Wednesday, May 21, 2025

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Board honors Weaver, retiring staffers

Former teacher honored with **Patriot** Award

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review Thank you.

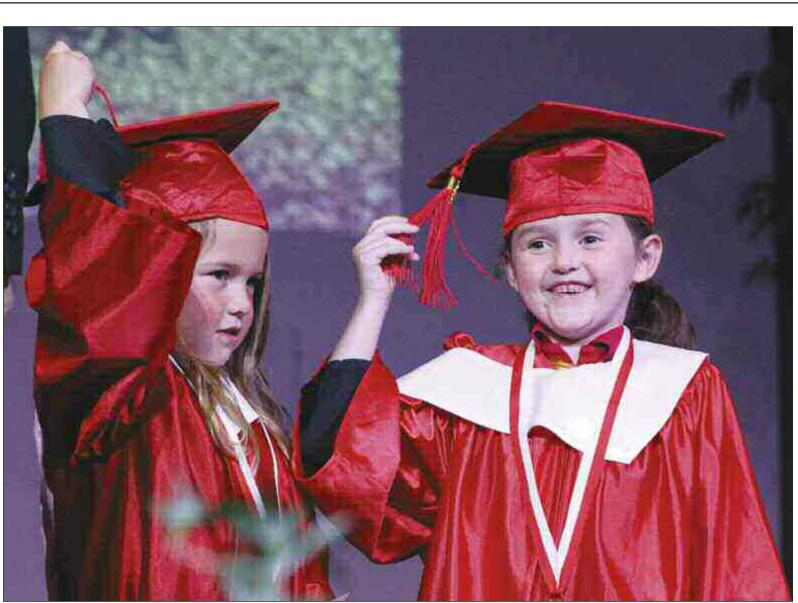
A chunk of Jay School Board's meeting Monday was spent saying thank you to previous and upcoming retirees for their service.

The board honored retired Jay County High School health and physical education teacher and boys tennis and swimming coach Barry Weaver with the Patriot Award. In its third year, the honor recognizes "individuals who have significantly contributed to the mission of the Jay School Corporation over an extended period of time."

Weaver was the last "original" Jay County High School teacher, having started in its inaugural year in 1975 and continuing for 40 years. He coached two-time state champion Bob Morrison in boys swimming and a sectional championship team in 2002. He coached five sectional championship boys tennis teams.

Bloomfield Elementary School principal Ben Dues, who was a student and athlete under Weaver, nominated him for the honor.

"He was and remains a improvements will also role model to his students impact the district's and athletes," he said in finances. the nomination. "He treatnity and respect. ... 'Barry Weaver's contributions and personal devotion to public education brings great credit to himself, our community and our school corporation." See Honors page 2



The Commercial Review/bailey Cline

Tiny tassel turn

Preschoolers Tinley Muhlenkamp and Kennedy Moore turn their tassels Thursday during Jay County Christian Academy's graduation ceremony. The school celebrated graduates of different grade levels and hosted its spring concert Thursday.

State changes create uncertainty

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review With various potential changes on the docket at the state level, it's hard to say what Fort Recovery Local Schools' budget will look like over the next five years.

Plans for capital Financial forecasts is difficult to pinpoint as various bills could impact school funding

Fort Recovery School tions that put the school ance in the general fund. million for transporta-

of benefits (Knapke noted plans for several employees to retire in the next 10 vears).

Although significant budget surpluses have been a trend at Fort Recovery Local Schools for several years, state legislature could change that. Knapke explained Ohio General Assembly has been discussing various bills that would impact the school system's budget. "There's 14 pending pieces of legislation in Ohio that seek to limit growth of local property taxes in several different with ways," said Knapke. See **Uncertainty** page 5

mates Monday, superintendent year capital plan for updates to the district's facilities.

Treasurer Knapke shared projec- million year-end cash bal-

with year 2025 on June 30 with from approximately \$8.2 Tony a year-end cash balance million that will be trans-Stahl also presenting a 10- of \$7.695 million in the general fund. That's down significantly from November's forecast, Deanna which projected a \$14.7

ferred this year into separate funds for other uses, the majority of which is improvements in coming nance, years. They include \$3.725

ed every student with dig- Board heard outlook esti-district finishing fiscal The difference results tion and elementary and middle school facilities, \$2.625 million for high school building improvements and \$1.15 million for athletic facility intended for permanent improvement and maintealong \$700,000 for termination



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/AFP/Filipe Amorim

Celebreation

Democratic Alliance party leader and Portuguese Prime Minister Luis Montenegro celebrates his victory during the election night in Lisbon early Monday. Portugal's incumbent centre-right party won most seats in the general election but again fell short of a ruling parliamentary majority, while support for the far-right Chega party rose, near complete official results showed. With just four seats left to assign in Portugal's 230-seat parliament, the Democratic Alliance (AD) had 32.7% of the vote. The Socialist Party had 23.4%, trailed closely by Chega with 22.6%.

Talks to start 'immediately'

By HENRY MEYER and AKAYLA GARDNER Bloomberg News

Tribune News Service

President Donald Trump said Moscow and Kyiv would begin talks "immediately" on ending the war in Ukraine after a phone call Monday with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

'Russia and Ukraine will immediately start negotiations toward a Ceasefire and, more importantly, an END to the War," Trump said in a social media post. "The conditions for that will be negotiated between the two parties, as it can only be, because they know details of a negotiation that nobody else would be aware of."

The U.S. president said he had also briefed European leaders on his two-hour call with Putin and that the Vatican had offered to host the negotiations.

"The tone and spirit of the conversation were excellent. If it wasn't, I would say so now, rather than later," Trump added.

Putin earlier had described the call with Trump as "frank" and "very useful," and said the two agreed that Russia would work years showed that the peace

Trump says Ukraine and Russia will begin negotiations to end war

on а with Ukraine for a possible future peace treaty that included "the principles of a settlement, the timing of a possible peace agreement, and so on, including a possible ceasefire for a certain time if appropriate agreements are reached.'

