

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

Site announced



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition announced Wednesday the location of the new recovery home at 422 W. Votaw St., Portland. The house, donated by IU Health Jay, will be expanded and renovated to serve as a sober living facility for folks in recovery.

Drug prevention coalition and IU Health Jay unveil partnership for new sober living facility

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

The planned recovery residence has a home.

Its location will be donated by the hospital.

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition and IU Health Jay announced a partnership Wednesday for the new sober living facility, which is planned for the house at 422 W. Votaw St., Portland. IU Health Jay has agreed to donate the property to Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition for the project.

“This partnership exemplifies the positive outcomes that can be achieved when organizations come together to support our community’s well-being,” said Kimbra

Reynolds, executive director at Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, in a press release. “(It) underscores the commitment of all organizations involved to address the opioid epidemic and promote health equity and wellness in Jay County.”

Jay County Opioid Settlement Taskforce preliminarily selected a Redkey house as a potential spot for a sober living facility in December. Jay County Commissioners at that time approved a \$35,000 request from National Opioid Settlement dollars to conduct a feasibility study on the home and put down earnest money. They later rescinded that decision in response to backlash from Redkey

residents, who cited a lack of amenities and resources as well as safety concerns regarding the facility.

The task force pulled its offer on the Redkey house and had been looking for a different location since then.

Reynolds explained Wednesday that the property along Votaw Street had been a spot the task force considered previously. After the task force stepped away from the Redkey house, they reconsidered the Portland location. One phone call and one meeting later, the wheels started turning.

“There is a great need for this service in our community, and the location is ideal,” said IU

Health Jay chief operating officer and chief nursing officer Christina Schemenaur in a press release. “Residents will have easy access to local healthcare services along with community services. This will benefit not only Portland but surrounding communities.”

Reynolds pointed out the location’s proximity to the hospital, as well as Meridian Health Services, Haynes Park, Walmart and employment opportunities. She also noted the new walking path along Votaw Street.

“All the development that the city and county have been doing, it falls in line with everything else to help bring good services to people,” she said.

Plans call for a facility designated for males in recovery, serving between 15 and 17 residents in a roughly 5,000-square-foot space. That includes one house manager who is in long-term recovery and oversees the facility at all times.

Currently, the house sits at approximately 3,728 square feet. Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition plans to renovate the house, including adding on more square footage, reconfiguring bedrooms and communal living spaces, updating safety features, improving accessibility and ensuring compliance with state guidelines.

See **Announced** page 2

State to get \$8.8 million

By WHITNEY DOWNARD
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

The next round of opioid settlement funding distributed by the Office of the Attorney General will total \$8.8 million, a portion of the roughly \$925 million secured so far across various lawsuits.

Over the next two decades, tens of billions of dollars will flow into state coffers across the country. It’s all from the National Opioid Settlement, a court agreement between companies deemed responsible for the deadly, life-disrupting impact of the addictive drug and the localities bearing the brunt of the devastation.

“Hoosiers have seen far too many of our loved ones suffer and even die from opioid addiction and overdose,” Attorney General Todd Rokita said in a release. “Misconduct by drug companies helped start this epidemic in the first place, and it has played a large role in perpetuating the crisis. We can’t bring back lost lives, but we can hold these companies accountable and enable communities to use settlement funds on prevention, treatment and enforcement programs.”

Payments started going out in December of 2022, with more than \$107 million in the first wave to the state and 648 local units of government. But municipalities have so far been slow to spend the funds, weighing the most effective way to deploy the monies.

In the release, Rokita’s office said a portion of this round of settlement funding came from a one-time payment from Publicis Health “to resolve investigations into the global marketing and communication firm’s role in the prescription opioid crisis. Publicis helped Purdue Pharma and other opioid manufacturers market and sell opioids.”

Redkey council hears option for recording

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Redkey Town Council heard an option to fulfill a state requirement for livestreaming meetings.

Council heard from Craig Frazee of Portland’s Dynamic Business Solutions web designs during its meeting Thursday.

Frazee explained that Indiana House Bill 1167 goes into effect July 1, 2025. The new law requires Indiana governmental agencies to “provide on a publicly accessible platform: (1) live transmissions of public meetings and (2) an archive of copies of the live transmissions with links to any meeting agendas, minutes, or memoranda.” If the entity does not have internet capabilities for live transmissions, it must record meetings and store those recordings for at least 90 days.

Currently, internet is not available at the park cabin in Redkey where town council meets each month.

Frazee noted his business is able to provide the equipment

Dynamic Business Solutions will provide quote for town

needed to fulfill the requirements. He suggested a 360-degree video camera that also captures audio and sits on a tripod in the middle of the room. It automatically focuses on whoever is speaking. (Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council utilize the same device to livestream and record their meetings.)

To get set up with the necessary equipment, he continued, would cost between \$10,000 to \$15,000. (The camera also needs to be hooked up to a laptop with additional video storage.)

“When I’m talking with cities and towns, I’m advising them to not delay terribly long because we are finding that some of the

equipment ... lead times are starting to stretch out,” he said. “So, it’s a good idea to consider and make a decision relatively quick so we can get that equipment on order so we’re not right down at the wire trying to beat a deadline.”

Once purchased, he said, the equipment would take about six weeks to be delivered.

Frazee noted his company is working on a proposal catered to Redkey. He told council he would provide a quote to the town in the next week.

Also Thursday, council introduced its newest member, Gavin Grady. He was recently selected by Jay County Republican Party

chair Jenae Blasdel to fill the seat left vacant by council vice president Chance Retter, who resigned April 25. Grady appeared via video call during the meeting.

In related news, council agreed to re-elect board officers, designating Brenda Beaty as president — council member Floyd Life abstained from the vote for Beaty — and Grady as vice president. (Dave Dudelston, who had been serving as president, was not at the meeting.)

Beaty suggested re-electing officers Thursday.

“We’ve had a breakdown of communication, and we’ve had a resignation,” she said.

Also, council decided not to allow police officer Chris Boggs to drive the town’s police vehicle to his home in Muncie after his shift. Boggs had been using it as a take-home vehicle, according to Beaty.

Boggs left the meeting after the vote and did not return.

Council also tabled a proposal from council member “Watermellon” Jim Phillips to offer

each Redkey household one month of free water, wastewater and trash services for their birthday. Beaty suggested holding off on a decision at least until the state has completed its audit on the town’s finances in the next few months.

In other business, council:

- Hired John Brooke of Muncie to serve as the town’s new attorney. Former town attorney Wes Schemenaur resigned from the position in mid April. Brooks will charge \$350 for attending meetings and a \$195 hourly rate for other work. Maura Hoff of Muncie also submitted a bid for the service at a flat \$245 hourly fee.

- Heard the county’s \$1 million owner-occupied rehabilitation program — it will help residents pay for home improvements such as replacing a roof, water heater or heating, ventilation and air conditioning unit, doing electrical work or making a home more accessible — will be open from May 28 through June 28.

See **Redkey** page 2

Deaths

Joan Collins, 67, Fort Recovery
Walter Howell, 93, Muncie
Christopher Ames, 58, Portland
Demarius Ruble, 96, Pennington
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 75 degrees Friday. The low was 62.

Skies will be partly cloudy today with a slight chance of showers and a high of 80. Sunday’s high will climb into the mid 80s under mostly sunny skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County High School’s production of “High School Musical” continues with shows at 7 p.m. tonight and 2 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$7 and will be available at the door.

Coming up

Tuesday — Photos from Fort Recovery High School’s graduation ceremony.

Wednesday — Coverage of next week’s Jay School Board meeting.

Thursday — Results from the Jay County softball sectional opener.



Obituaries

Joan Collins

Feb. 20, 1957-May 15, 2024
Joan Catherine Collins, 67, of Fort Recovery, Ohio, passed away on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at St. Rita Medical Center in Lima, Ohio.

She was born on Feb. 20, 1957, in Mercer County, to the late George and Vera (Nead) Walls.

Joan is survived by her husband of 36 years, Marvin Collins, whom she married on May 15, 1987; her daughter, Kimberly (Shaun) Williams of Wendelin, Ohio; her step-grandchildren, Hunter and Liliana; and her in-laws, Mike Collins of Portland, Pat (Mike) Muhlenkamp of Portland, Tom (Berta) Collins of Ansonia, Ohio, Don Collins of Coldwater, Ohio, Anna (Ed) Gaskill of Portland, Bill (Carol) Collins of Ohio, Mary Collins of Celina, Ohio, Charlie (Jackie) Collins of



Collins

Ossian, Indiana, and Brenda Walker of Fort Recovery.

In addition to her parents, Joan was preceded in death by her sister, Marilyn (Fred) Fellers; and her in-law, Richard Collins.

Joan was a 1975 graduate of Fort Recovery High School. She worked for Vonderhaar Meat Market in Fort Recovery for many years until she retired. She enjoyed going to the American Legion and socializing with others. Joan was known for her love of soap operas, Elvis Presley and being with her family. Joan was easy going and had a gentle and loving heart.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, Fort Recovery, with Father Michael Kapolka celebrating. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery.

Guests may visit with Joan's family on Monday, May 20, 2024, from 4 to 7 p.m. and again on Tuesday from 9 to 10 a.m. at

Brockman Boeckman Funeral Home, Fort Recovery.

Memorial contributions may be given to Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church.

