letters to the Editor

Optimist Respect for Law Week was an opportunity to say thank you to the officers of Jay County. We would like to challenge everyone to remember all officers every day for their service to the people of Jay County. Simply say thank you as often as you are in the presence of an officer.

Thanks also to all the businesses and people who participated during the week with free coffee and help with making the week a success: Richard's Restaurant of Portland, Jinny's Cafe of Bryant Pak-a-Sak of Bryant, Redkey, Portland and Dunkirk, Burger King

of Portland, Bizy Dips of Portland, Circle K North and South of Portland, Wheel & Spoke Antique Mall of Portland, Arby's of Portland, Village Pantry of Portland, McDonald's of Pennville and IDC Restaurant of Pennville.

Thank an officer: Thank you Jay County.
Jay County Optimist Clubs
Rodney Miles, president, Breakfast Optimists
Linda Aker, president, Portland Evening Optimists
Kathy Jones, president, West Jay Optimists

THE 3 THINGS KRISTI NOEM KILLED...

OPZAKINGFEATURES JUDGE



HER DOG



A GOAT



ANY CHANCE OF BEING TRUMPS RUNNING MATE

Debt will change policies

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

The U.S. national debt is near its politically unsustainable level. That means substantive changes to both taxes and spending in the foreseeable future, which also means less federal funding for state and local governments.

County government, municipal government, schools, libraries and other local governments need to start planning now for a future with far less federal money.

At the start of the Great Recession, our national debt hovered at roughly 60 percent of gross domestic product. Today, it is a tad bit over 120 percent. Right now, the federal government is spending about 23.4 percent of GDP, while collecting taxes of about 17.4 percent of GDP.

The last time we balanced our national budget, both taxes and spending ran between 19 percent and 20 percent of GDP. That seems like a reasonable political compromise: raising taxes substantially and cutting spending substantially. By substantially, I mean reversing all the tax cuts and spending growth of the past 25 years.

There's no easy way to do this. For example, our entire military budget is at a post-World War II low of 2.7 percent of GDP. We could eliminate all the armed forces, and sell all our equipment, and it would not cut the annual deficit by half.

We could eliminate the Veteran's Administration, the departments of education, energy, state and agriculture, and still not balance the budget. We could cut all our foreign aid, all our research and development spending, and yet the savings wouldn't round up to one-thousandth of the debt.

To balance the budget, we will need to cut Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. Those cuts won't come just in the future. They will need to come to current recipients.

To balance the budget, we also will need to raise taxes on everyone. Those tax increases cannot be limited just the rich or super rich; everyone will see an increase in taxes.

I know this is an unpleasant realization that is probably causing many readers to come slightly unglued. Sorry, the arithmetic is unavoidable. There are no easy answers. There's no tax cut that will generate rapid economic growth, nor is there some mag-

Michael J. Hicks



municipal funding, while spending millions of dollars a year on traditional economic development. Add up all the assessed value locked into tax increment financing (TIF) or in property tax abatements and assess that value at the current tax rate. Add up the cost of your economic development office, and any direct spending program, like a revolving loan fund.

The results will shock and dismay. There is no community in the Midwest where traditional business attraction policies have yielded prosperity. I'd be very surprised if a single county saw the benefits of that spending outweigh the costs over any 10-year period since the 1970s.

For the 200 or so Midwestern counties in decline, the level of lost spending on attracting new businesses will be terribly vexing. These are exactly the same places in need of vast infrastructure improvement, ranging from bridge replacement and new schools to water and sewer facilities. This process should make clear that there's plenty of resources to support local improvements. They are simply being mispent.

Finally, local governments should think hard about what residents want out of their communities. Don't ask them what types of economic development they want. Ask them what they want their community to be for their families. They should be asked in surveys and focus groups, preferably after they've seen presentations about economic conditions and their economic development policy history in their city or county.

In most cases, you'll hear about a lot of little things: parks, eateries and recreational activities. Some will want their school to be better—particularly if they've seen clear data on student outcomes. I suspect most people will want a city or county that could keep their children around after they graduate.

These steps will allow local elected leaders and their constituents better understand the challenges of tighter federal budgets and fewer federal resources to poor places. They may also set a community on a healthier past, focused more on the building blocks of prosperity, and less on economic development policies crafted for the middle of the last century.

ical spending mix that will cause a big spike in productivity. I wish there were, but there is not. This debt will be lowered the old-fashioned way.

Among the unavoidable casualties of budget cuts will be significantly fewer inter-governmental transfers, from a wide range of programs. Many local governments have come to anticipate federal spending. Poor places, in particular, receive a disproportionate share of federal spending on roads, housing, economic development, education, healthcare and social services.

I don't think local governments should be viewing this with dread. Instead, I think it is, in the words of FDR, "...pre-eminently the time to speak the truth, the whole truth, frankly and boldly." Prospering communities are mostly a consequence of local action, not state or federal largesse. Even in places where state or federal development efforts are effective, as in Indiana's Regional Cities Initiative, the effects are modest when compared to the benefits of local action.

Sometime over the next decade or so, we are almost certain to enter a period in which state and local governments can expect much lower federal spending. It would be wise to begin preparing residents. If you want additional or improved infrastructure, better schools and other quality of life improvements, now is the time to begin planning those investments.

I recommend a three-part approach.

First, there must be a frank review of local economic conditions. There are over 200 Midwestern counties in the midst of long-term economic and population decline. It takes courage to confront unpleasant facts head on. Without doing so, no place will be lucky enough to reverse economic course.

A second step is to take stock of the policies that you've been using for the past several decades. I am amazed at the number of places who complain of inadequate school or

U.S. must stand against aggression

To the editor:

Finally.

On April 24, President Joe Biden signed into law a \$95 billion package of military and humanitarian foreign aid for Ukraine, Israel/Gaza and Taiwan. The largest component of the bill is \$61 billion in support of Ukraine in resisting Russia's invasion. The aid goes primarily to U.S. weapons manufacturers to build back U.S. weapon supplies that will be sent to Ukraine (about 20% of the funding is for direct financial support).