Putin offered no details of the conditions that would need to be satisfied for a settlement or a timeline of any ceasefire with Ukraine in comments late Monday to reporters in the Russian resort city of Sochi where he took the call with Trump.

'The main thing for us is to eliminate the root causes of this crisis," Putin said. The resumption of direct talks between Russia and Ukraine last week in Istanbul after a break of three

memorandum process was "on the right track," he said.

This was the third publicly announced call between the two leaders since Trump returned to the White House in January. Trump spoke earlier by phone to Ukrainian President Volodymyr

Zelenskyy. The U.S. president is pushing for a deal to end Europe's biggest conflict since World War II, after Russia rebuffed his efforts to achieve a ceasefire within his first 100 days in office. Putin is insisting on maximalist demands to halt the invasion he started in February 2022, even as his military has incurred massive casualties as Ukraine's U.S. and European allies have sent billions of dollars of weapons to help Kyiv defend itself.

See Talks page 5

Deaths

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 72 degrees Monday. The low was 46.

There is a 50% chance of rain tonight with winds gusting to 25 mph and a low in the upper 40s. Expects highs to top out in the upper 50s Thursday under mostly cloudy skies.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Portland Water Park is scheduled to open this weekend. The facility is open from noon to 8 p.m. Admission is \$5 before 5 p.m. and \$3 after 5 p.m. Season, family and 10-day passes are also available.

Those looking to purchase passes in advance can do so from noon to 2 p.m. Thursday at the fater park

Coming up

Thursday — Results from the JCHS girls track team in the sectional meet.

Friday — Details from this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.

Saturday — Details from the Jay County boys track team at the sectional meet.

Carol Manor, 85, Bryant Details on page 2.

Honors

Continued from page 1 Weaver will be the grand marshal for the homecoming parade efforts of Bloomfield Elementhis year. (He will be joined by 2024 winners Dave Humbert, Bob Lyons and Ingrid Saxman, who were unable to be a part of the parade last year as it was canceled because of high winds.)

The board also recognized retiring employees Jane Evans. a first grade teacher; Kathy Hess, an instructional assistant; and Michelle Schuller, a fifth grade teacher.

In other business, the board: •Heard Gulley praise the tary School nurse Whitney Bruggeman and other staff involved in the life-saving efforts at the school last month when fifth grade teacher Giles Laux suffered a cardiac arrest.

•Accepted resignations of several employees, including East Jay fourth grade teacher Rebecca May.

•Was reminded that the board

capital improvement project on June 2

•Approved the following: extracurricular assignments, including Gabby Williams as cross country coach, Tyler Leonhard as boys wrestling third graders; field trips for forcoach and Troy Jacks as girls eign language classes to Cedar wrestling coach; a contract with Chartwells to continue to operate food service for Jay Schools; updates to the Jay County Junior-Senior High will hold its first public hearing School handbook, including Extension, Jay County Special mencement.

on a proposed junior-senior high adding nicotine/tobacco to the Olympics, Jay County Law list of banned substance for students participating extracurricular activities; an adjustment to student fees, allowing the school corporation to charge \$5 for recorders for Point, high school science students to Costa Rica, and FFA officers to Fort Recovery and the state FFA convention; bus use requests from Purdue

Enforcement Youth Camp and Fellowship Baptist Teen Ministry; and a contract with Adaptability LLC for leasing a classroom at General Shanks.

•Accepted a \$10,000 National FFA Classroom Enhancement Grant for Ava Stockton and a \$3,000 National FFA Professional Development Grant for Katie Loy, as well as various donations including \$1,861.48 from Portland Lions Club for medals for com-

| Thursday 5/22 | Friday 5/23 | Saturday 5/24 | Sunday 5/25 | Monday 5/26 | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | | | | | |
| 58/42 | 64/43 | 66/48 | 66/49 | 66/50 | |
| There's a 40% chance of rain. Other- wise, mostly cloudy with wind gusts up to 25 mph. | Mostly sunny skies are expected, with a high in the mid to low 60s. | urday when the high will be in | Sunday's forecast shows a slight chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies. | Memorial Day look sto be mostly sunny with a 40% chance of showers. | |

Lotteries

Powerball

Monday 13-14-37-50-60 Power Ball: 11 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$146 million

Daily Four: 8-0-6-1 Quick Draw: 3-4-6-7-12- $28\hbox{-}32\hbox{-}33\hbox{-}36\hbox{-}41\hbox{-}46\hbox{-}48\hbox{-}50\hbox{-}51\hbox{-}$ 52-54-56-64-74-78 Cash 5: 14-18-33-42-45 Estimated jackpot: \$153,500

Ohio

36-38

\$150,000

Monday

Midday

Evening

Pick 3: 6-1-1

Pick 3: 1-6-7

Pick 4: 7-4-7-9

Estimated

Pick 5: 7-9-0-6-6

Rolling Cash: 10-20-29-

jackpot:

Pick 4: 6-9-3-4

Pick 5: 6-5-2-5-8

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$139 million

Hoosier

Monday Midday Daily Three: 1-2-5 Daily Four: 8-6-2-0 Quick Draw: 1-9-10-12-14-15-21-24-40-41-42-51-53-58-63-67-71-73-78-80 Evening Daily Three: 4-3-8

Markets

| Cooper Farms | June beans10.67 |
|------------------------------|--|
| Fort Recovery | Wheat 4.89 |
| Corn4.64 | ADM |
| June corn4.66 | Montpelier |
| July corn4.68 | Corn4.56 |
| POET Biorefining Portland | June corn4.56 Beans10.63 June beans10.66 |

Obituaries

Carol Manor

May 4, 1940-May 17, 2025 Carol Manor, age 85, a resident of Bryant, passed away on Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Adams Memorial Hospital in Decatur, Indiana.

Carol was born on May 4, 1940, in Jay County, the daughter of Roy and Bessie (Ross) Shull. Carol graduated from Madison High School in 1958.

Carol worked for the United States Postal Service in Portland, Indiana, and retired in 2002. Carol attended New Covenant Fellowship Church.