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

Walter Howell

Feb. 22, 1931-May 14, 2024
Walter Ray Howell Jr., 93, Muncie, passed away Tuesday afternoon, May 14, 2024, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital.



Howell

He was born Sunday, Feb. 22, 1931, in Portland, Indiana, the son of Walter R. and Mabel F. (Richardson) Howell.

Walter grew up in the Portland area where he farmed and later worked as a draftsman. He never met a stranger and always had a joke for you.

Walter enjoyed going to flea markets and meeting his buddies

at Burger King for a coffee. He retired from Overmyer Mould Company as a draftsman. Walter was a member of the Meeker Avenue Church of Christ.

Survivors include his daughters, Belinda Myers, Becky Howell, Connie (husband: Gary) Oyler and Karen Corder; sister Esther Barton; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; and many, many, friends and his church family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Walter and Mabel Howell; his wife of 65 years, Patricia Howell; three brothers; two sisters; and a granddaughter.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 21, 2024, at the Meeker Avenue Church of Christ, 3109 S. Meeker Ave., Muncie, Indiana, with minister Jim Crall officiating. Burial will follow in Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Daleville.

Family and friends may call from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Tues-

day at the Meeker Avenue Church of Christ.

His arrangements have been entrusted to Elm Ridge Funeral Home.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at elmridgefuneralhome.com for the family.

Christopher "Chris" A. Ames, Portland, Oct. 9, 1965-May 9, 2024. Graveside services will be held at a later date.

Demarius C. Ruble, Pennville, Dec. 28, 1927-May 16, 2024. Services will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac				
Sunday 5/19	Monday 5/20	Tuesday 5/21	Wednesday 5/22	Thursday 5/23
84/63	85/65	85/68	83/60	75/55
Sunday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high in the low 80s.	Sunny skies are expected Monday, when the high will be in the mid 80s.	Mostly sunny skies on Tuesday with a chance of storms. The high may be 85.	There's a 50% chance of thunderstorms on Wednesday.	Thursday has a slight chance of thunderstorms. Otherwise, mostly sunny.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 5-4-8 Daily Four: 9-1-2-4 Quick Draw: 6-7-13-15-17-19-20-23-24-35-38-40-53-55-59-60-63-74-75-76	Pick 5: 5-7-2-1-4 Evening Rolling Cash: 3-4-11-19-34 Jackpot: \$110,000
Ohio Midday Pick 3: 5-1-4 Pick 4: 3-3-1-9	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$77 million
	Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$393 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.41 June corn4.41 Wheat5.41	June beans12.16 Wheat6.11
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.48 June corn4.53 July corn.....4.43	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.32 June corn4.34 Beans12.15 June beans12.18 Wheat6.01
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.43 June corn4.48 Beans12.16	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.36 June corn4.39 Beans11.88 June beans11.98 Wheat5.86

Today in history

In 1973, the Bryant High School baseball team defeated the Pennville Bulldogs 12-10. The Owls, who got three hits apiece from Tom Hoehamer, Mike Arnold and Ed Wellman, scored three times in the top of the sixth inning.

In 1998, Jay School Board hired Joanne Willer as the school corporation's new special education cooperative director. She previously served as a consultant for the school corporation.

In 2013, Keenan James ripped a line drive over left fielder Landon Harris of Heritage to bring Jason Houston home for

a 1-0, walk-off win for host Jay County in the championship game of the Patriot Invitational.

In 2021, Elisa Parazzi and Kinsey Shannon each won sectional championships for the Jay County High School girls track team, which was third in the meet at Delta. Parazzi hit a career high of 5 feet, 6 inches, in the high jump while Shannon won the 100 dash in 12.97 seconds.

In 2022, Kay Rohrer received the 2021 Jack Cole Award for Volunteerism at The Portland Foundation's annual meeting.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.	7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.	Wednesday 5 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, high school, 400 E. Butler St.	6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Redkey ...

Continued from page 1
Applications will be available at Redkey Town Hall, Dunkirk's city building, the auditor's office at Jay County Courthouse, community coordinator Nate Kimball's office at the Community Resource Center in Portland and online at jaycounty.net. (All applications must be filled out and turned in on paper in person.) There is a limit of \$25,000 per household, with applications being handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Approved an agreement with Gary Fraley to mow town properties after learning Tim Kesler has resigned from the job. Kesler and Fraley both submitted bids for the work, with Fraley's coming in at \$3

less at \$395 per mow. (The town rejected bids in March, with three council members agreeing to mow for the town at that time. In April, they decided to hire Kesler.)

Learned Ohio Valley Gas will be replacing all steel lines throughout the town over the next six months. Plans are to move forward with scheduled paving in the fall after the majority of the gas company's work.

Addressing a question about the town's policy to cover one water adjustment each year for residents, council members confirmed that adjustment could be used to fill a swimming pool but noted if the resident has a leak later in the year, it would not be covered.

OK'd advertising with The Com-

mercial Review to hire a part-time utility worker and a request from Tadeusz Kolodka to vacate an alley between Harrison and Butler streets connecting Grandview Avenue and Wayne Street.

Tabled giving Susan Pierce a raise. Pierce cleans the park cabin for the town and is paid a flat \$100 monthly for the service, regardless of how many times she cleans the cabin. Council agreed to invite Pierce to its next meeting to discuss the issue.

Appointed Grady to oversee the park department and Life to oversee the police department.

Made \$660.60 in water bill adjustments.

Approved \$56,122.77 in claims.

Capsule Reports

Turning accident
A Portland woman and two children sustained injuries after she drove into the path of a Portland man's vehicle at the intersection of Indiana 67 and Tyson Road about 4:41 p.m. Thursday.

Kristin N. McKee, 39, was driving a 2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee west on Tyson Road when she stopped at its intersection with the highway.

At the same time,

David A. Grayson, 45, was driving his 2005 Chevrolet Suburban south on Indiana 67. He told police McKee proceeded into the intersection and stopped before beginning to turn west. Grayson said he tried to stop but wasn't able to avoid hitting McKee's vehicle, causing it to go off the west side of the road and flip on its side.

McKee was trapped in her vehicle and sustained

bruising on her face. Passenger Asher Sharf, 7, sustained a bruise on his head, and passenger Taven McKee, 14, complained of back pain.

McKee was cited with an infraction for driving with a suspended license and failing to yield the right-of-way to oncoming traffic.

Both vehicles were towed, with damage estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000.

Announced ...

Continued from page 1
Bruns Consulting has started preliminary work on a feasibility study on the property.

Hopes are for the recovery home to be operational within a year and a half.

The sober living facility's intake policy once opened will include an extensive application and interview process, drug screening — each new resident must be sober and have already gone through a detox — and a trial period.

New residents will have their rent supplemented by Recovery Works dollars through Indiana Family and Social Services Administration. Once employed, residents must pay weekly rent. They'll also be expected to follow the facility's rules and complete chores.

Backlash from local residents in December led Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition to seek more community input in the process, as it hosted community forums Jan. 24 and April 18 as well as a conversation with teenagers regarding addiction and recovery on April 16.

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition launched a naming contest April 29 for

the new facility. It announced Wednesday the "Name It to Claim It" deadline has been extended to May 24.

Residents of Jay, Blackford, Delaware and Adams counties are encouraged to submit entries to name the house at bit.ly/3URgMEp. Its winner will receive \$250 and determine the recovery residence's name.

"I really think that the community pulling together on this project has been key," said Reynolds, noting three local residents have joined the task force since its initial community forum.

Reynolds shared hopes to offer sponsorship opportunities for community members who would like to donate toward the cause, such as giving naming rights to a room or outdoor seating. Details for that part of the project are still in the works.

She noted that Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition is available for those who have questions or concerns about the project.

"We're not a closed door," she said. "We want people to ask questions. If people have fears, come talk to us."

SERVICES

Today

Bedwell, June: 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Sills, Marvin: noon, Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Sunday

Howell, Betty: 3 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Paxson, Bruce: 7 p.m., Hogenkamp Funeral Home, 715 E. Main St., Coldwater, Ohio.

Monday

Ruble, Demarius: 11 a.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Prescott, Roger: 7 p.m., Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St., Portland.

Tuesday

Collins, Joan: 10:30 a.m., Mary Help of Christians Catholic Church, 403 Sharpshurg Road, Fort Recovery.

Howell, Walter: 1 p.m., Meeker Avenue Church of Christ, 3109 S. Meeker Ave., Muncie.

Wallace, Don: 6 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

June 15

Weaver, Larry: 10:30 a.m., Akron Community Center, 815 Rural St., Akron, Indiana.

Service listings provided by

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Photo provided

Mighty donation

Mighty Marvels Optimist Club made a \$1,200 donation May 6 to the Pregnancy Care Center of Jay County. Pictured from left are club members Cory LeMaster, Ron Smith, Sam Glessner and club president Michelle Hostetler, Pregnancy Care Center executive director Lisa Peterson and club members Randy Lucas, Kurtis Atkinson and Kameron Woodbury.

Food banks delivering via drone

By AMBER GAUDET
The Dallas Morning News
Tribune News Service

DALLAS — Some residents of the Arlington, Texas, area will receive food deliveries via an electric drone or four-wheeled robot as part of a pilot project beginning this fall.