The package was approved in the House of Representatives 311-112. The bill could be fairly called bipartisan, as 101 Republicans joined 210 Democrats in its passage. Unfortunately, 112 Republicans voted no, including our Rep. Jim Bank. (In the Senate, Todd Young voted in favor while Mike Braun opposed it.)

A foreign-aid bill similar to the one finally enacted was approved in the U.S. Senate in February. But military support for Ukraine had been stalled in the House since last fall due to the isolationist politics of far-right Republican legislators. Over that time, Ukraine struggled with critical shortages of ammunition and military hardware. As a result, Russia made significant gains by seizing more territory and destroying Ukrainian infrastructure.

Had the delay in support continued, Ukraine would have certainly lost additional territory. The greater danger was the potential collapse of the front lines due to Russia's tremendous advantage in ammunition and military hardware. While our NATO allies have provided a great deal of military and humanitarian assistance, the absence of U.S. aid has been telling.

The \$61 billion in support will do more than increase Ukrainian military capacity. It will also assure our NATO allies that the United States has their back. As well, the aid will decrease the likelihood that American military lives will be at risk. Vladimir Putin will notice. So will Russia's allies — China, North Korea, Belarus and Iran.

Why would a Russian victory be a tragedy for the rest of the free world?

First, it would mean a fellow democracy submitted to a power-mad authoritarian. Russian president Vladimir Putin denies basic freedoms to Russian citizens and concentrates power and finances in the hands of a few. Any Russian who demonstrates opposition is soon dead, impris-

Letters to the Editor

oned or, if lucky, in exile. Ukraine could expect the same.

Second, Putin has demonstrated that whatever he gains is never enough. If he succeeds in defeating Ukraine, one of his objectives will likely be a NATO country. If Russia attacks a NATO member, all other NATO nations, including the United States, are obligated by treaty to defend that country. This would put U.S. lives in danger.

Third, should Ukraine submit to Russia due to American abandonment, a powerful message would be sent to our allies: "Don't count on the USA." It would resonate well beyond NATO to Australia, Japan, New Zealand, the Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan.

Ukraine's population is one-quarter of that of Russia. No reasonable person could expect that Ukraine could resist Russian aggression on its own. Fortunately, the United States initially provided significant military support. Other NATO nations have done the same.

As of February, the other members of NATO had provided more humanitarian and military support in total than the United States (U.S. News and World Report — Feb. 23). With the new foreign aid bill, the U.S. retakes the lead, which is appropriate for the leader of the free world.

Still, the two most important components of this war of resistance have been provided by the people of Ukraine: the military forces bravely fighting and dying for Ukraine's freedom and the innocent civilians who persevere despite Russia's bombs, drones, missiles, rape and torture.

There are those who say Russia's assault on Ukraine is a European problem. Yes, it is. Yet it is also our problem. It is short-sighted to ignore the message a Russian victory would send to our friends and enemies.

The Ukrainian people have demonstrated the will to resist an unprovoked assault by its much larger neighbor. Ukraine deserves our support. And the United States will be protecting the safety of its people by standing with one of our fellow democracies willing to fight a monstrous regime.

Eric R. Rogers
Portland

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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Tutti Frutti is part of fundraiser

Various area businesses will take part in the Ice Cream Social Fundraiser for Kate's Kart next month.

Business roundup

Proceeds from sales on June 22 and 23 will help to support Kate's Kart, a not-for-profit organization that provides books for children in hospitals. On those days, Kate's Kart will be on hand to provide goodie bags to children.

Participating ice cream shops include:

- Tutti Frutti of Portland
- The Tasty Spoon of Hartford City
- Iceburg Ice Cream of Albany
- Berry Winkle Frozen Yogurt of Muncie
- The White Cottage Sweet Shoppe of Berne
- Toppings Ice Cream and Zesto Ice Cream of Bluffton
- Old 27 Ice Cream Shop of Decatur
- Sophie's Ice Cream of Gas City

Studio launches

Launch Fishers has announced the completion of its podcast studio.

The facility, which was supported by a \$28,000 grant from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation, is offering entrepreneurs the opportunity to utilize the studio to share their stories for free. The effort, in partnership with the Innovation Connector, is open to businesses in Jay, Randolph, Blackford and Delaware counties.

The space, located at 12175 Visionary Way in Fishers, features a pod-

cast room for up to four individuals and a video room for up to two.

For more information, visit launchfishers.com/studio.

Collaboration set

Ivy Tech Community College and Conexus Indiana are collaborating in an effort to increase the number of advanced manufacturing firms in the state that have integrated digital technologies.

The goal is to expand offerings including the Internet of Things (connected devices and the technology that facilitates communication between devices and the cloud), cloud computing, artificial intelligence and machine learning in operations and manufacturing. A Conexus Indiana report from 2022 showed that about 50% of firms plan on adopting new technologies but struggle to find employees with the necessary job skills. In order to address that issue, Ivy Tech will develop curricula with a goal of preparing more Hoosiers for careers in advanced manufacturing.

"We've seen tremendous progress recently in manufacturers increasing their investments in

technology-enabled capital equipment, and investments in workforce digital skills are equally important for those firms to realize the full benefits of new technology," said Fred Cartwright, president and CEO of Conexus Indiana, in a press release. "This partnership with Ivy Tech, which will allow us to inform the curricula that prepare future industry leaders, is a positive step toward bridging the talent gap in Industry 4.0 advanced manufacturing."

Facilities named

The Ball State University Board of Trustees approved the details, budget and naming of the new Eric Foss Championship Performance Center. Also approved was the naming of the Rhonda Newport Kaspar Stage and Timothy M. Andrews Monumental Stair within the new Performing Arts Center.

The Eric Foss Championship Performance Center will be a \$7.8 million construction project to build a 10,000-square-foot strength and conditioning facility adjacent to Worthen Arena and the Dr. Don Shondell Practice Center.