Carol married Robert Manor on Sept. 26, 1958.

Survivors include:

Her husband Robert Manor, Bryant, Indiana

Two daughters -Brenda O'Brien (husband: William), Morehead, Kentucky, and Diane Parr, Bryant, Indiana

Three granddaugh-

ters, two great-grandsons and one great-granddaughter.

Carol was preceded in death by seven siblings.

Visitation will be held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, from 2 to 7 p.m. at the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Private



funeral services will be held on Thursday, May 22, 2025, at the Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland, and burial will follow at Gravel Hill Cemetery in Bryant, Indiana.

Memorials can be made to the American Heart Association. •••••

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.

Felony court news

Marijuana

A Portland woman was sentenced to jail for possession of marijuana.

Susan A. Eley, 56, 110 West 3rd St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Class A misdemeanor. Eley was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but four days suspended and given four days credit for time served. Eley was placed on probation for 361 days, fined \$1, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.

As part of her plea agreement, Eley's charge was lessened from a Level 6 felony. She was ordered to submit to an evaluation within 30 days for substance abuse counseling.

Common nuisance

A Portland woman was sentenced to jail for maintaining a common nuisance.

Desiree N. Walker, 31, 1237 N. US 27, Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 felony.

She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all of her sentence suspended and placed on probation for one year.

Walker was fined \$1 and assessed \$189 in court costs. As part of her plea agreement, a Level 6 felony for possession of methamphetamine, a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia were dismissed.

Methamphetamine

Three people were sentenced to serve time for possession of methamphetamine.

Stanley L. LeMaster, 67, 1937 W. 500 South, Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. LeMaster was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 60 days suspended and given two days credit for time served. LeMaster was placed on probation for 305 days, fined \$1, assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction.

Chelsea McKibben (Burns), 32, license were dismissed.

260 E. Second St., Pennville, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 5 felony. She was sentenced to three years in Indiana Department of Correction with two years and six months suspended and given credit for time served. She was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction. As part of her plea agreement, a Class A misdemeanor for possession of marijuana was dismissed.

Gregory N. Howell, 39, 3092 Morrow Drive, Kokomo, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to possession of methamphetamine, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 30 months in Indiana Department of Corrections and given credit for time served. Howell was assessed \$189 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee. As part of his plea agreement, a Level 5 felony for dealing marijuana and a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended

.....4.564.5610.63

ortland

| Corn | 4.64 |
|---------------|------|
| June corn | 4 68 |
| July corn | |
| bury cornamic | |

The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.61 June corn4.61 Beans10.62

Today in history

In 1792, Mount Unzen on the Peninsula Shimabara erupted, causing a tsunami that killed about 15,000 in the country's deadliest volcanic eruption.

In 1796, Reverdy Johnson, who would go on to serve as attorney general under President Zachary Taylor, was born in Annapolis, Maryland.

In 1904, American musician Fats Waller was born.

In 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt vetoed a bill that would have appropriated nearly \$110 million for rivers and harbors, asserting that the country should be focusing on national defense

In 2007, the Jay County High School softball team knocked off Tipton 2-1 in the opening round an RBI. of the sectional tourna-

Japan's ment. Shae Keller went the distance pitching for the win and Trisha Champ finished 2-for-3 with both Patriot RBIs.

Wheat4.79

Corn.....4.71

June corn4.71

Beans10.37

June beans10.37

Wheat4.74

Heartland

St. Anthony

In 2012, Ben Dues was tabbed as the new principal for Bloomfield Elementary School replacing the retiring Dan Hoffman and Erica Tomano was named principle of Judge Haynes Elementary School to replace Trent Paxson, who was moving to a new role as teacher evaluation coordinator.

In 2017, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus gave its final performance.

In 2021, the Jay County High School baseball defeated team New Haven 7-2. Josh Dowlen led the Patriots with a double, two singles and

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today

4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.

Thursday

4 p.m. -– Portland Board of Works special meeting, council chambers, fire station 1616 N. Franklin St.

5 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commis-

sion, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

5:30 p.m. — Portland Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.

Friday

6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council executive session, city building, 8922 Indiana 67.

Capsule Reports

Intersection crash

A Portland man's truck was towed after crashing into a Bryant man's vehicle at the intersection of county road 800 South and Treaty Line Road about 2:10 p.m. Monday.

Robert C. Lyons, 86, was driving his 2017 Chevrolet Silverado truck northwest on Treaty Line Road and approaching its intersection with county road 800 South. He failed to see the oncoming 1996 Mack dump truck driven by 19year-old Daniel S. Fennig on county road 800 South. Lyons' vehicle struck the driver's side tire and fuel tank on Fennig's truck, and after the impact his truck stopped in a ditch on the north side of the road.

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000

See page 5

SERVICES

Today

Paxson, Richard: II a.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier. Poling, Merl: Titus Funeral Home, 2000 Sheridan St., Warsaw

May 24

Runyon, Victoria: I p.m., Griffen Road Chruch of Christ, 14550 Griffen Road, Southwest Ranches, Florida,

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

Thank You

The family of Ruthie Fifer wanted to say thank you and to show appreciation of all family and friends who came to the viewing and service of Ruthie, and everyone for comforting our family during this hard time, we also would like to thank heart to heart hospice for the great job they did, and the amazing service from Williamson, Spencer and Penrod funeral home in Portland.





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this page is available.

Opinion

Page 4

Redesign is a complicated process

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from May 20, 2005. Oh, the joys of redesign. It's a necessary process, but a difficult one. We've been working on it again on and off -mostly off -since we bought The News-Gazette and The News Times more than two years ago. It'll get done, eventually. Jack sheds some insight on why the process can take so long.

By JACK RONALD

The Commercial Review If you want to talk about type-

faces, count me out. The CR's re-design process, which culminated last week in the launching of the daily newspaper's new look, has been a long, remarkable road.

When we were done, we figured we could do side-by-side seminars on how to do it and how not to do it.

How not to do it came first.

We'd been kicking around the idea of re-designing The CR for a number of years, but about three years ago the idea started to gain traction.