Arlington and its partners will make 300 deliveries of supplies from the Tarrant Area Food Bank across two two-week demonstration periods using an Aerialoop drone and Clevon autonomous vehicle, which is smaller than a car. The project, funded by a \$780,000 Department of Energy grant and around \$820,000 from partners, is the first step toward determining

the viability of autonomous delivery of critical goods like food and medicine on a larger scale.

"We have 8.2 million residents within the Dallas-Fort Worth region and we're growing at a million people every seven years," said Michael Morris, director of the Regional Transportation Council at the North Central Texas Council of Governments. "We have to eliminate food deserts. We have to create an opportunity to deliver medicine when our children are very ill and we can't even get out of the house to get them. We've got to be able to get access to medicine when we're dealing with situations like

COVID and other types of initiatives.

"Technology is delivering real solutions to real problems."

Tarrant Area Food Bank already makes deliveries to residents with mobility issues or who lack transportation, but have requests for more than they can currently serve via delivery.

"We can only serve so many people with the limited logistics that we have and adding this additional resource helps us do that," said home deliveries coordinator Sasha Kehoe.

The project will target those residents and determine which are the best candidates to test autonomous delivery based on

Woman's help comes at a toll

DEAR ABBY: My mom always catered to my dad when I was growing up. I was left to pretty much raise myself. Their drinking and social life were their priorities. I ended up pregnant at 16 and married to an abusive 21-year-old man, and I was divorced at 17.

After that, I was on my own. Mom never helped other than writing an occasional check so my situation wouldn't become her problem. She always blamed Dad for her absence in my life and my kids' lives, so when he died suddenly four years ago, I foolishly thought we'd finally have this great relationship.

Since his death, Mom's focus has been on trying to find a new man and hanging out with anyone who will party with her. Because she's financially secure, they end up taking advantage of her. If I try to talk to her about it, she gets angry and defensive, which is her go-to when confronted with anything.

Mom has had a stroke and has many health issues. When I get the call that she needs help, I take off work, do whatever I can to help and get her well again, only for her to go back to her selfish ways.

Am I wrong for feeling that it's not healthy for me to continue this cycle? I tried to get her to see a counselor. She went to one session and quit because she didn't like the things they were saying. She hates the truth and bends it regularly to fit her agenda. Any advice would be appreciated. — BROKEN IN ILLINOIS

DEAR BROKEN: Your mother's health problems are going to continue. If the time off from work you have been taking is having a negative financial impact on you, you will have to weigh whether trying to please your self-centered mother (and possibly inheriting whatever is left of her estate when she passes) or con-

Dear Abby



centrating on your career is more practical for your own future. I can't make that decision for you. She has the money to hire someone if she needs help.

DEAR ABBY: My husband has a 36-year-old daughter from a one-night stand. For the last two years, she has been wanting to meet his family, aunts, uncles. She has met them all except for our own children — her half-siblings. Our children are adults and don't want a relationship with her. She wasn't part of their life when they were growing up, and now she's calling their father Dad. I feel awkward as well, knowing my husband knew about her and wanted nothing to do with her when she was younger. His family has accepted her and is pressuring our children to accept her and let her hang out. Are we wrong for not wanting to act like one big family? — AWKWARD IN TEXAS

DEAR AWKWARD: If there is a victim in this scenario it is the daughter your husband denied for so long. Although the situation isn't something you are thrilled with, the young woman IS a part of the family. This isn't the 1950s. The circumstances of her birth are not a reason for her to be ostracized.

Point out to your children that their half-sister IS a relative, and they should give her a chance. If they do, they may be pleasantly surprised to find that they have things in common.

Community Calendar

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

Today

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE — 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.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will

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

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

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

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Monday 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.

Tuesday

COMPASSIONATE CONNECTIONS RECOV-

ERY 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.

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

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.

FRIENDS OF JAY COUNTY LIBRARY — Will meet at 6 p.m. the third Tuesday of each month at the library.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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

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WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**For Jay County Elementary Schools
May 20-24**

Monday: Main Entrees: Baked mozzarella cheese sticks
Alternate Entrees: Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick
Sides for all meals: Baked shoestring fries

Tuesday Main Entrees: Soft beef whole grain tacos, shredded lettuce, shredded cheddar cheese, salsa
Alternate Entrees: Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick
Sides for all meals: Seasoned black beans

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Breaded chicken drumstick, dinner roll **Alternate Entrees:** Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick
Sides for all meals: Mashed potatoes

Thursday: Main Entrees: Beef hot dog on whole wheat bun
Alternate Entrees: Build your own pizza fun lunch, chicken salad with cheese, breadstick
Sides for all meals: Blue raspberry lemon frozen sidekicks

Friday: No School

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Education should adapt to times

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Services
The Indiana Department of Education's proposal to create more flexible requirements for graduation is a boon to future high school students and aims to prepare students for options other than college.

The diploma is presented at commencement ceremonies with the state's current graduation pathways. It would also reflect principles outlined in the Indiana Gradu-

Guest Editorial

ates Prepared to Succeed dashboard, which include career and postsecondary readiness, work ethic and financial literacy. Under this proposal, students could pursue an Indiana GPS

diploma — a more customized version of the current diploma — or an Indiana GPS Diploma Plus. The latter would require additional coursework to earn a specific vocational credential as well as a work-based learning experience. Concern has been expressed that the proposal could contribute to an already significant decline in college enrollment in the state. According to the Indiana Commission for Higher Educa-

tion, about 53% of the state's graduating seniors went straight to college in 2021, the lowest rate in at least 15 years. However, if the college enrollment rate is declining, it makes sense to equip high school students with alternative paths to success. We should be more concerned with the graduation rate of college students. If a student doesn't particularly want to go to college, it's counterproductive to push them into enrollment when they

might drop out or get saddled with student loans and a degree they didn't want. College is just one of several options for graduating seniors. Others include trade school, military service or joining the workforce. Those working in trades are no less important than those working jobs that require higher education, and students — future workers — are important no matter their future aspirations.

Public investment can ease the crunch

By **LEA WOODS** and **JULIE KASHEN**
OtherWords

Many American families are struggling to pay for child care, with the average price for licensed providers now nearly \$11,000 a year. These high prices can be a huge barrier for workers, particularly women, forcing many to cut back on hours or drop out of the workforce entirely.

A new federal program aims to help break down these barriers by requiring corporations receiving government subsidies to submit plans to meet the child care needs of their workforce.

So far, this requirement only applies to companies receiving subsidies of more than \$150 million through the 2022 CHIPS and Science Act. But this initiative could become a model for using the power of the public purse to expand child care options in manufacturing communities.

The CHIPS Act's main objective is to double U.S. production of semiconductor chips by the end of the decade, creating thousands of good jobs for a diverse workforce. To qualify for a significant slice of this historic bill's \$39 billion in subsidies, corporations must submit plans to provide child care services for their manufacturing and construction workers.

The semiconductor manufacturing workforce is projected to grow by 33 percent over the next decade, but there are not enough qualified workers to fill these new positions. Companies can address this gap by recruiting, training, and retaining workers who are underrepresented in the sector, including women. The CHIPS child care requirement is a recognition that supportive services are critical to achieving that goal.

Ideally, CHIPS grantees will partner with state and local governments, community-based organizations, and labor unions to develop child care plans that meet local needs and ensure quality wages and working conditions for early educators. Developing community benefit agreements that integrate the companies' workforce commitments with child care strategies and community feedback is one possible approach.

Poorly implemented plans could exacerbate inequities in the child care sector. For instance, if companies don't expand child care supply in communities with semiconductor production facilities, the

Guest Opinion

increased demand will drive up tuition prices and reduce child care availability for local families.

Partnering exclusively with corporate child care providers could also create the risk of expanding private equity firm ownership of such services. This model has a poor track record of undermining children's safety, early educators' wages, and community- and home-based child care providers.

At the Century Foundation, we've been closely monitoring two CHIPS grantees — Intel and Micron — and seeing some hopeful signs.

In Oregon, where Intel is planning to expand one of their facilities, a new law engages community stakeholders and combines state funds with CHIPS grantee contributions to expand child care capacity near semiconductor factories.

Micron's preparations for a new plant in New York have involved working with state and community leaders to grow supply by offering on-site child care and by funding a program to help New Yorkers start their own home-based child care programs.

Micron will also offer workers child care subsidies, which, when paired with its plans to build supply, can make child care more affordable without driving up costs for local families.

If well implemented, the CHIPS program will demonstrate that public investment in both physical and care infrastructure are key to growing our economy. Our ultimate goal remains guaranteed child care for every family. All children deserve the opportunity to be cared for in settings that allow them to thrive, and parents need the peace of mind that their children are safe and nurtured while they're on the job.

.....
Woods is a senior policy associate in the women's economic justice department at The Century Foundation.

Kashen is a senior fellow and Director for Women's Economic Justice at The Century Foundation.

OtherWords is a free editorial service published by the Institute for Policy Studies.



Be honest about disinformation

By **FRANCIS WILKINSON**
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

How do you conduct a nonpartisan discussion about the integrity of election administration when one party is waging war on democratic legitimacy and the other party seeks to uphold it?

If the event I attended in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, on Wednesday night is any indication, you do it by never uttering the words "Democrat" or "Republican," and by refraining from pointing out exactly who is engaged in subversion of truth and public faith.