"We are grateful to Eric for his generosity," said Ball State director of athletics Jeff Mitchell in a press release. "Eric enjoys a legacy of enriching organizations and leading them to record growth, and his family's impact on our student-athletes will have a simi-

lar transformative influence as they pursue a new level of excellence in the Eric Foss Championship Performance Center."

The namings of the Rhonda Newport Kaspar Stage and the Timothy M. Andrews Monumental Stair are the latest steps for BSU's new Performing Arts Center, which is intended to be the catalyst for plans to revitalize The Village.

Also, Mark Erwin was appointed to the Muncie Community Schools Board of Trustees.

Sims honored

Indiana University Health's Dr. Adrienne Sims was honored last week as the winner of the 2024 Ogletree Deakins Human Resources Professional of the Year Award.

Sims, IU Health's senior vice president and chief human resources officer, received the award at the Indiana Chamber of Commerce annual luncheon. The award "recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to their workplace ... through implementation of best practices, organization design and effectiveness, and alignment and accomplishment of the strategic direction of their company."

"Adrienne has had a powerful impact since joining IU Health in 2022 — and at a time that has been fraught with major challenges for HR executives everywhere," said Indiana Chamber president and CEO Vanessa

Green Sindors in a press release. "The scope of her career experience is extraordinary, having worked for a number of blue-chip companies, and at each one leading and pushing forward significant initiatives."

Applications open

Indiana Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications for the Indiana Best Places to Work in Manufacturing 2024 awards.

Manufacturers can register for the program at bestplacestoworkmanufacturingin.com. For more information, email answers@workforcerg.com or call (281) 602-5004.

The deadline is July 26.

Blocked out

Comcast has blacked out 15 regional sports networks in the midst of a dispute with Diamond Sports Group.

The blackout impacts games for 12 Major League Baseball teams, including the Cincinnati Reds, Detroit Tigers and Cleveland Guardians. Diamond Sports Group, which distributes the Bally Sports networks, blamed Comcast for refusing to "engage in substantive discussions" while Comcast said Diamond Sports Group declined several offers.

Subway sold

Roark completed its purchase of Subway restaurants last week.

The transaction, which had been previously announced, puts the busi-

ness in the hands of Roark, a private equity firm based in Atlanta. No leadership changes are anticipated.

"The entire Subway system is excited that our sale to Roark is complete," said John Chidsey, CEO of Subway, in a press release. "As we look to our future, our growth journey is far from over. With a continued strategic focus on delivering better food and a better guest experience, our next chapter will be the most exciting yet."

Brand launched

Walmart last week launched the new bettergoods brand.

The new brand is intended to provide "chef-inspired food" and is Walmart's largest food brand launch in two decades. Items will range from \$2 to \$15 with 300 items.

"Today's customers expect more from the private brands they purchase — they want affordable, quality products to elevate their overall food experience," said Walmart senior vice president for private brands, food and consumables Scott Morris. "Bettergoods is more than just a new private brand. It's a commitment to our customers that they can enjoy unique culinary flavors at the incredible value Walmart delivers."

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Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@thecr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Federal bill aims to slow pace at Amazon

By LAUREN ROSENBLATT

The Seattle Times
Tribune News Service

The fight to change warehouse working conditions that has been playing out in state legislatures is now headed to Washington, D.C.

Sen. Ed Markey, D-Massachusetts, and Sen. Tina Smith, D-Minnesota, introduced legislation Thursday that would put new safeguards in place for warehouse workers who are expected to move quickly and face intense oversight, increasing the possible risk of injury.

Similar to state bills that lawmakers, including in Washington, have passed recently, the Warehouse Worker Protection Act would ban production quotas that require workers to move at an unsafe pace, skip bathroom or restroom breaks or cut corners in their work in order to keep up with expectations. It

would require companies to disclose more information about the quotas workers are expected to meet and to notify them if those standards change.

The bill would also authorize the Department of Labor to investigate and intervene if it finds a company is setting a pace of work that increases employees' risk of injury or withholding information about worker expectations.

"In short, the Warehouse Worker Protection Act says workers are not disposable resources," Markey said at a news conference Thursday. "Injuries are not just the cost of doing business. The cost of doing business in this country is guaranteeing worker safety and dignity, and not just profits."

Lawmakers in Washington passed a similar bill last year that is set to go in effect in July.

After a public comment period that ended in April, the state Department of Labor and Industries is still ironing out some of the details.

Washington's law applies to companies that employ 100 workers or more at a single warehouse, or 1,000 workers or more at multiple warehouses in the state.

At both the federal and state levels, the legislation is aimed at warehouse companies in general but advocates continually pointed to one company where they hope to see the legislation have an impact: Amazon.

That's because, advocates said, Amazon has a higher rate of injury than its warehouse peers and has been accused of firing or disciplining workers if they fail to keep up with the strict pace requirements. At the same time, the advocates continued, Amazon has been accused

of using technology in its warehouses to closely track its workers' movements and the number of packages that each employee moves.

At Thursday's news conference, two Amazon workers who have suffered injuries on the job said the legislation would help ensure they don't have to choose between a paycheck and the risk of getting hurt on the job.

"Amazon's business model pushes workers to the brink and creates a culture of fear and competition between co-workers," said Sean O'Brien, president of the Teamsters union, which helped introduce the federal legislation Thursday.

The bill is "about ending abusive and arbitrary production quotas that Amazon and other employers are spreading. It's about enforcing transparency and accountability," he said.

Amazon disputes those allega-

tions. A spokesperson said Thursday that the company's injury rate has improved over the last few years, and that it has invested more than \$1 billion in technology, resources and training to further safety efforts.

Amazon does not have quotas in its warehouses, the spokesperson said, and employees are able to see how they are performing at any time. If an employee is struggling, Amazon works with them to offer more training and coaching, the spokesperson continued.

On Thursday, after the federal bill's introduction, some business groups began to push back on the proposal. The Coalition for Workplace Safety, a group of trade associations, said in a statement that the new legislation would make it harder for businesses to operate and micromanage warehouses.