I started things in what turned out to be the worst way possible.

First, small d democrat that I am. I decided to involve everyone in the newsroom.



handful of folks cared about the topic. Others had no real interest.

Then, we plunged immediately into the deep end of the pool. People started designing wildly different variations of what they thought pages ought to look like. There was absolutely no consensus and -- because I wanted to see lots of new ideas and had done a re-design myself in the early 1980s -- no direction.

Obviously, that was mistake number two.

When sample pages were posted in the newsroom, they were completely incoherent. There was no logic behind them. And they were easy targets for snipers who wandered by and sniffed that they were dumblooking or hard to read.

That first misfire cost us almost three years, because once Mistake number one; only a the critical comments came in,

stand by his or her ideas.

The real impetus for the second try came from CR sports editor Ray Cooney. He's the one who urged me to return to the question, and he's the guy who kept our feet to the fire when it would have been easy to say we simply didn't have time to take on a project of this size. Thanks, Ray.

When it came to the second try, which began in January, I think we did some things right.

First, we cut the number of people involved. Instead of everyone, it was Ray, managing editor Barbara Wilkinson, news editor Mike Snyder, and myself.

Second, we took a much more step-by-step approach.

At the first of what would be many weekly meetings, we looked at one question: What did we like about the old design?

The answer was that we thought it was pretty easy to navigate and not badly organized, but that it was dated, needed to be more legible, and needed more local color.

The next step was looking for design elements we liked in our paper and in other papers. All of us marked up dozens of pages.

Ray bought out a newsstand

no one had the confidence to somewhere in Ohio and brought pages we produced were remarkback "idea papers" to look at.

We used the Internet as well. (Were you aware there's a web site you can go to that gives you a look at the daily design of front pages of more than 350 papers in more than 35 countries at www.newseum.org?)

We also turned to expert advice, taking turns reading a book called Pure Design by newspaper guru Mario Garcia.

And, finally, we started with the basic building block, the typeface and type size used for articles in the newspaper.

We spent weeks on that alone, trying to get the right point size, trying to manipulate the type font so that it was more vertical and more legible, trying to assure that we didn't reduce the quantity of information delivered.

Then we spent days and weeks debating headline typefaces, trying to find those which could be married together effectively.

Only after the four of us had agreed on a text typeface and typefaces for headlines did we begin to experiment with what pages might look like.

Even more debate followed, but unlike the first time, we had a bottom line of consensus and the

ably more coherent visually than they had been before.

Finally, after several weeks more of tweaking and changing, we printed a short run of a prototype edition and circulated it for comment from friends, family members and other readers. They recommended changes, applauded some ideas and critiqued others.

Newspaper redesign isn't something I'd recommend for anyone.

The closest thing it compares to in the non-newspaper world is building a house as your own general contractor and having to decide on every nail, screw and fixture.

In our case, the absurdities were reached when we had discussions that lasted 20 to 25 minutes on the appearance of lines which tell readers that a story is continued.

We got through it; and based upon the reactions we received from a short-run prototype model we printed and the finished product, we did OK.

There's still more tweaking to do, but trust me, the continued lines stay just the way they are. That discussion is closed.

Celebrate trees in May

Albert Lea Tribune (Minnesota)

Tribune News Service

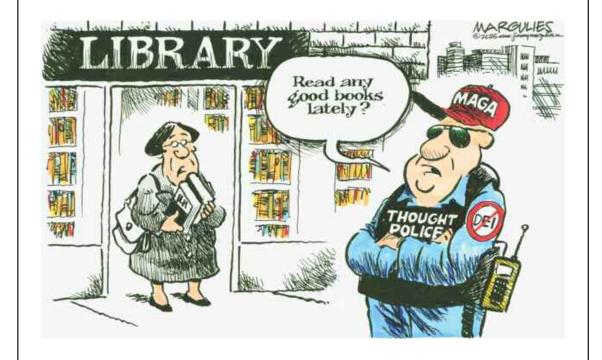
May is Minnesota's Arbor Month, an entire 31 days of appreciating trees and what they can do for our world, our community and what they can do for our spirits.

Aside from being aesthetically pleasing and a cool place to rest beneath their branches on a warm summer day, trees fulfill a vital function by pulling carbon dioxide out of the air, contributing to a healthier environment and are vital to the sustained health of the planet.

According to the Arbor Day Foundation: "Trees play a critical role in creating healthier, safer and more connected communities. They clean our air, filter our water and even

Guest **Editorial**

The fact of the matter is we should be paying *more attention* because of those aforementioned benefits and the direct effect they



Blackout was not a fluke By KELLY MCKINNEY

Chicago Tribune Tribune News Service

At 12:33 p.m. local time on a crystal blue Monday, the system that provides the power essential to the daily lives of 50 million-plus people collapsed. The lights went out from Lisbon to Barcelona; trains stopped, air traffic controllers went offline and hospital workers scrambled to keep patients alive. Two highly modern, eminently civilized nations were plunged into chaos. While understandable, the immediate obsessive search for the cause whether cyberattack, software error or rare atmospheric phenomenon missed the point. In tightly coupled, highly complex systems like the European energy grid, the next catastrophe is not caused. It is triggered. Ôver the past 21/2 decades in the disaster business in New York City, I've watched weather systems, electrical grids, transit systems and terrorist networks overwhelm the best-laid plans. And I've come to understand what physicists and systems theorists have known for years: In complex systems, disaster is not the exception; it's the destination. Back in the 1990s, Danish physicist Per Bak proposed a theory he called self-organized criticality. His insight was that complex systems — whether electrical power systems, cities, economies or even ecosystems inevitably organize themselves into fragile states. As connections grow and efficiency increases, the margin for error disappears. One small, almost trivial fault can suddenly cascade into a continent-wide collapse. Not because the fault is catastrophic but because the system itself evolves into the crosshairs of catastrophe.