The event, held at a public television station studio in the shadow of the rusting hulk of Bethlehem Steel, was one of a series sponsored in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin by Keep Our Republic, a nonprofit seeking to combat the spread of misinformation and suspicion about elections. The group works with local officials and others to present factual information about local elections to increase voter confidence and counter falsehoods. Speakers in Bethlehem included a local political science professor, a retired federal judge, a representative of the Pennsylvania Secretary of State's office, and the local county executive. Each seemed to be engaged in a good-faith effort to counter propaganda.

The task, of course, is difficult. Former President Donald Trump's incessant lies about elections are now regularly echoed by a large Republican chorus. Just this week, mild-mannered South Carolina Senator and vice presidential aspirant Tim Scott joined the ranks of Republicans who refuse to commit to accepting the will of voters in November. Meanwhile, House Speaker Mike Johnson declared, "We all know, intuitively, that a lot of illegals are voting in federal elections." After years of baseless and increasingly hysterical claims of voter fraud, culminating in Trump's metastasizing "Big Lie," it seems Republican intuition will have to suffice in lieu of evidence.

Nonpartisan institutions, the news media very much included, continue to struggle with the reality that one of two major parties has mostly abandoned the democratic field. At the

Francis Wilkinson



event in Bethlehem, before a live audience of just over 50, an uninformed observer would have had few means to discern which party was attacking the integrity of US elections for partisan gain.

Former federal judge and Dickinson College President John Jones III, a Republican appointed by President George W. Bush, spoke of "illusory truth." It's a concept," he said, "where someone says something over and over and over again, and it takes on the cast of truth even though it's demonstrably untrue. We're dealing with a lot of illusory truths today, where you get this echo chamber, and things keep getting repeated and repeated and repeated," Jones said. "I think that's one of the problems with the narrative about elections — really starting in 2020."

You understand exactly what he's saying, right? But like the other speakers, Jones assiduously avoided proper nouns. Who out there is producing demonstrably untrue narratives about elections "starting in 2020," and who is repeating those lies? Best not to say.

At another point, political scientist Christopher Borick of Muhlenberg College was discussing the state's failure to process mail ballots before Election Day, which produces a backlog that extends vote counting beyond Election Day and opens the way to demagogic claims that something nefarious is taking place behind the scenes. (Since mail ballots skew Democratic, bad-faith actors pretend that a wave of Democratic votes has suddenly materialized from nowhere.) Pennsylvania Republicans resist allowing completed ballots to be processed early because they evidently prefer uncertainty and doubt. "It's politics," Borick said. Like Jones, however, Borick refrained from noting whose politics.

Would a frontal assault on Trump

& Co. falsehoods serve the honest elections cause any better than the resort to euphemism and side-stepping? It's hard to know. After all, the target audience for these events is a narrow tranche of the electorate that is neither fully wedded to MAGA lies nor fully repelled by them. Pointing out that efforts to undermine US elections are an exclusively Republican agenda might educate some but alienate others.

"The erosion of trust in our elections is widespread and occurring across the political spectrum," Keep Our Republic Executive Director Ari Mittleman said. "More than ever, in today's polarized environment, we believe a nonpartisan approach is essential for educating the public and rebuilding trust for the long term. This message can best be carried by leaders from both parties, and that is why Keep Our Republic takes that approach."

Despite the night's loaded topic, the Bethlehem event was civil, even tame. Audience questions, which were written down and passed to the event moderator, were grounded in reality. There were no displays of MAGA rebellion against the reign of fact.

Other events sponsored by Keep Our Republic have been more contentious. An event in Washington County, Wisconsin, included a resident who claimed he had witnessed "illegal democracy" in 2020 when he traveled to the state capital. It's an unnerving phrase.

There is now a small, well-funded industry, including Keep Our Republic, engaged in efforts to rebuild trust in American democracy. All those efforts and more are necessary because there is an even better-funded campaign devoted to destroying it. And while pro-democracy groups are decentralized and diffuse, the anti-democratic forces have the advantage of rallying around a single demagogue who leads a major party and spearheads their authoritarian movement. Whatever his actual name might be.

.....
Wilkinson is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering US politics and policy.

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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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5-18 CRYPTOQUIP

EXV ZVSS-PBIZB KSVFEX ZXI ZGK
G CGKEVY GE FBLVYKEGBLHBD
VSVTEYHTGS YVKHKEGBTV:
KXVYSITP IXCK.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FOR SOME REASON I AM THE TYPE OF PERSON WHO ENJOYS TERRIBLE PUNS. THAT'S JUST HOW EYE ROLL.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: B equals N

CRYPTO FUN

西 C Ω * ρ ≡ ~ * +
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to meditation. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 14 = A)

A. 9 14 20 21
Clue: Sedate

B. 12 1 9 8 7
Clue: Place attention

C. 4 1 16 14
Clue: Stretching activity

D. 25 8 15 2 22
Clue: Silent

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to laughter.

E B T R H A

Answers: breath

Guess Who?

I am a TV personality born in Washington, D.C. on May 13, 1964. While a student at Northwestern, I had an interest in drama, not comedy. I gained fame as a funnyman thanks to my work on Comedy Central alongside Jon Stewart, and eventually starred on my own show.

Answer: Stephen Colbert

FOOD FACT!

THIS FOOD IS MADE FROM A FILLED DOUGH MADE FROM CORN, WHICH IS WRAPPED IN CORN HUSKS OR BANANA LEAVES AND STEAMED.

ANSWER: TAMALE

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Celebrate
SPANISH: Celebrar
ITALIAN: Festeggiare
FRENCH: Célébrer
GERMAN: Feiern

5-20 CRYPTOQUIP

PCW UBLZYTPWZJT DJI
CBJCOB AQJ CBIDJIE TXERBIL
PRJXW LQPAOL, LWJOBL PTU
LPIJTYL: AIPC LZTYBIL.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: THE WELL-KNOWN SLEUTH WHO WAS A MASTER AT UNDERSTANDING ELECTRICAL RESISTANCE: SHERLOCK OHMS.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals P

Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS**
- Arts, customs, and behaviors of a social group
 - Person who operates something
 - With others
 - Menu items
- DOWN**
- Nation
 - A number; trio
 - Salty or spicy
 - A place one lives

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

MAY 17

- 1865: THE INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH UNION IS ESTABLISHED IN PARIS.
- 1902: GREEK ARCHAEOLOGIST VALERIOS STAIS DISCOVERS AN ANCIENT MECHANICAL ANALOG COMPUTER.
- 1954: THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT OUTLAWES RACIAL SEGREGATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

New Word

CULTURE

the customs and achievements of a particular people

MEDITATION WORD SEARCH

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

WORDS

ASHRAM
AWARENESS
BODHI
BUDDHISM
CHAKRA
CHANT
CREATIVE
DHARMA
ENERGY
ENLIGHTENMENT
GROUNDING
HINDUISM
KARMA
MANTRA
MEDITATION
MENTAL
MINDFULNESS
NIRVANA
PEACEFUL
REST
SANSKRIT
TRANQUILITY
VISUALIZATION
ZEN

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Canadian flag emblem
- Short cuts
- Pugilist's punch
- K thru 12
- Length with an elbow
- TV guide abbr.
- Spiced tea
- Part of Q.E.D.
- Mensa stats
- Hairdo
- Scat queen
- Fitzgerald
- Mao -tung
- Electronics giant
- Pinnacle

DOWN

- "Exodus" author
- Vogue rival
- Cries of discovery
- Double-date tagalong
- Bluegrass instruments
- Twistable treat
- "Murphy Brown" star
- Feeling down
- Martial art
- Pinnacle

37 Rock's Brian
38 Carte lead-in
39 Fourth person
42 Choose
44 Nudge
48 TV guide
49 Spiced tea
50 Part of Q.E.D.
51 Mensa stats
52 Hairdo
53 Scat queen
54 Mao -tung
55 Electronics giant

11 Crib occupant
20 Cause of a slip, in cartoons
22 Squandered
24 Out-spoken
25 LPs' successors
26 King, in Cannes
27 Raggedy doll
29 Ambulance VIP
30 Golf peg
31 Lawn material
35 Attention-getting call
36 Formally approve
39 Bickering
40 Cook-outs, briefly
41 Lighten
43 Ache
45 Paris airport
46 Green smoothie
47 Veggie
49 Includes in an email

Solution time: 26 mins.

A	B	S	C	A	K	Y	T	R	A	M		
A	R	T	A	L	O	E	H	O	L	A		
H	A	R	D	P	A	S	S	R	O	M	P	
	O	U	R	S		P	U	M	A	S		
J	U	N	T	A		B	Y	E	S			
O	R	G	Y		B	L	O	W	H	A	R	D
S	S	E	S	O	A	R	S		I	O	U	
H	A	R	D	W	O	R	K		E	R	M	A
		R	I	T	E		M	A	H	A	L	
C	R	E	A	M		L	A	C	E			
L	O	R	I		R	O	C	K	H	A	R	D
A	S	I	N		O	L	D	E		D	I	E
M	A	C	S		B	E	S	S		S	O	N

Yesterday's answer 5-18

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Stop, look and listen

East dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 6 5 3
♥ K 10 9 7 2
♦ A 6
♣ A

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

SOUTH
♠ Q J 10 9 2
♥ A
♦ Q 9 7 5 2
♣ J 3

The bidding:
East 1♣ South Pass West Pass North 2♣
Pass 2♦ Pass 4NT
Pass 5♦ Pass 6♣

Opening lead five of clubs.