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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly

I EXPECT YOU ALL TO BE TEAM PLAYERS - EXCEPT TED, WHOM I EXPECT TO REMAIN TEAM MASCOT.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane

"Mommy, would you spread newspapers between here and the bathroom?"

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The theory of gain vs. loss

West dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
 ♠ 7 5 2
 ♥ J 8 4
 ♦ A K Q 9
 ♣ A 10 4

WEST
 ♠ Q 9 4
 ♥ A 7 2
 ♦ 3 2
 ♣ K 9 6 3 2

EAST
 ♠ 10 8 6 3
 ♥ Q 10 9 6
 ♦ J 10 7 5
 ♣ 5

SOUTH
 ♠ A K J
 ♥ K 5 3
 ♦ 8 6 4
 ♣ Q J 8 7

The bidding:
 West North East South
 Pass 1♦ Pass 2 NT
 Pass 3 NT

Opening lead — three of clubs.

Lloyd's of London specializes in insuring against risks its clients are unwilling to run. A suitable premium is paid by the client to protect against the occurrence of an unlikely but potential threat. If the threat becomes reality, Lloyd's pays for the loss.

A bridge player must often assume the same role as Lloyd's. In certain situations, he in effect becomes an actuary, computing the possibility of gain against the possibility of

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Peanuts

OKAY, "PARTNER!"

LET'S GET A FEW THINGS STRAIGHT... I HATE TO LOSE!

I'LL MAKE ALL THE LINE CALLS AND TAKE ALL THE OVERHEADS! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS GUARD YOUR ALLEY!

AND JUST ONE SMART REMARK ABOUT MY FAT LEGS GETS YOU A KNOCK ON THE NOGGIN!!

Rose is Rose
 A SIMPLE LESSON FROM AN EDUCATOR...

WHENEVER POSSIBLE...

TAKE A BREAK FROM THE TEACHERS' LOUNGE.

Agnes

I HAVE BEEN STRUGGLING WITH THIS BOLT ALL DAY. WHAT KIND OF WRENCH ARE YOU USING?

I'M NOT USING A WRENCH. I'M PLEADING WITH IT, BEGGING IT AND USING LOADS OF GUILT AND CRITICISM.

USE A WRENCH. YOU'RE NOT ITS GRANDMA.

SOUNDS LIKE TOO MUCH PHYSICAL LABOR. DON'T TRY CRYING. IT LOOKS RUSTED.

Hi and Lois

THIRSTY AND I HAVE BEEN SEEING A MARRIAGE COUNSELOR.

HOW'S THAT GOING?

HE WANTS A SECOND OPINION.

Between Friends

ARE YOU OKAY?

ME?... OH... YEAH... I'M JUST A BIT TIRED THIS MORNING.

WORKING FULL TIME AND TAKING ONLINE COLLEGE COURSES IS TOUGH ENOUGH, BUT WHEN YOUR TODDLER IS UP ALL NIGHT, IT REALLY TIPS THE SCALE.

WOW... SCHOOL AND WORK AND A TODDLER IS A LOT.

YEAH... BUT MY HUSBAND AND I ARE TRYING TO GET AHEAD.

IT'S JUST TOUGH TO DO THAT WITHOUT FALLING BEHIND.

Blondie

MY TEACHER TODAY TOLD OUR CLASS THAT WE NEED TO WORK ON OUR ATTENTION SPANS DURING ALGEBRA.

OH?

SO I JOKINGLY TOLD HER IF SHE'D PRESENT THE LESSONS IN 10-SECOND TIKTOK VIDEOS, MAYBE WE'D BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THEM.

ALGEBRA TEACHERS DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A SENSE OF HUMOR.

Snuffy Smith

I'M JEST ASKIN' YA 'T CONSIDERIN' TH' CIRCUMSTANCES, YORE HONOR !!

OOKKAY...

WE'RE CUTTIN' IT AWFUL CLOSE HERE TO MY TEE TIME WIF DOC, SOOOO...

CONSIDERIN' TH' CIRCUMSTANCES-- GUILTY !! COURT ADJOURNED !!

Beetle Bailey

LT. FUZZ WAS CONSTANTLY COMPLAINING ABOUT MY SQUEAKY CHAIR...

SQUISH

...SO I GOT A BEANBAG CHAIR

GOES "SQUISH" EVERY TIME HE SITS IN IT!

loss and doing all he can to try and protect against a potentially large loss.

Consider this deal where South wins the opening club lead with the seven, continues with the queen, which also wins, and then cashes the A-K-Q of diamonds, hoping for a 3-3 division.

But after West discards a low heart on the third diamond, South, with only eight certain tricks, must now try to find a ninth. He can lead a spade to the jack, and if it wins, he is home. Or he can lead a heart to the king and hope that East has the ace. In the actual deal, both of these approaches fail, if attempted.

But there is a third approach that guarantees the contract. Declarer cashes dummy's ace of clubs at trick six, leads a spade to the ace and exits with the jack of clubs. This allows West to cash the K-9 of clubs as South discards a heart.

At this point everyone is down to four cards, with South holding the K-J of spades and K-5 of hearts. West has the Q-9 of spades and A-7 of hearts and is forced to lead from one of those combinations. Which ever he chooses, South acquires his ninth trick. The third approach would be happily underwritten by Lloyd's.

Tomorrow: A very costly blunder.
 ©2024 King Features Syndicate Inc.