Kelly **McKinney**



istan, what seems improbable happens regularly. What seems stable collapses without warning. And what seems isolated is deeply, dangerously connected. I hate to break it to you, but we live in Extremistan now. So what should we be doing about it? First, we must stop debating probabilities. Catastrophic failures are not rare. They are built in. The question is not if another system will collapse - but when and how many others will collapse with it. Second, we must shift from an optimization to a resilience mindset. The infrastructure that sustains daily life transportation, communications, water and wastewater, energy, food, health care — must be rendered able to absorb shocks and keep functioning, not just on paper but in practice. That means slack in the system. Redundancy. Cross-training. Manual overrides. And a professional emergency management class empowered to plan, rehearse and lead. And finally, we must prepare for the moment of truth — that first hour when the system breaks, and the response begins. That hour is not a drill. It is life or death for the vulnerable, the elderly, those with access and functional needs, the isolated. And if we are not ready, it will be too late. The Iberian blackout was not a oneoff. It was not a fluke. It was a signal from the future, sent in the language of darkness. Our job is to listen – and act — before the next black swan comes.

slow storm surge and flooding in our cities. Trees also provide shade and cool our cities by up to 10 degrees, which can help prevent heat-related deaths in urban areas."

And they also contribute to the biodiversity that surrounds us and helps make up this wonderful world we live in.

But we would wager that largely, a great many of you go about your day not thinking about things like this and we're included. Sure, you may appreciate a tree or remember the branches you scaled in your youth, but do you pay specific attention to the role trees play?

The fact of the matter is we should be paying more attention because of those aforementioned benefits and the direct effect they have on ourselves and the lives we lead.

This has become directly relevant in the face of the emerald ash borer infestation in the area.

This month, we urge you to consider planting but it plays a role in the consider adding to it.

have on ourselves and the lives we lead.

betterment of our lives. Best of all, it doesn't have to be a chore.

Planting a tree can also be a great way for a family to spend time with each other, or start a tradition that can be handed down through the generations. It can be something groups service do throughout their community to add more to that life we walk beneath every day.

It might be easy to walk throughout town and not think too much about the trees you walk beside, but it's worth giving the idea some time. We have always been about fostering its community and environment and trees have been a part of that.

We hope you take some time this month to apprea tree. Not only can it ciate this important part benefit the community, of nature and perhaps



and Portugal. And it will happen again.

In his landmark work "Normal Accidents," sociologist Charles Perrow explained why. Systems like telecommunications networks or national power grids aren't just complicated — they're "tightly coupled," meaning that one failure rapidly affects the next. The result is failure that is not only probable — but normal. Trying to find and eliminate every possible fault is a fool's errand. You can't debug your way out of systemic risk.

This concept might seem abstract unless you happen to be on the hook to solve the issues and unmet needs of the millions trapped in the blackout. The elderly patient whose ventilator shut down. The train passenger stuck underground. The nurse working by flashlight. The grocery store that lost everything in the dark.

We are used to thinking of disasters as external shocks - terrorist attacks, hurricanes, pandemics. But more and more, the disasters we face are emergent properties of the systems we've built. Lean, efficient, interconnected infrastructures may work beautifully on a good day. But they break spectacularly on a bad one.

Statistician Nassim Nicholas Taleb, in his influential work "The Black Swan," calls the world where low-probability, high-impact events This is what happened in Spain dominate "Extremistan." In Extrem-

.....

McKinney is the vice president of emergency management and enterprise resilience at NYU Langone Health and a former deputy commissioner at the New York City Office of Emergency Management in New York City.



The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas — holidays are observed on Tuesday when they fall on a Monday) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

We welcome letters to the editor, which are accepted by email only to letters@thecr.com. They should be 700 words or fewer, signed, with city/town of residence and include a phone number for verification purposes. We reserve the right to edit for content and clarity.

JOHN C. "JACK" RONALD (1948-2022), Publisher Emeritus

RAY COONEY President, editor and publisher

TONIA HARDY

Business manager

BRIAN DODD Production manager

LOUISE RONALD

Board chair

VOLUME 152—NUMBER 15 WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025

"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

- Subscription rates Internet-only: Three days \$3; Monthly auto-pay \$10; 13 weeks \$32; six months \$60; one year \$108. City (walking where available): Monthly auto-pay \$12; 13 weeks \$37; six months \$70; one year \$125. Motor route (where available): Monthly auto-pay \$13; 13 weeks \$45; six months \$76; one year \$144. Mail: Monthly auto-pay \$14; 13 weeks \$51; six months \$83; one year \$156. Home delivery probleme: Control