Today's deal from a team contest shows how taking the time to try to visualize the opposing hands — instead of blithely plunging ahead with the play — can reap big dividends for declarer.

At both tables, South arrived at six spades after East had opened the bidding with one club. At one table, declarer took the club lead with dummy's ace, crossed to the ace of hearts, led the queen of spades and finessed after West followed low. East won with the king and returned a spade, and declarer

eventually lost a diamond to East's king for down one.

At the other table, South took a dim view of the chance of winning a spade finesse, given East's opening bid and the fact that only 15 high-card points were missing. So he adopted a line of play that offered a much better possibility of getting home safely.

After taking the club ace, he too led a heart to the ace followed by the spade queen. But when West followed low, South put up dummy's ace. Had the king fallen, declarer would have been home free, but the fall of the king was not really crucial to South's plan.

Abandoning spades for the moment, declarer cashed the king of hearts and ruffed a heart. A club ruff in dummy was followed by another heart ruff, establishing dummy's last heart.

This brought South to the end position he had visualized from the start. Having eliminated the hearts from East's hand and the clubs from his own hand and dummy, he now led a spade.

East won with the king but had no safe exit. If he returned a diamond, declarer would win with the queen and score the rest of the tricks, while if East returned a club, declarer would ruff in his hand and discard a diamond from dummy to produce the same result.

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

North dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 9 6
♥ 9 8 3
♦ K Q 2
♣ A 7 6 2

EAST
♠ 3
♥ K Q J 10
♦ 10 9 8 5 4
♣ 10 8 4

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

The bidding:
North Pass East 1♣ South 1♣ West Pass
2♣ Pass 3♥ Pass 4♦

Opening lead queen of clubs.

The United States won the world championship in 1979, but the margin of victory against Italy was so narrow (253 International Match Points to 248) that there were many hands where a slightly different bid or play by either team would have reversed the final outcome.

For example, take this deal where Billy Eisenberg and Eddie Kantar, North-South for the U.S., bid and made four spades after an opening club lead. Declarer won with the king, led a diamond to the queen

and finessed the ten of spades. This was taken by West's king, and Kantar later lost two heart tricks to score 620 points.

When an Italian pair held the North-South cards, they also got to four spades, but on this bidding:

North Pass East Pass South 1♣ West Pass
1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♥ Pass 4♦

The opening one-club bid was artificial and promised at least 17 high-card points. The one-spade response, also artificial, indicated either three kings or an ace and a king.

As a result, North, instead of South, became declarer at four spades, and East led the king of hearts. Declarer won with dummy's ace, played a diamond to his king and finessed the ten of spades. This lost to the king, and West returned a heart to his partner's ten. When East next cashed the queen of hearts, West discarded his jack of diamonds, and when East then led a diamond, West ruffed to put the contract down one.

Had the Italian declarer cashed the club king at trick two and then played the ace and a low trump, he would have made four spades, and Italy would have won the world title, 248 IMPs to 241.

Tomorrow: Two overtricks are better than one.

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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- Couch
- Corn core
- Flair
- "Munich" actor
- Ponder
- Lovingly cared for
- French cheese
- Anger
- Balm of —
- Being litigious
- "— hiring!" (new store sign)
- Male deer
- Wyoming city
- Pester
- Fishing rods
- 506, in old Rome
- Helpless
- Consider
- Bowlers and fedoras

36 Eye drops
37 Peaceful state
40 Pouch students
41 Yale
42 Provided
47 Help in a crime
48 Avoid-ances
49 GI dining hall
50 MBA or Ph.D
51 Horn sound

3 In shape
4 Sore
5 Give a hoot
6 Count start
7 Heckled
8 Insignia
9 Entice
10 Europe's neighbor
11 Must have
13 Titanic destroyer
19 401(k) relatives
20 Nine-digit ID
21 Nevada neighbor
22 "Othello" villain

23 Cardiff's country
25 Hung around
26 Concept
27 Always
29 School support orgs.
31 Online chats, briefly
33 Specters
34 Duplicity
36 Tiny amounts
37 500 sheets
38 North Sea feeder
39 Slapstick arsenal
40 Un-foreseen problem
43 Cain's mom
44 Kanga's kid
45 Rock producer
46 "Spring ahead" hrs.

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Saturday's answer 5-20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13					14		
15				16					17		
18				19				20			
			21	22			23	24			
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32								33			
34				35			36				
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39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
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51				52					53		
54				55					56		

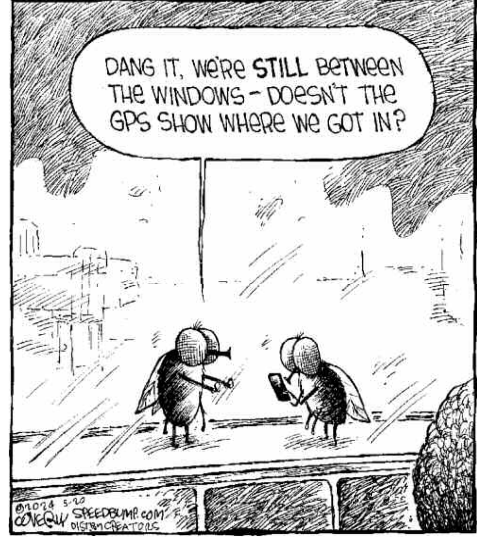
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



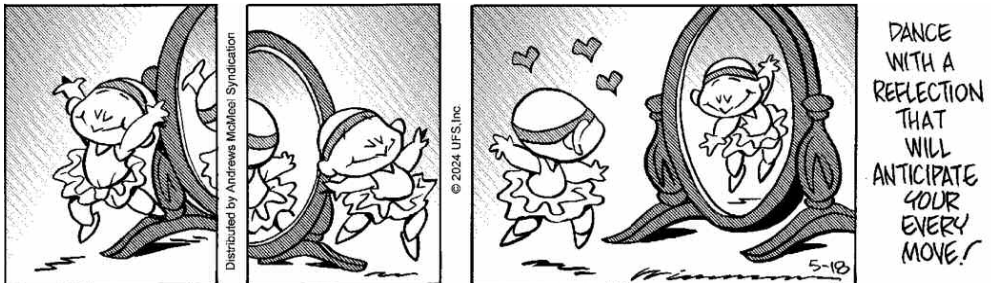
Peanuts



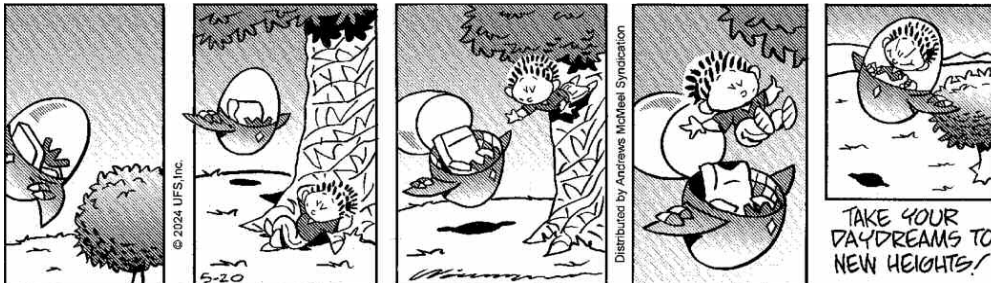
Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Agnes



Hi and Lois



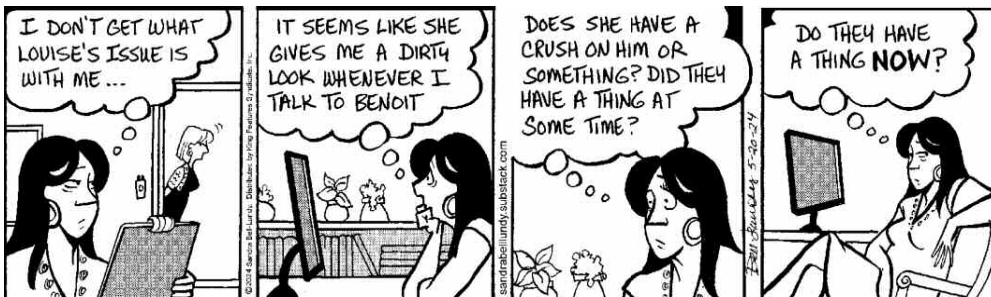
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Between Friends



Blondie



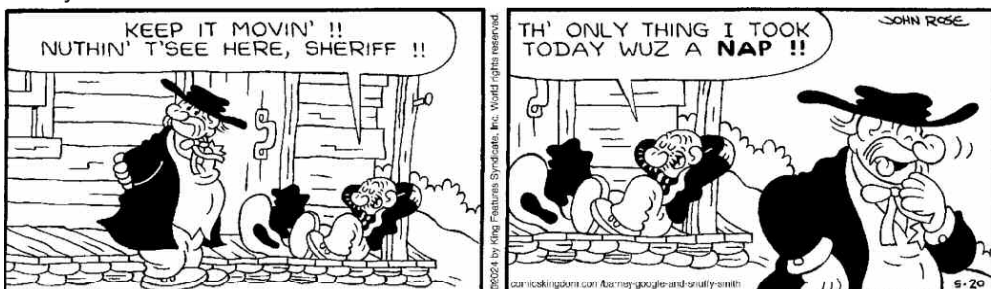
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey

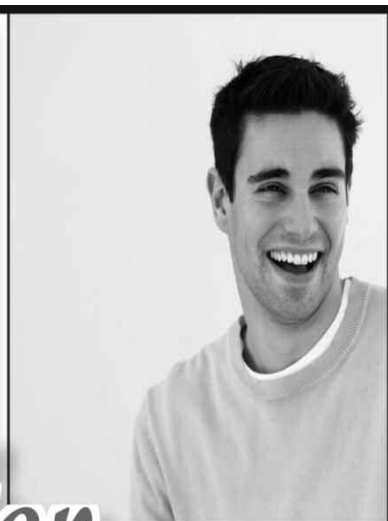


Beetle Bailey



We Deliver

Laughter



Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

**A
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May 28, 2024 at the Court House,
Auditorium, in the city of Port-
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RE: C.Y. 2025 Capital Assistance to purchase two small transit ve-
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Notice is hereby given that, LifeStream Services, Inc. will provide
an opportunity for a public hearing for the purpose of considering
a grant for which federal capital assistance under Section 5339 of
the Federal Bus and Bus Facilities Program, is being sought. Any
person interested in a hearing must submit a request in writing that
a hearing be held by LifeStream Services, Inc. within a ten (10) day
period, after the publication of this notice. The project period is for
1/1/2025 -12/31/2025 for Jay County Commissioners and LifeStream
Services, Inc. to be assisted with the purchase of two small transit
and two low floor minivan vehicles for the amount of \$421,150.00.
Federal match will be \$336,920.00 and the local match being
\$84,230.00. Local match will originate from Commissioner funds.
Contract funds and Title 3B funds. 2. If a hearing is requested and
scheduled, LifeStream Services, Inc. will afford an opportunity for
interested person, agencies and private transportation providers to
be heard with respect to the social, environmental, and economic
aspects of the grant. Interested persons may submit orally or in writ-
ing evidence and recommendations with respect to said grant at the
public hearing. A copy of the application is currently available for
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9:30 A.M.
**CARS-TRACTORS-
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HOUSEHOLD-OLD
ITEMS**
2009 Chevrolet Impala 4
door car 77,829 miles;
1952 Farmall Super C
tractor; 1949 Ferguson
T20 tractor; Yard Man
Lawn Bird tractor
mower; Case 210
mower; Jacobsen
mower; Wheelhorse
mower; Craftsman 30"
riding lawn mower; other
lawn mower frames &
parts; several small gas
engines; Rock Island
engine; (2) McCormick
Deering 1 1/2 hp
engines; Fairbanks
Morse 3 hp engine;
McCormick Deering 3 hp
engine; Wisconsin
engines; Craftsman
grinders; Toro snow
thrower; Craftsman
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Decker electric mower;
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Craftmans scroll saw;
galvanized bucket; hand
tools; curio cabinet;
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Glass; cookware; yard
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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
CAUSE NO. 38C01-2404-MI-14
IN RE THE NAME CHANGE
OF
Preston Morgan, Petitioner
**NOTICE OF PETITION FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**
Preston Tyler Scott Morgan,
whose mailing address is Port-
land, IN 47371, in the Jay
County, Indiana, hereby gives
notice that Preston Tyler Scott
Morgan has filed a petition in
the Jay County Court requesting
that his name be changed to
Preston Tyler Scott Twigg.
Notice is further given that the
hearing will be held on said pe-
tition on July 5, 2024 at 9am.
Preston Morgan, Petitioner
4/10/2024
Jon Eads
CR 5-4,11,18-2024 HSPAXLP

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early 1900's Jay County plat book; 1901 Jay County Atlas; 1901 Jay County
book; History of Jay County book; Carnival Glass; toy replica guns; rakes;
shovels; wire; ice skates; bicycle helmets; cookware; yard decorations; wood
sled; garden hose; several bird houses; food chopper; school desk; metal kitchen
stool; vanity; bookshelf; metal 2 door cabinet; shelving; wood boxes; Griswold
tea kettle; heaters; scanner; file cabinet; yardsticks; and many other items not
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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School junior Adam Alig slips over the high jump bar at 6 feet Thursday during the sectional meet at Delta. Alig made it over the 6-foot mark on his first attempt, which ended up giving up the third-place tiebreaker with Easton Doster of Monroe Central.

Alig advances in high jump

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — Joe Imel was hoping to just get someone, anyone, to the next level.

Adam Alig made it happen. Alig's effort in the high jump gave the Jay County High School boys track team its only regional berth Thursday as the Patriots finished in the middle of the 13-team sectional field at Delta.

"I was real happy for Adam," said JCHS coach Joe Imel. "I was real happy with the jumps. He's kind of been up and down this year."

The top three finishers in each event earned an automatic berth to the regional meet, which will be contested at 6 p.m. Thursday at Pike in Indianapolis.

The Patriots' 33 points put them three behind fifth-place Winchester and 13 ahead of seventh-place Monroe Central.

Patriot junior will compete in regional Thursday at Pike

Muncie Central won four events en route to 151.5 points and the sectional championship, with Yorktown (132), Delta (121.5) and Wapahani (86) rounding out the top four.

"We kind of did what I thought we would do," Imel said. "I was really kind of hoping we could pick up a little more opportunities. ..."

Alig's result showed that every jump matters.

With seven athletes remaining after the first two heights,

the Jay County junior cleared the bar on his first attempt at 6 feet. Monroe Central's Easton Doster missed on his first try, but made it one the second.

That turned out to be the difference.

The four jumpers who remained — Wes-Del's Garrett Rooker, Delta's Cade Utsler, Alig and Doster — agreed to skip 6 feet, 1 inch, and go straight to 6 feet, 2 inches.

When both Alig and Doster missed all of their attempts at 6

feet, 2 inches, the difference at the 6-foot mark came into play. Alig finished third with a regional berth while Doster placed fourth and was left to await a possible call back. (There are 12 automatic qualifiers and then the field is filled with the next four best sectional performances.)

"That's the second time he's gotten 6 foot this year," said Imel. "And that's been his goal, to get 6 foot. He was really close last year. So I'm really happy to see him improve in that area."

The only fourth-place finish of the evening came from Austyn LeMaster in the discus. He came in at 123 feet, 4 inches, just over 11 feet behind third-place Luka Pavelka of Muncie Central.

Fifth-place efforts from Jay County came from Caleb Garinger in the 3,200 run in 10

minutes, 35.79 seconds, and Alig in the 110 hurdles in 16.04. The Patriots' 4x100 relay team of Gabe Pinkerton, Caden Gambill, Garrett Hidy and Alig posted a time of 44.47 seconds for fifth in the 4x100 relay.

"Our 4x1 PR'd be quite a bit," said Imel. "That's only the third time that 4x1 has even ran together."

One of the other opportunities for the quartet came a few weeks ago when they won the Allen County Athletic Conference championship.

"They improved their time by close to a half-second," Imel added. "I'm pretty pleased with that."

Joseph Boggs finished sixth in the 1,600 run and eighth in the 800 run, Austyn LeMaster was seventh in the shot put and Brasen Glassford took eighth in the shot put.

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Jay 4x100 is seeded 12th

The Patriots will compete in the regional meet in six events.

They're not projected to advance to the next level.

The top seed for the Jay County High School girls track team for Tuesday's regional meet at Pike in Indianapolis is No. 12 in the 4x100-meter relay.

At the regional, the top three finishers and anyone hitting the state standard advance to the state finals on May 31 at Indiana University in Bloomington.

The Patriots' lone sectional championship in the meet Tuesday at Delta came in the 4x100 as Morgan DeHoff, Ariel Beiswanger, Matilda Mende and Jenna Dues combined for a time of 51.51 seconds. That mark makes them the No. 12 seed for the event at the regional, almost 2.5 seconds back of third-seeded Lawrence North.

Jay County's other relay regional qualifier was the 4x400 featuring Makinsey Murphy, Cash Hollowell, Aixa Lopez and Mya Kun-

kler. They are seeded 14th at 4:23.62.

Coming into the regional with No. 15 seeds for the Patriots are senior Cash Hollowell (50.69) in the 300 hurdles and junior Jenna Dues (27.63) in the 200 dash. (Dues was fourth in the sectional but was called back to fill out the 16-competitor field for the regional.)

Seeded 16th for the regional from JCHS are Jordyn Hutzler (32 feet, 9 inches) in the shot put and DeHoff (17.25) in the 100 hurdles.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Meredith Dirksen of Jay County connects on a shot during her No. 1 doubles victory with partner Sophia Sprunger against Union City in Thursday's sectional championship match. The win marked the first time in school history that the Patriot girls tennis program has won four consecutive sectional titles.

All ...

Continued from page 10

Haines secured the third point for the Patriots to clinch the title out of the No. 1 singles spot. She quickly beat Camryn Fischer in the first set, but was met with some resistance as Fischer still had a chance to move on as an individual.

Haines ultimately held on for a 6-2, 6-4 victory that clinched the fourth sectional title for the team in her career.

"It's great," Haines said. "I don't know how we do it. That's just how we do, I guess. ..."

"There's been a lot of matches that us three singles have won. I think it's good that we can, for the most part, count on our singles to get the job done and win the match."

Haines also keeps her ability to compete as an individual, as she has yet to drop a postseason match.