5-7 CRYPTOQUIP

SQWK UDNWYDBC EDKEWMJWB
 DH NTZMKF VQW HMIUV
 UQDJWG, MV STU VIRGC T

FIDRKB-YIWTZMKF MKJWKVMDK.
 Yesterday's Cryptoquip: COMMENT FROM A GUY WHO WAS OUT CAROLING ON A FRIGID DAY: "I'M GETTING TOO COLD FOR THIS."
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals H

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS**
- 1 Droop
 - 5 Omega preceder
 - 8 "Fernando" group
 - 12 Pub orders
 - 13 Capitol Hill VIP
 - 14 Experts
 - 15 Pancake
 - 17 Heap
 - 18 "For shame!"
 - 19 PC key
 - 20 "Get Here" singer Adams
 - 21 Comic Carrey
 - 22 Land in la mer
 - 23 Vatican-related
 - 26 Handy-man's tasks
 - 30 Guitarist Clapton
 - 31 7, on older phones
 - 32 Atmosphere
 - 33 Sealing rings
- DOWN**
- 1 Float gently
 - 2 Misfortunes
 - 3 Tap problem
 - 4 Recipe abbr.
 - 5 Song of praise
 - 6 Faction
 - 7 Pen filler
 - 8 Cider brandy
 - 9 Party cheese
 - 10 Piece of hardware
 - 11 Sailing
 - 16 Hoosegow
 - 20 Vintage
 - 21 Edible product of a tropical tree
 - 22 Egos' counter-parts
 - 23 Wooden pin
 - 24 Altar constellation
 - 25 Math ratios
 - 26 Hosp. areas
 - 27 Couple's pronoun
 - 28 Bikini top
 - 29 Muppet eagle
 - 31 School org.
 - 34 Before
 - 35 Bag
 - 37 Marina boat
 - 38 Dance move
 - 39 Proboscis
 - 40 Miles away
 - 41 El —, Texas
 - 42 "— arigato"
 - 43 Detail
 - 44 Taxpayer IDs
 - 46 Bread spread
 - 47 Bad review

Solution time: 22 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 5-7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12						13			14		
15									17		
18									20		
				21					22		
23	24	25				26			27	28	29
30						31			32		
33						34			35		
						36			37		
38	39	40				41			42	43	44
45						46			47		
48						49			50		
51						52			53		

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Roundup ...

Continued from page 8
The winning team will get to face off with No. 2 seed Crestview (11-2) for the sectional title on May 16.
May 22's potential district opener at Coldwater, would force the Indians to face another Midwest Athletic Conference team as the bottom part of the bracket consists of third-seeded St. Henry (12-8), seventh-seeded New Bremen (6-10) and ninth-seeded Parkway (5-9).
The eighth-ranked No. 1 seed Minster Wildcats (17-4) and the No. 4 Marion Local Flyers (12-10) have the best shot of making the district championship game — which will be played on May 24 — of the teams in the top half of the bracket.

Tribe splits
COLDWATER, Ohio — The Fort Recovery softball team split

a pair of games against Midwest Athletic Conference opponents in the Strikeout Cancer tournament at Coldwater on Saturday.
The Indians had a big fourth inning against the Marion Local Flyers to earn a 7-4 victory, but couldn't hold on in the second game as the Coldwater Cavaliers picked them off 10-8.
The first two batters of the fifth inning for Fort Recovery (9-12) reached base on a walk and an error. A single by Kayla Heitkamp and back-to-back doubles by Alexis Grisez and Emma Will pushed four runs across without an out. Another error allowed the fifth to score, giving FRHS 6 runs of padding against the Flyers (5-15).
Jenna Homan went the distance to earn the win for the Indians, only allowing three earned runs on nine hits, while striking out nine batters.

Seven runs over the fourth and fifth innings decided the game against Coldwater (13-10). The Indians attempted a late comeback with three runs in the top of the seventh inning, but couldn't finish the job. Britney Tebbe suffered the loss, allowing six runs to score on 11 hits through the first four innings.
Offense struggles
FORT RECOVERY — Fort Recovery's baseball team got blown out in the first game of a doubleheader against the Russia Raiders 15-0 Saturday. The Indians kept the second game close but fell 2-1 there as well.
A trio of pitchers for the Indians (7-8) gave up crooked numbers to the Raiders (16-4) in all but the fourth inning in the five-inning first game.
Eight runs in the second inning gave Russia a double-digit lead

over Fort Recovery to put the game out of reach.
Alex Gaerke suffered the loss in 1 ½ innings pitched, but also recorded the Indians' only hit of the game.
Rex Leverette took the loss in the second game, despite only giving up two runs on five hits in a complete game. A walk, triple and a groundout in the fourth inning allowed the runs to score.
The Tribe's run came on a sacrifice fly by Troy Homan in the fifth.
JV earns win
BERNE — The Jay County junior varsity tennis team took revenge on the South Adams Starfires on Saturday in a 3-2 victory.
Back on April 15, South Adams took down the Patriots 3-2.
The No. 1 and 2 singles match-

es had flipped results from the previous match. This time around, Lilly Johnson dropped the No. 1 contest to Olivia Oswald 2-8, while Raylah Newton took down Lanie Bryan 8-4.
Faith Faulkner captured another win for the Patriots in the No. 3 singles match. She took down Ginamarie Sommerset 8-3.
Jay County also flipped a win out of No. 1 doubles duo Courtney Harris and Lucie Henneaux. They combined to take down Calah Hill and Makenzie Miller 9-7 in a match that lasted 1 hour, 20 minutes.
Lauren Fisher and Kenzie Tobe ultimately fell to Elysia Gonsowski and Amerson Warner 8-4 in the No. 2 doubles match.
In an extra doubles contest, Taven Bentley and Lydia Johnson pulled out their first doubles win of their careers 8-4.

Patriots ...

Continued from page 8
Jay County had an opportunity to tie the game in the bottom half of the ninth as Cody Rowles and Edwards found themselves on base with a single and an error, respectively. Two outs again put the pressure on Nichols to come through, who has already walked off teams twice this year on April 18 and 27. Nichols delivered a shot to the gap, but Tracy closed in on the ball from center field before diving to make the catch and end the game.