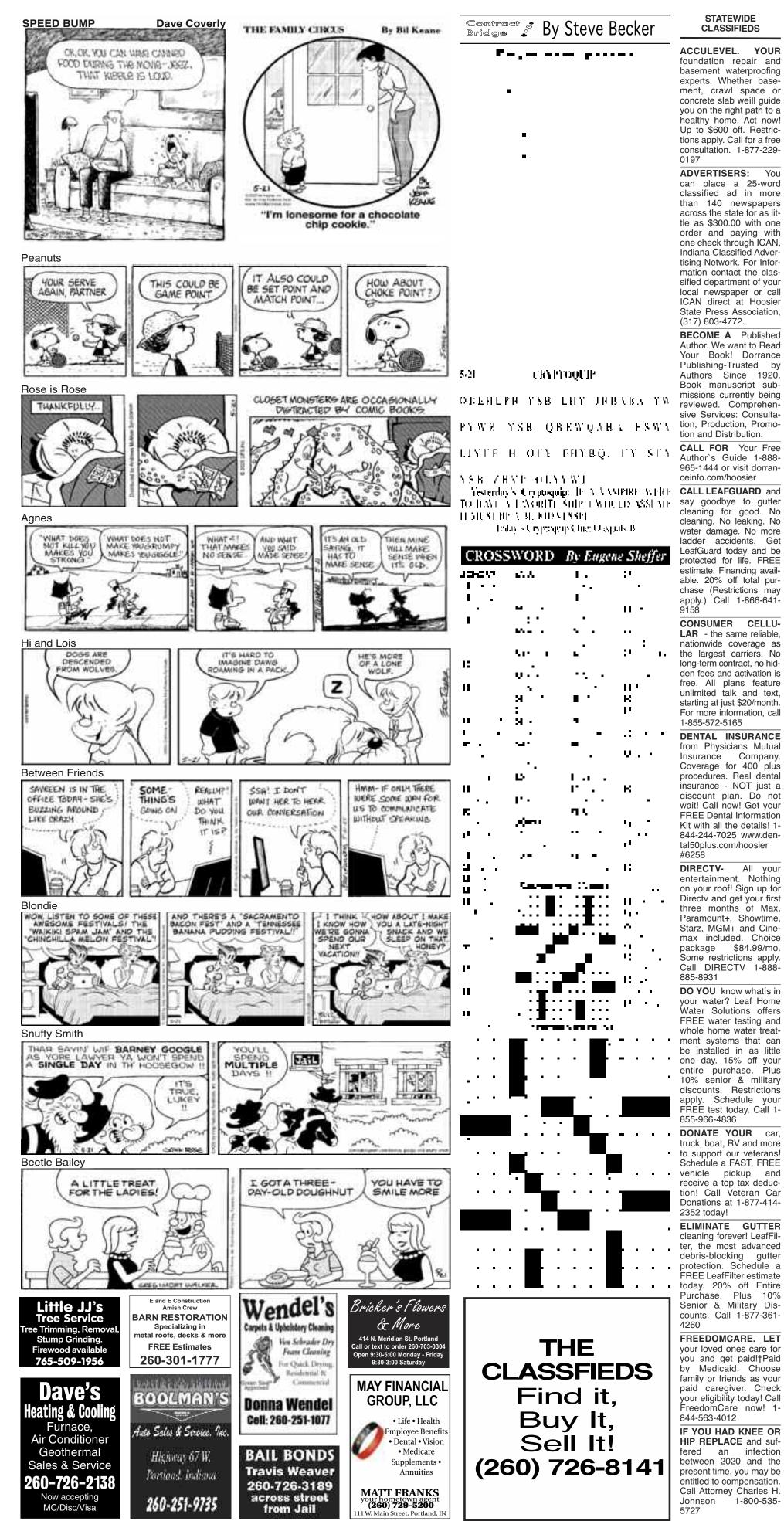
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Comics



Sports

Roundup

Continued from page 8 Gretchen Link and Sophia Sprunger won four games in the No. 2 doubles match, but still fell to Addison Bates and Delilah Young 6-2, 6-2.

Faith Faulkner and Raylah Newton suffered a 6-0, 6-2 defeat at the hands of Abby Gaines and Lily Harpe in the No. 1 doubles contest.

JCHS will face Union City tonight in the sectional opener. The Patriots previously swept the Indians 5-0 on May 9. A win would advance them to Thursday's sectional final against the winner of Randolph Southern and Winchester Community. Jay County's match with the former got cancelled due to rain, while it beat the Golden Falcons 4-1 on April 21.

Brantley blasts

League Willie Mayes baseball play on before sweeping the Royals 12-4 and Monday

Brantley Robinson highlighted Masonic Lodge's night with a home run in the fourth inning. Easton Steed led the team with four

RBIs, while Khoden Bentz, Emerson Cavanaugh, Mikken Huftel and Jake Lochtefeld each had two. Cavanaugh tallied the most hits as he went 3-for-3 at the dish.

Ashton Conn and Micah Davis drove in the only runs for PG-14. Parker Huntsman and Liam Ridenaur made up the two scores for the team.

Masonic Lodge outhit PG-149-5 and drew two more walks as well.

Portland picks up two

The Portland Rockets dropped Masonic Lodge beat up on PG-14 in their season opener 10-9 against the a 14-2 victory during Portland Junior South Bend Royals on Saturday

10-6 on Sunday.

Cody Rowles gave up five runs in the seventh inning to take the loss. Jonny Heitkamp led the offense in the season opener with two RBIs on a pair of hits and a walk.

An eight-run fourth inning gave the Rockets an edge in the first game on Saturday. Evan Pearce led the way with a grand slam in the inning.

Andrew Onuegbu picked up the win after giving up four runs on seven hits and two walks through four innings pitched.

Portland jumped out to an 8-4 lead in the second inning of game No. 2 and coasted to victory. Heitkamp and Pearce led the team with three **RBIs** apiece. Crosby Heniser earned the win after three innings pitched, in which he struck out seven batters.

Sixth

Continued from page 8 one final stand in the seventh inning, scoring two runs on an error and a sacrifice fly by Cline, but Myers had enough in him to get the job done with the fly out to Jetmore in center and a pair of lineouts to Phillips in left and Foster at second base.

Jay County and Delta have the potena rematch in the IHSAA Class 3A Sec-

tional 24 semifinal. The Eagles made Before that game, Jay County would have to go through New Castle, while Delta faces Connerville in the opener of the tournament hosted by Yorktown.

"They're a really good team and it's hard to beat a good team twice," said Farr. "We've got to play New Castle and they have Contial to meet again for nersville so we might meet up and we'll be ready."

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tured home with approximately 1400 square feet of living area sitting on concrete crawl space. This 1994 home features 2 full bathrooms. gas forced air furnace, central air, metal roof, and attached carport with approximately 736 square feet. This home is situated on a 136í x 173í corner lot which is equivalent to 3 city lots. Property also has 2 out-

door storage sheds. For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY, AUCTION-EER at (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, REAL ESTATE BROKER at (260) 729-2213.

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PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday JUNE 14th, 2025 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 1207 N SR 167 DUNKIRK, IN REAL ESTATE Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM.