Meredith Dirksen and Sophia Sprunger added a doubles win to complement the singles dominance. The No. 1 doubles duo took down Shelby Arnold and Addison Thornburg 6-4, 7-5.

Zion Beiswanger and Lucie Henneaux nearly completed the sweep of the Indians, but fell to Luane Schoonbroodt and Kiernan Watson in the No. 2 doubles match 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

Schoonbroodt and Watson defeating Patriots' duo made for a repeat of the teams' regular season match April 23, when the Indians' only win came at No. 2 doubles.

Titles ...

Continued from page 10
They overtook Brunswick with 400 meters left and tried to box her in, but in the last 200 meters, Brunswick said she felt she had enough gas left in the tank and made a break for first.
It paid off.
Her final time was 5 minutes, 20.19 seconds.

Diller casually mentioned that the race acted as a huge mental win — a notion Brunswick agreed with.
In the 3,200 run, Brunswick battled with Maria Niekamp of Minster, but ultimately pulled away for the victory with about 500 meters left. Her final time was 12:00.56.

Heitkamp dominated both of his races. He finished the 1,600 run with a time of 4:27.11 and the 3,200 run in 9:54.81.
After winning last year, Heitkamp took a different approach this season.
“This year’s races were kind of interesting compared to last year,” Heitkamp said. “Instead of treating it as these are races I have to win, I treated it as if these are just prelims for state.”

“I think viewing it like that takes the pressure off of it and makes it a more enjoyable race to run.”
Like Heitkamp, Pearson reclaimed her district title in the long jump with a distance of 17 feet, 3.25 inches, which beat Alex Kessen of St. John’s by a quarter of an inch.
Pearson also advanced to the regional meet at Troy next week in the 100 dash (fourth place — 13.01 seconds) and the 4x100 relay. (The top four finishes qualify for the regional meet.)
Pearson anchored the 4x100 relay team and held on to a siz-



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

FRHS senior Trevor Heitkamp holds a dominant lead in the 1,600-meter run at the district meet on Friday.

able lead gained by Kiana Matsuda on the third leg to take the top spot with a time of 49.77 seconds. Anna Roessner and Paige Guggenbiller handled the first two legs of the race.
“(Matsuda) smoked that curve,” Diller said. “It was so good. She came in with such a good mindset today to just do what she can and we preach that, but for a kid to execute that is huge.”

Matsuda also beat her No. 5 seed in the 300 hurdles (fourth — 46.9) to secure a regional appearance. She also ran the first leg of the 4x400 relay that got FRHS off on a good enough pace to finish fourth (4:10.54). Matsuda preceded Ellie Will, Guggenbiller and Roessner in the relay.
Roessner nearly gave the Indians an eighth district title, but fell short in the 100 dash as 12.34 seconds left her 0.14 seconds short of Kessen. She did, however, secure the 200 dash title with a time of 25.05 seconds.
“We’ve had a good year of people showing up and putting in

what we say is capital W work,” Diller said. “We just showed up today top to bottom and get to go another week.”

Along with Friday’s regional qualifications, the girls 4x800 relay team of Will, Kennedy Muhlenkamp, Joelle Kaup and Brunswick as well as Karlie Niekamp in the discus punched their tickets on Wednesday’s preliminary meet.

Other performances that earned points on the day include:

- Will in the 1,600 run (fifth) and the 800 run (eighth)
- Reese Diller in the 3,200 run (sixth)
- Lucas Acheson in the high jump (sixth)
- Carson Fullenkamp on Wednesday in the shot put (sixth)
- The boys 4x800 relay team on Wednesday (sixth)
- Niekamp in the shot put (seventh)
- The boys 4x400 relay team (seventh)
- Pearson in the 200 dash (eighth)

Final ...

Continued from page 10
Troy Homan laid down a suicide squeeze to get Faller home for the first run of the game.

On the next pitch Preston Kreischer threw, Reece Wendel, Fort Recovery’s first-team All-MAC selection, singled on a

line drive to left field to score Tobe.

Parkway upset No. 3 seed St. Henry 7-5 in the sectional title to earn the matchup with FRHS. Back on April 5, Fort Recovery took down Parkway 1-0 in eight innings. Caden Grisez hit a walk-

off single while Dues only gave up three hits over eight innings pitched.

Along with Dues and Wendel, sophomores Alex Gaerke and Caden Homan were both named to as honorable mentions for the All-MAC team.

Jay softball splits final two games of the regular season

The Patriots struggled against the Vikings on Thursday.

That wasn’t the momentum they wanted going into the tournament, so they turned it around against the Red Devils.

Jay County High School’s varsity softball team dropped Thursday’s game at Huntington North 4-2 before dominating the Richmond Red Devils 14-5 to close out the regular season on Friday.

A three-run fifth inning spelled disaster for the Patriots (14-6) against the Vikings (15-6). Malloy Winner issued two walks and gave up a single to load the bases for HNHS. Then Ava Geiger delivered the fatal blow with a line drive to center field that scored all three runs.

Jay County’s runs came on a single by Carley Trinidad in the fourth inning and a double by Jaelynn Lykins in the sixth.

JCHS got its offense rolling right away against Richmond with two runs in the first inning before piling on five in the second and six in the third.

Riah Champ had a field day at the plate, knocking in four runs and scoring four herself. She smashed a three-run home run in the second inning, doubled in the first and fifth and walked in the third.

Trinidad picked up the win as she went the distance in the circle. She allowed 10 hits and one walk to give up five earned runs, but also struck out seven batters.

Run ends

LIMA, Ohio — The eighth-seeded Fort Recovery softball team couldn’t hold onto a one-run lead as the No. 4 seed Coldwater Cavaliers put up five in the sixth inning to win the OHSAA Division III district opener 10-6 on Thursday hosted by Bath.

The Indians (12-13) held onto a 6-5 lead heading into the bottom of the sixth inning.

Jenna Homan struggled from the circle, surrendering a four-

Local roundup

pitch walk to Ava Doll to start the inning. A double by Libby Grieshop gave the Cavaliers (17-11) enough of a threat to tie the game that the Tribe intentionally walked Madison Wendel.

That decision didn’t pay off as Claire Steinke smashed a go-ahead grand slam.

Homan suffered the loss with nine earned runs, 10 hits and six walks.

The Indians’ early lead came from a single run in the first inning and five in the third.

Emma Will and Ella Schoen put up strong days at the plate with four hits, three RBIs and three runs between both of them.

Brown delivers

Leighton Brown came up with a big RBI to lift the Jay County baseball team past the Belmont Braves 4-3 on Thursday.

The Patriots faced a 3-1 deficit with only six outs remaining. Drew Schemenaur and Sam Myers found ways on with one out. Parker Nichols and Ryne Goldsworthy delivered back-to-back RBI singles to tie the game up.

Aiden Phillips walked to load the bases and Brown hit a ball deep enough to left field to act as a sacrifice fly and score Nichols.

Zedrian Vazquez came in to close out the game for Jay County (12-11) and only allowed one hit to earn the save.

Jackson Edwards picked up the win after holding Belmont (7-13) scoreless in the sixth inning.

Jay County’s first run came in the first inning, while all three of the Braves’ crossed in the second.

Portland Junior League sees high scores Thursday

Offense has been abundant early in the season.

Three teams scored in double digit runs on Wednesday in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball.

POET Bioprocessing put up the most dominant performance with a 15-2 beating of Pak-A-Sak.

Corbin Hutzler led the way for POET with four hits, including two triples and a double. Harvey Hemmelgarn supported with an inside-the-park home run. Hutzler, Hemmelgarn and Nolan Homan all scored three runs.

Cook’s Nursery edged out Matt’s Garage 17-15 as five players tallied four hits each.

Kayden Alberson, Trey Hirschey and Brantly Sager all finished 4-for-4 from the plate for Cook’s Nursery. On the other side, Duke Armstrong and Rowan Ingram both collected four singles.

PG14 wins

PG14 defeated Lions Club 6-1 in Portland Junior League Willie Mays baseball on Thursday.

Eli Homan and Blake Jellison provided the offense for PG14 with a home run and a two-RBI double, respectively.

Beckham Hough tossed a bulk of the game for PG14, striking out five batters over three innings.

Youth roundup

Despite the loss, Lions Club got a nice performance from Ryker Price on the mound as he struck out the side in all three of his innings.

Gabe Lutes drove in the only run for Lions Club with a walk.

Rock and Optimist win

The Rock and Optimist both won their Portland Junior League softball games on Wednesday.

The Rock claimed an 11-7 victory over Crossroads in minor softball.

Carsyn Guggenbiller and Maggie Westgerdes both finished 3-for-3 in the game with two runs for The Rock. Westgerdes also had a triple.

Optimist’s win in rookie softball came against Wings and Rings with a score of 18-8.

Zoey Williams and Charlee Taylor both led Wings and Rings with three singles. Williams scored three times while Taylor added one run.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today

Jay County — Boys golf tri-meet — 4:30 p.m.; Girls tennis regional at Noblesville — 5:30 p.m.; Girls track regional at Pike — 6 p.m.; Softball sectional opener at Delta — 7 p.m.

Sunday

Portland Rockets vs. South Bend Royals — 1 p.m.

Monday

Jay County — Baseball vs. Blackford — 5 p.m.; Junior high baseball vs. Selma — 5:30 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Baseball at Coldwater — 4:30 p.m.