"It was huge," Hagerstown coach Jay Hale said. "It was a big spot for Cole and really probably boosted his confidence even more. Just couldn't be more proud of him for laying out and getting a glove on it."
"That could have kept rolling and that could have been the game either way for either team."
While Jay County

couldn't pull off the upset, Farr liked his team's ability to compete with the Tigers and helped reinforce the team's internal views on itself.
"I have a lot of confidence in our guys and I

truly believe we're really good ball players," Farr said. "I truly believe we can hang with a lot of teams. We just have to be able to execute and finish."
Williams earned the win for HHS after throw-

ing six innings in relief and not allowing a single run to score.
Jay County's only run came on a single from Myers in the third inning that put the Patriots up early. Schemenaur walked right before

'I have a lot of confidence in our guys and I truly believe we're really good ball players. I truly believe we can hang with a lot of teams. We just have to be able to execute and finish.'

—Jay County baseball coach Todd Farr

Myers, and Wyatt Foster entered as a courtesy runner. Foster made it from first to third base on an errant throw by Kaagen Kendall in a pickoff attempt.
Game two started off similarly, with the Patriots developing a 3-1 lead over the first three innings.
Hagerstown battled back to reclaim the lead in the fourth with a four-run inning and added another in the fifth.
Seventh-inning RBIs from Ryne Goldsworthy and Garrett Bennett tied the game at six runs apiece to force extra innings again.
After two innings of stalemate, Hagerstown rattled off five runs in the 10th off of six-straight singles, all but one came against Kade Sommers.
Ervin put the Patriots down in short order in the bottom half to seal the deal and earn the win.

Box score						
Jay County Patriots vs. Hagerstown Tigers						
Hagerstown (18-1)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Beatty c	4	0	0	0		
Tracy cf	3	0	1	1		
Ervin 2b	4	1	0	0		
Burris 1b	4	0	1	1		
Leiberman pr	0	0	0	0		
Campbel 3b	4	0	1	0		
Combs dh	3	0	0	0		
King pr	0	0	0	0		
Kelly pr	0	0	0	0		
Craig lf	4	0	0	0		
Walter rf	3	0	0	0		
Williams ss	3	1	1	0		
Totals	32	2	4	2		
Jay County (9-9)						
	ab	r	h	bi		
Edwards lf	5	0	2	0		
Schemenaur c	3	0	0	0		
Foster cr	0	1	0	0		
Myers ss	4	0	1	1		
Nichols 3b	3	0	0	0		
Goldsworthy 1b	4	0	1	0		
Jetmore rf	2	0	0	0		
Geesaman ph	2	0	1	0		
Bennett dh	4	0	1	0		
Wendel 2b	3	0	0	0		
Rowles cf	4	0	1	0		
Totals	34	1	7	1		
Hagerstown 000 001 001 001—2						
Jay County 001 000 000 000—1						
LOB — Hagerstown 5, Jay County 11. 2B — Hagerstown 1 (Williams), Jay County 1 (Goldsworthy). SB — Hagerstown 1 (Leiberman).						
	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hagerstown						
Kendall	3	2	1	1	3	2
Williams	6	4	0	0	2	8
Jay County						
Vazquez	7	3	1	1	0	3
Edwards	2	1	1	0	0	1

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys golf at Southern Wells — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball vs. Southern Wells — 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Randolph Southern — 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Southern Wells— 5 p.m.; Junior high golf vs. Bluffton — 4:30 p.m.; Junior high baseball at Daleville — 5 p.m.; Junior high softball at Delta — 5:30 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Track MAC meet at Versailles — 4:30 p.m.; Baseball vs. St. Marys Memorial — 5 p.m.; Softball sectional opener at Fairview — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)
7 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Carolina Hurricanes at New York Rangers (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Cleveland Cavaliers at Boston Celtics (TNT)
7 p.m. — MLB: Houston Astros at New York Yankees (TBS)
9:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Dallas Mavericks at Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)
9:30 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Colorado Avalanche at Dallas Stars (ESPN)

Wednesday
1:15 p.m. — MLB: New York Mets at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)
3 p.m. — UEFA Champions League: Bayern Munchen at Real Madrid (CBS)
6:40 p.m. — MLB: Arizona Diamondbacks at Cincinnati Reds (FS1)
7:30 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Boston Bruins at Florida Panthers (ESPN)
8 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Indiana Pacers at New York Knicks (TNT)
10 p.m. — NHL playoffs: Edmonton Oilers at Vancouver Canucks (ESPN)

Outing scheduled

The annual City of Portland Mayor's Golf Outing has been scheduled for Friday, June 14, at Portland Golf Club.
Registration for the event will be held from 11 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. on the day of the outing. A meal will also be provided for the four-person teams at this time. Registration is limited to the first 20 teams and must be completed by June 10 and submitted to 321 N. Meridian St., emailing mayorsoffice@thecityofportland.net or calling (260) 726-9395.
Golfing will begin with a shotgun start at noon. Those interested can also sponsor the

event. It cost \$150 to sponsor a hole, \$200 to sponsor a team and a meal or \$300 for to sponsor a team, a meal and hole sponsorship.
Race coming up
The Monroe Lions 5K Run/Walk is the next race set to take place in the Adams County Challenge Series.
It will take place at 8:15 a.m. on May 11 at the east side of Adams Central School.
Registration for the race is \$20 on race day and female participants will receive a plant in honor of Mother's Day.
For more information, contact Alan Arnold by emailing him at pamalarn@myfibersolution.com or by calling (260) 216-1101.

Local notes

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Bubp Exhibition Hall at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
May 11th, 2024
9:30 A. M.
ANTIQUE - PRIMITIVES - OLD COLLECTORS ITEMS
Alladin Jadeite lamp; butter presses; coffee grinders; Alladin shades and chimneys; big wheel ion tricycle; Shirley Temple Dolls; cast iron crust roller Crescent stove; cast iron engine; flat iron; military patches and buttons; John Deere pull type combine; New Ferguson tractor with box; 1964 Reds All Star game program; cast iron horse wagons; Wagner child's small skillet and tea kettle; cast iron Fordson tractor with plow; cast iron Hubler steam engine; LARGE ASSORTMENT OF JEWELRY; 1898 Auglaize Co atlas; Tonka log wagon and grain hauler; HAM RADIOS AND CB'S; cast iron skillets; cast iron seats; and many other items not listed.
AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. day of auction for preview.
Richard Stachler
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer
AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
May 13th, 2024
5:30 P. M.
VEHICLES - GOLF CARTS - MISCELLANEOUS
2018 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor SUV 196,137 miles; 2017 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor SUV 187,691 miles; 2006 Ford F250 Truck 55,925 miles; 2002 Ford 3DC Truck (retired ambulance) 118,725 miles; (3) EZ Go Golf carts; Flatbed trailer (no title); (2) typewriter desks; 1 large drafting table; and other items not listed.
Jay County Government
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer
AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112