90 SALE CALENDAR

2 bedroom home with Central Air, 30íx40í attached garage, 24íx32í Quonset building. Nicely situated on 2

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photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 **AUCTIONEERS** Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168

260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic #AU19700040 260-726-5587 **PUBLIC AUCTION** SATURDAY JUNE 7TH, 2025 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 127 Rayburn Dr, Portland IN. **REAL ESTATE** Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM. 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath brick ranch style home containing 1,328 sq ft finished living area. Central Air, Sun room, 2 car attached garage. Detached garage/ shop building. Home has been well maintained. Open House: Sunday May 25th from 1-3 PM or for private showing phone Auctioneers. VEHICLE ñ FURNI-TURE ñ SHOP 2003 Chevrolet Venture Minivan. Cast Iron Bulldog. Grandfather Clock. 8 Track Stereo/ Record Player. Glider Rocker w/ Ottoman. 3 Cushion Sofa. Rocker Recliner. Metal Patio Set. Bird

Bath. Lawn Cart. Craftsman 10î Table Saw. Craftsman Router w/ Stand. Craftsman Scroll Saw. Craftsman Grinder/Sander. Shop, Hand, and I awn and Garden Tools. OWNER: Rose Fennig Estate, by Dale W Fennig Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 AUCTIONFERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 **PUBLIC AUCTION** Saturday May 24th, 2025 TIME 10:00 A.M.

90 SALE CALENDAR

LOCATED: 606 S Western Ave, PORTLAND IN REAL ESTATE Real Estate sells at 10:00 AM. 3 bedroom, 2 bath Ranch style home containing 1,456 sq ft finished living area. Home has central air, newer roof, 1 car attached garage, 12x20 ft utility shed/shop. Home is in move-in condition. Open House: Sunday May 11th 1-3 PM, or for private showing phone auctioneers.

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from 4pm-8pm and all dav Thursday, June 5th/Friday, June 6th from 7am-8pm. Call 260-589-2743 Leave message to consign horses. Auctioneers

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Public Notice State of Indiana

County of Jay IN The Jay Circuit Court Case No. 38C01-2505-MI-11 In RE the name change of minor:

Ashton Castillo, Name of Minor Tiana Gaucin, Petitioner NOTICE OF PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME

Notice is hereby given that Petitioner, Tiana Gaucin, as a self-represented litigant, filed a Verified Petition for Change of Name on May 2, 2025 to change the name of Ashton Brandon Castillo to Ashton Brandon Gaucin.

The Petition is schedule for hearing in the Circuit Court on June 26, 2025 at 8:30 am, which is more than thirty (30) days after the third notice of publication. Any person has the right to appear at the hearing and to file written objections on or before the hear ing date. May 5, 2025

Melissa Elliott, Clerk CR 5-21,28,6-4, 2025-HSPAXLP

photos. SHAWVER AUCTION-250 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the Jay County Plan Commission will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, June 12,

2025 at 6:00 pm in the conference room of the Community Resource Center, 118 S Meridian Street, Portland, IN 47371. On the agenda will be a public hearing regarding establishing a moratorium on the permitting of carbon sequestration storage facilities in the County's jurisdictional area to allow for the development of an ordinance for such facilities and establishing a moratorium on future wind farm development projects to allow for review of the Jay County Zoning Ordinance regarding Wind Energy System Stan-

dards John Hemmelgarn Director/Administrator Jay/Portland Building Department 118 S Meridian Street / Ste E Portland, IN 47371 260-726-6904 iavcobldg@gmail.com ${\rm CR}\;5\text{-}21\text{-}2025\text{-}{\rm HSPAXLP}$

THE JAY SCHOOL CORPORATION CONCERNING PRELIMI-NARY DETERMINATIONS TO

ENTER INTO A LEASE, LEASES OR LEASE AMEND-MENT(S) OR ISSUE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS WITH RESPECT TO A SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED SCHOOL

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Preliminary Determination Hearings Notice is hereby given to taxpayers and all other persons affected thereby that two public hearings for the project described below (the "Preliminary Determination Hearings") will be held before the Board of Trustees of the Jay School Corpo-

ration (the "Board" and the "School Corporation," respectively) on the dates, times, and at the locations described below upon a resolution preliminarily determining to obtain financing on the school construction project described below through the issuance of one or more series of general obligation bonds and/or a lease, leases or amendment to lease or leases with a school building corporation incorporated under Indiana Code § 20-47-3 (the "Resolution"). Following the Preliminary Determination Hearings, the Board will consider for adoption a Resolution for the Project (as hereinafter defined). The proposed school construction project is described as follows:

The Project consists of various proposed improvements to the Jay County Jr-Sr High School building and athletic grounds, including but not limited to: (i) certain architectural and school safety improvements including, but not limited to, roofing, security upgrades, sidewalk and masonry repairs; (ii) certain functional improvements including, but not limited to, updating the former TV studio, band and choir rooms, wrestling rooms and kitchen, (iii) certain mechanical improvements including, but not limited to, replacing the pool dehumidification unit, water mains and building HVAC controls, (iv) certain electrical improvements including, but not limited to, the replacement of the main electrical switchgear and related panels, (v) certain outdoor athletic improvements including, but not limited to, a rebuilt tennis court, a rebuilt track, and upgrades to extend the useful life of the football stadium and baseball dugouts, and (vi) other related acquisitions (including real property if desired), improvements, upgrades, equipping, and renovations in connection therewith (collectively, the "Project").

The Preliminary Determination Hearings with respect to the proposed Resolution and the Project will be held on June 2, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. local time (first Preliminary Determination Hearing) and on June 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. local time (second Preliminary Determination Hearing). The Preliminary Determination Hearings will be held at the School Corporation's Central Office located at 414 Floral Avenue, Portland, Indiana 47371. The Preliminary Determination Hearings will be held in accordance with Indiana Code §6-1.1-20-3.1 and will address the Resolution and Project. The Resolution makes a preliminary determination in respect of the general obligation and/or lease financing of the Project.

At each of the Preliminary Determination Hearings described herein, which may be adjourned or postponed from time to time, all persons interested shall have a right to be heard with respect any matters pertaining to the Board's consideration of adopting the Resolution.

1028 Hearing

Notice is hereby further given that the Board will hold a separate public hearing in accordance with Indiana Code § 20-26-7-37 (the "1028 Hearing") at the School Corporation's Central Office located at 414 Floral Avenue, Portland, Indiana 47371, at 5:00 p.m. local time on June 16, 2025.