Tuesday

Jay County — Boys golf tri-meet — 4:30 p.m.; Girls tennis regional at Noblesville — 5:30 p.m.; Girls track regional at Pike — 6 p.m.; Softball sectional opener at Delta — 7 p.m.

TV sports

Today

6:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Emilia Romagna Grand Prix (ESPN2)
10 a.m. — Formula 1: Emilia Romagna Grand Prix (ESPN2)
10 a.m. — PGA Championship: Valhalla Golf Club (ESPN)

10:30 a.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Wright Band 250 (FS1)
1 p.m. — PGA Championship: Valhalla Golf Club (CBS)
1 p.m. — WNBA: Indiana Fever at New York Liberty (ABC)

1:30 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series: Wright Band 250 (FS1)
1:45 p.m. — MLS: Atlanta United at Nashville SC (FOX)

3 p.m. — WNBA: Los Angeles Sparks at Las Vegas Aces (ABC)

3 p.m. — Track & Field: LA Grand Prix (NBC)

4 p.m. — MLB: Seattle Mariners at Baltimore Orioles (FS1)

4 p.m. — UFL: Michigan Panthers at Memphis Showboats (FOX)

8 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Oklahoma City Thunder at Dallas Mavericks (ESPN)

8 p.m. — UFL: Birmingham Stallions at Houston Roughnecks (ESPN2)

9:10 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Los Angeles Dodgers (Bally Indiana)

11 p.m. — Boxing: Denys Berinchyk vs. Emanuel Navarrete (ESPN)

Sunday

9 a.m. — Formula 1: Emilia Romagna Grand Prix (ESPN2)

10 a.m. — PGA Championship: Valhalla Golf Club (ESPN)

11 a.m. — Premier League: Everton at Arsenal (USA); West Ham United at Manchester City (NBC)

12 p.m. — UFL: St. Louis Battlehawks at D.C. Defenders (ABC)

1 p.m. — PGA Championship: Valhalla Golf Club (CBS)

2 p.m. — Track & Field: U.S. Classic Gymnastics (NBC)

3 p.m. — IndyCar: Indianapolis 500 (NBC)

3:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Indiana Pacers at New York Knicks (ABC)

4 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Los Angeles Dodgers (Bally Indiana)

4 p.m. — UFL: San Antonio Brahmas at Arlington Renegades (FOX)

5:30 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: NASCAR All-Star Open (FS1)

7 p.m. — MLB: San Diego Padres at Atlanta Braves (ESPN)

7 p.m. — Major League Rugby: Seattle Seawolves at Dallas Jackals (CBS)

8 p.m. — NASCAR Cup Series: NASCAR All-Star Race (FS1)

Monday

7 p.m. — WNBA: Connecticut Sun at Indiana Fever (ESPN); Seattle Storm at New York Liberty (FOX)

7:40 p.m. — MLB: Detroit Tigers at Kansas City Royals (FS1)

7:45 p.m. — MLB: Baltimore Orioles at St. Louis Cardinals (Bally Indiana)

8:30 p.m. — NBA playoffs: Dallas Mavericks at Oklahoma City Thunder (TNT)

Tuesday

6:40 p.m. — MLB: San Diego Padres at Cincinnati Reds (Bally Indiana)

7:40 p.m. — MLB: Atlanta Braves at Chicago Cubs (TBS)

8 p.m. — NBA playoffs (ESPN)

Local notes

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.

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All the singles ladies



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School senior Brenna Haines reaches to hit a ball during the IHSAA Sectional 53 tennis championship against the Union City Indians on Thursday. Haines beat Camryn Fischer in the No. 1 singles match 6-2, 6-4 to secure the team's fourth straight sectional title. Fellow singles players Brenna Bailey and Maggie Dillon also secured quick wins to lock up the title, with the No. 1 doubles duo of Meredith Dirksen and Sophia Sprunger joining them later for a 4-1 final. JCHS advances to the regional tournament where it will play the Delta Eagles at 5 p.m. Tuesday at Noblesville.

Bailey, Dillon and Haines lock up win for JC in sectional championship against Union City

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

It's Andrea Garringer's first year at the helm of the Patriots. It's Brenna Haines' fourth year on the team.

The Patriots' singles players led both to a milestone sectional title over the Indians.

The Jay County High School girls tennis team made quick work of the Union City Indians in the IHSAA Sectional 53 championship match as the singles players paved the path for a 4-1 victory that earned the Patriots their fourth straight sectional title.

"I was nervous seeing they've won at least three years (in a row)," said Garringer, who captured a sectional title in her first season as Jay County's head coach. "The girls wanted a fourth. I know that they wanted this year pretty bad. They were all very excited so this was my big goal."

The win earned Jay County (9-6) the opportunity to travel to Noblesville on Tuesday to take on the winner of Sectional 54, which features No. 20 Delta and Muncie Burris, in the regional opener.

Brenna Bailey and Maggie

Dillon did not waste any time putting the Patriots on top.

Bailey blasted through the No. 2 singles match in nearly 30 minutes. She didn't often give up more than one point in a game to Elizabeth Prinkey in the 6-0, 6-0 sweep.

Bailey capped off the final game against Prinkey with four unanswered points that included a forehand placed perfectly on the left line and three mistakes by the UCHS junior.

Dillon only needed about 10 more minutes to take out Ashley Garrett 6-0, 6-1 in the No. 3 singles contest.

The finishing blow came on a ball that Dillon had to spring back for and hit over her shoulder to even have a chance to score. The ball had a lot of arc off of Dillon's racquet causing Garrett to misplay it off the bounce and leave it short of the net.

"I'm just being more aggressive and placing my serves better," Dillon said. "(Assistant coach) Donald (Gillespie) helped me with that to get my elbow back and not rocking back-and-forth when I serve. That helped me a lot."

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Tribe takes down Knights in final

Dues leads FRHS to sectional title, All-MAC announced

CONVOY, Ohio — It was a big day for Indians baseball.

Four players received all-conference honors. Two of those four came up big in an upset win.

On Thursday, the sixth-seeded Fort Recovery High School baseball team rode off the strong pitching of Alex Dues to upset the No. 2 seed Crestview Knights on the same day that four Indians got recognized by the Midwest Athletic Conference for All-MAC honors.

With the victory, Fort Recovery (11-11) earns a trip to Coldwater for the district opener against No. 9 seed Parkway on Wednesday at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Dues, the only FRHS selection to the Second Team All-MAC, dominated the Crestview (12-7) lineup all day. He struck out seven batters while going the distance on the mound. Dues only gave up four hits and two walks.

The only run Dues surrendered came in the bottom of the third inning. The inning started with Dues plunking D.J. Yinger with a pitch and then a fielder's choice that had Huxley Gross replacing Yinger at first base.

A single to left field by Levi Grace got Grose into scoring position, so that Hunter Jones' single got the run home.

Luckily for Dues, his offense scored a pair of runs in the top of the third inning, so the one run didn't hurt.

Gavin Faller led off the frame with a single to right field before Riggs Tobe reached on an error that put the runners at the corners.

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Tribe takes home seven district titles

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

SPENCERVILLE, Ohio — Trevor Heitkamp won two district titles in 2023 and Mara Pearson added another. Both of them repeated in 2024.

A girls relay team and a sprinter added one each to this year's total.

A girls distance runner added two in the same races as Heitkamp this year to give the Indians a new total.

During the OHSAA Division III district tournament hosted by Spencerville on Friday, the Fort Recovery High School track teams combined for seven district championships, beating out the 2019 squad's six.

"I'm surprised and obviously very happy with that," FRHS coach Christy Diller said. "You never know going into these things because time doesn't matter, it's points and your place, so you have to get everybody onto that same mindset."

"Everybody showed up and did exactly what they needed to do today. It was a very good day."

The girls team repeated as the runner-up in the district with 94 points. Minster ran away with the district crown by scoring 132.66 points, while St. Henry trailed the Indians with 66.

The boys bumped up a spot in the standings from a year ago, finishing eighth out of 15 teams with 35 points, just one ahead of Lima Perry. Marion Local

(131) edged out Minster by seven points for the top spot.

FRHS previously won six events between the two teams in 2019 with top finishes coming from Whitley Rammel (shot put), Drew Muhlenkamp (400-meter dash), Robby LeFevre (110 hurdles), the boys 4x100 relay team, the boys 4x400 relay team and Jared Timmerman (long jump).

The Indians surpassed that mark by one this year, in large part because of Heitkamp repeating his victories in the 1,600 run and 3,200 run and Natalie Brunswick matching him.

Brunswick has run some hotly contested races with various Minster Wildcats throughout the 2023 and '24 seasons. On Friday, Brunswick came out on top in both races beating a pair of Wildcats.

"Honestly, it feels good because I went into the race having no expectations," Brunswick said. "I tried not to worry about anything, because I know Minster. They race with your head and they're very good at it. So I tried to just go out and just mind my own business and act like they aren't there."

That mindset especially paid off in the 1,600 run. Brunswick led a pack of four girls that included Minster's Chaney Cedarleaf and Margaret Hemmelgarn.

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Natalie Brunswick, a senior on the Fort Recovery High School girls track team, looks back to judge her lead on Minster's Maria Niekamp during the 3,200-meter run Friday at the OHSAA Division III district meet at Spencerville. Brunswick pulled away with about 500 meters left in the race to claim her second district title with a time of 12 minutes, 0.56 seconds.