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1326 hours. '93 Dodge Dakota V6 engine. 1976 350 Chevy Engine 4 bolt main with transfer case. Ford 390 big block Engine with C-6 trans. '85 Chevy 350 Engine with 400 turbo trans. Troybilt and Huskee rear tine tillers. Stihl battery operated weed eater. Magna Force 5 horse power twin stage air compressor. Sandblasting cabinet. Snap-on Freon machine. 10" Delta table saw.
ANTIQUES — FURNITURE - MISC
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NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION ESTATE NO. 38C01-2404-EU-000013 In the Jay Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana: Notice is hereby given that JEFFERY W. HAMMOND was on 5-2-2024 appointed Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF MARY JANE HAMMOND, deceased, who died on January 11, 2024. All persons having claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months after the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claim will be forever barred. Dated at Portland, Indiana, on 5-2-2024.
JON A. EADS, Clerk
Jay Circuit Court
NICHOLAS J. BAUMGARTNER
Attorney for Estate
Attorney No. 34502-02
BAUMGARTNER ATTORNEYS PC
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Jay girls win ACAC title over Woodlan, see story below

FRHS softball faces Fairview in sectional today, see Sports on tap

Sports

Patriots can't pull off upset

Class 2A No. 1 Hagerstown sweeps Jay County in pair games with extra innings

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

The Patriots led the Tigers for nearly three innings. They hung with them for eight total. They just couldn't find a way to score late as the game slipped away. The Jay County High School baseball team lost a nine-inning contest to the Class 2A No. 1 Hagerstown Tigers in the first game of a double header on Saturday. The Patriots also dropped game two by a score of 11-6.

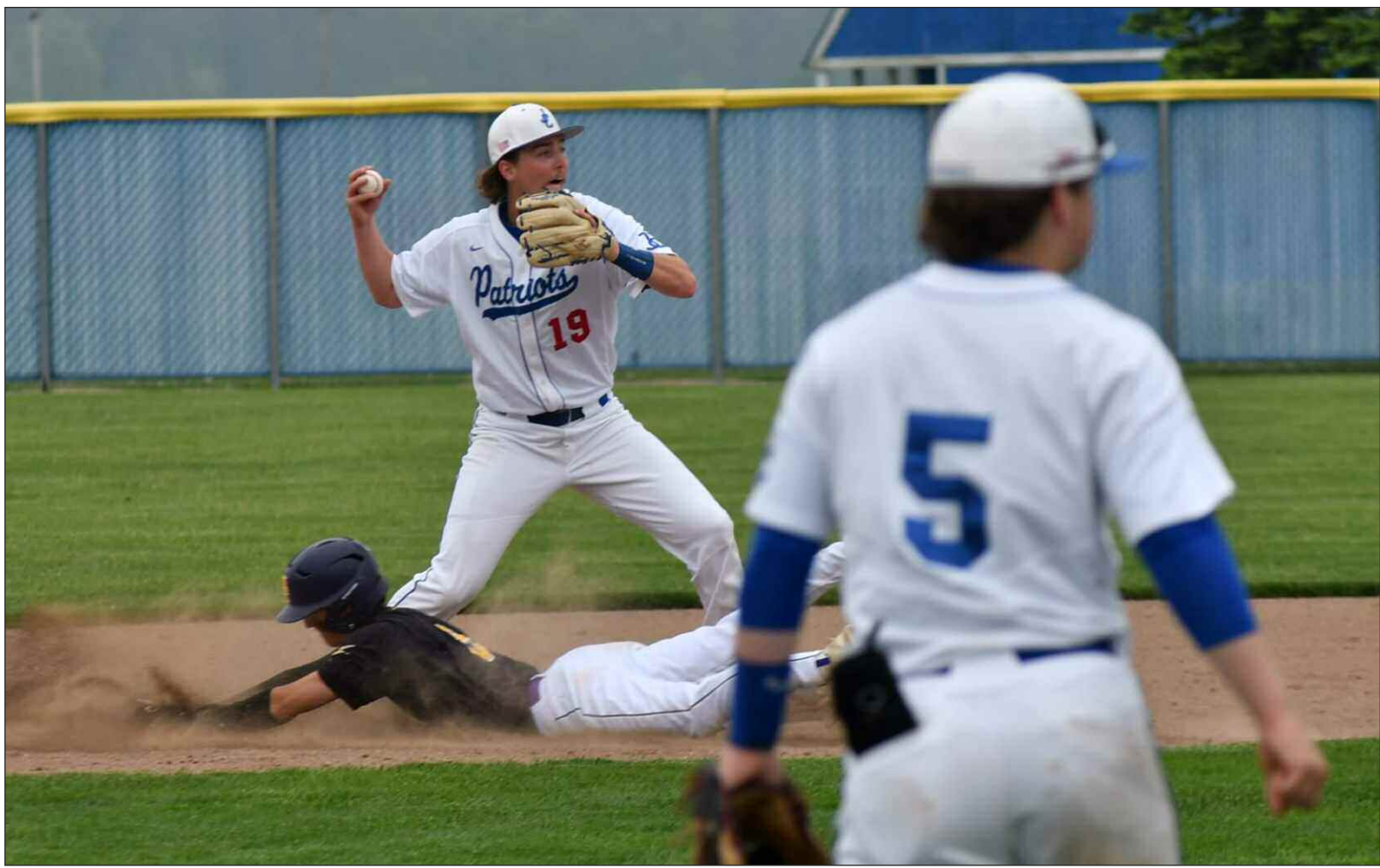
"I thought our guys battled really well," JCHS coach Todd Farr said. "(Hagerstown is) a really good baseball team. That's why they're ranked.

"We were right there. We've got to make some plays and clean a couple things up and I think we win that ball game."

The Patriots (9-9) got a great game out of Zedrian Vazquez on the mound, but a couple of slip ups allowed a run to score in the sixth inning. Through the first five innings, the junior only allowed three baserunners - Cole Tracy on a hit-by-pitch, Ethan Campbell on a single to right field and later on an error.

"He just locates the ball really well and when his offspeed stuff is on, man he's really good." Farr said. "He's tough to battle against and he's going to keep guys off balance."

In the sixth, Vazquez got the first batter to fly out to center field. Out of the ninth spot in the lineup, Ben Williams smacked a double to right field and later reached third on a wild pitch. Collin Beaty struck out after a seven-pitch at bat, Tracy pulled through with a hot shot that forced third baseman Parker Nichols to dive on



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School shortstop Sam Myers tries to turn a double play in the first game of a doubleheader against Class 2A No. 1 Hagerstown on Saturday. The Patriots dropped both games of the doubleheader only after forcing extra innings against the Tigers.

the line to stop. By the time Nichols' throw reached first base, Tracy reached the bag and Williams scored.

No more runs crossed, but the damage was done as Jay County needed to score in the next two innings to avoid extra innings against Hagerstown (18-1).

The Patriots had opportunities with runners in scoring position both innings, but couldn't send home the winning run either time.

JCHS loaded the bases in the sixth with two outs, but the inning ended on a nice stop by Campbell at third base and threw Grant Wendel out.

In the fifth, Jackson Edwards reached on a single to center and moved into scoring position on a sacrifice bunt by Drew Schenenaour (the second out of the inning). The Tigers intentionally walked Sam Myers, which paid off as Nichols flew out to first baseman Wyatt Burris.

Edwards came in to relieve Vazquez in the eighth and faced the minimum, but an error by Leighton Brown in left field put the winning run on second base. A subsequent single by Burris scored Kayne Ervin to give the Tigers a 2-1 lead.

See Patriots page 7

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Frozen Marinated Chicken Breasts	\$3.99/lb	Rump Roasts	\$5.69

Girls claim ACAC title

BLUFFTON — The Patriot girls finished three points shy of the Warriors for the top spot at the conference meet last year.

Despite losing a state competitor, the Patriots wouldn't repeat the same fate and a school record was set along the way.

The Jay County High School girls track team's 122 points topped the Woodlan Warriors to earn the Allen County Athletic Conference meet championship on Friday night. The boys also competed, fourth place with 90.5 points.

Woodlan finished as the runner-up in the girls competition with 116.5 points and was the only team to finish within 10 points of Jay County.

Host Bluffton dominated the boys competition with 175 points. Second place ended up being a closely contested match with Heritage earning the spot with 97 points, while South Adams (92) and Jay County trailed behind.

In total, the Patriots took the top spot in seven events at the meet.

Matilda Mende, Jenna Dues, Ariel Beiswanger and Morgan DeHoff ran the 4x100-meter relay and set a new school record with a time of 50.87 seconds. Abby Arnold, Chelsea Rains, Dawn Ogden and Lisa McKee set the previous record in 2000.

Mende and Dues earned individual ACAC titles as well.

Mende took the top spot in the 100 dash with a time of 12.83 seconds to beat out Dues for the top spot.

Dues' time of 27.1 seconds in the 200 dash beat out Woodlan's Grace Gabner (27.29) and Beiswanger (27.89).

The only other individual championship for the girls went to Mya Kunkler in the high jump. She cleared the 4 foot, 10 mark on her first attempt, to surpass Molly Muhlenkamp and Alexis Smith of Woodlan.

The 4x400 relay team of Aixa Lopez, Kunkler, Cash Hollowell and Makinsey Murphy finished first in 4 minutes, 21.19 seconds.

The boy's only individual title came from Adam Alig. The JCHS junior ran a time of 15.58 seconds to set a new career best and capture first place in the 110 hurdles.

Alig also ran the third leg of the 4x100 relay team that took first place. Gabe Pinkerton, Caden Gambill and Garrett Hidy joined him to put out a time of 44.92 seconds.

The boys also claimed one second-place finish and four third-place finishes. The girls earned three of each.

Jay softball's offense explodes

ELWOOD — The Patriots found an offensive spark on Thursday to bring home their first conference win. That spark turned into a flame over the weekend as the Patriots' offense found fire for a pair of wins.

Jay County High School's softball team scored more than 10 runs in both of their games on Saturday at the Lady Panthers Classic in a 21-11 win over the host Elwood Panthers and an 11-7 victory over the Eastern Comets.

The Patriots (8-4) trailed Elwood (4-11) by three runs before they rattled off 10 runs in the fifth inning.

The middle of the order powered the offense in the game as Jaeylnn Lykins collected five hits, including a home run and a double, to drive in four runs.

Local roundup

Jozey Shimp and Mady Fraley both pushed four runs across the plate as well - Shimp with a double and three singles and Fraley with two triples.

Carley Trinidad earned the win as she tossed three innings of relief.

Trinidad and Hallie Schwieterman fueled the offensive production in the win against Eastern (10-7). Each had three RBIs with the former earning four hits and the latter securing three including a two-RBI triple in the fifth inning.

Mallory Winner manned the circle in the second game, going the distance while surrendering seven runs on seven hits and three walks.

Indians draw Tigers

The OHSAA announced the sectional and district matchups on Saturday afternoon.

The Fort Recovery baseball team received the sixth seed in the tournament, and will host No. 11 seed Waynesfield-Goshen in the opener of the Division IV Northwest 3 sectional tournament at 5 p.m. on May 14.

The Tigers (7-8) only have one game left on their regular season to be played today at Ada, while the Indians (7-8) have five more games slated before the postseason.

See Roundup page 7

Mustard Potato Salad	\$2.99/lb
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