The 1028 Hearing will be with respect to the School Corporation's proposal to acquire, construct, install and/or equip the Project, which is at a cost in excess of \$1,000,000. At the 1028 Hearing for the Project, which may be adjourned or postponed from time to time, the Board will give explanations of the potential value of the Project, including a more detailed description thereof, to the School Corporation and to the community, including the educational purposes of the Project and its estimated costs, tax impact, and funding sources, and interested parties may present testimony and questions concerning the proposed Project, and the Board's consideration of adopting the Resolution, including objections to and support for it.

Dated this 15th day of May 2025. THE JAY SCHOOL CORPORATION By: Jeremy Gulley, Superintendent ${\rm CR}\;5\text{-}21\text{-}2025\text{-}{\rm HSPAXLP}$

and AuctionZip for more

Brenna Bailey finished the regular season 14-0. see roundup below

Wednesday, May 21, 2025



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Jay County girls tennis faces Union City today, see Sports on tap

Page 8

The Commercial Review

Super sixth

Patriots score six runs in sixth inning to take down Delta 6-4

By ANDREW BALKO

The Commercial Review The Patriots didn't have a ton of opportunities to score against the Eagles.

After the Patriots pushed their first run across the plate, Maddox Huffman came in to try and hold the Eagles' lead by stranding the bases loaded. For the first two batters, he was successful as he struck out Joe Geesaman and Brady Jetmore with some high heat.

But Drew Schemenaur came to the plate with a plan, and as a result, delivered the base knock that claimed the lead. Three more runs came in after to add the insurance the Patriots needed.

The Jay County High School baseball team utilized a six-run sixth inning to take down the Delta Eagles 6-4 on Monday.

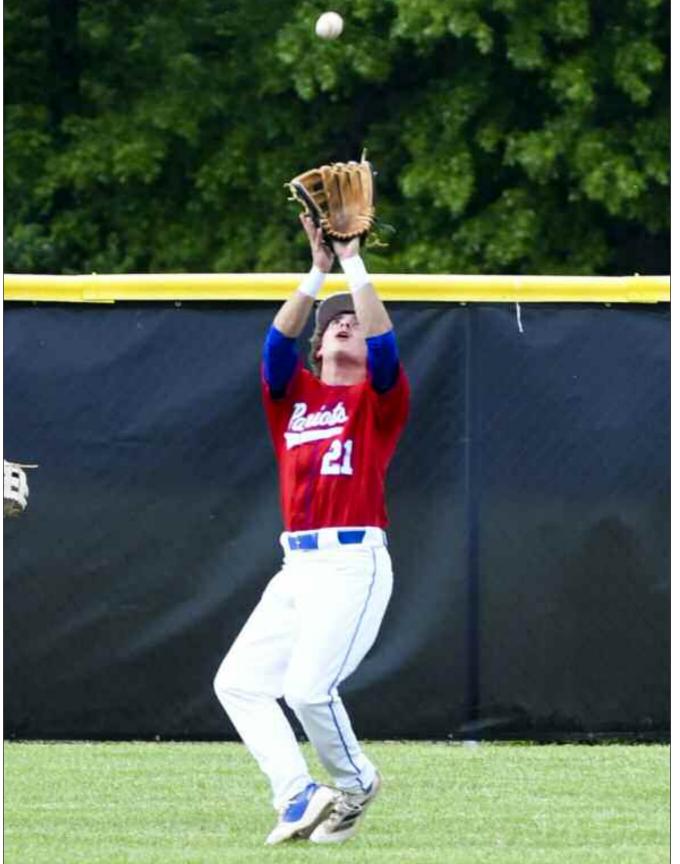
JCHS coach Todd Farr pointed to the effort of A.J. Myers on the mound as being a key part to the victory.

"Our pitching was there tonight," Farr said. "We threw strikes, they put the ball in play and when they did we made plays. It was a difference maker.

"We kept battling when our bats weren't there early ... and they got a couple there early, but I was really pleased with how we responded. We didn't get down. We made a play, had a quick inning, got after it and played ball."

Myers pitched a complete game for the Patriots (10-12) giving up three earned runs on four hits and two walks. He only struck out one batter, but got 12 batters out on ground balls or pop ups to the infield. His defense also backed him up, only committing one error in the final frame.

"A lot of it's mental for me," Myers said. "My old travel coach once told me, 'You've got to block out the



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| Delta Eagles vs. Jay County Patriots | | | | | | | | |
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| Huffman Jay Coun Myers | 0.2 ty 7 | 3 4 | 2 2 | 1 | 1 3 | 3 | | |

base line for a two-RBI single to take a 3-2 lead. (Bennett and Schemenaur advanced to third and second base on a fielding error by Chase Flannery in left field after the initial hit.)

"(Huffman) has good velocity on his fastball,' Schemenaur said. "I was the whole at bat, sitting and waiting for that fastball, especially after he gets our first two guys swinging at that high stuff. I told myself, 'the first pitch is going to be a high fastball, he's going to go back to it.' I watched it go by. Then he threw an offspeed pitch and I fouled it off.

"I got myself into a count that was 1-1, knew this was a pitch I could get ahold of. He threw that fastball low and away and I was able to get my hands to it and pull it down the line for a base hit. Brown followed Schemenaur with a two-RBI single up the middle to extend the lead to 5-2. Wyatt Foster hit a single to right field and Fugiett got hit by a pitch to load the bases for Byrum, who drove in a sixth run with a walk. The inning finally ended when Huffman struck out Phillips looking.

mental side of things and focus on what's in front of you.' So I can't let the walks and bloop singles determine what's going on with me on the mound.

The first two runs came in the fifth inning on a sacrifice fly by Kaeb Stebbins and a Lane Norton single.

After scoring the first two runs, Delta (15-8) silenced Jay County in the bottom of the fifth, but went 3 up, 3 down in the sixth.

quick start in the bottom it to as first baseman Kaeb

half as Carter Fugiett and Stebbins crashed the ball Gavin Byrum drew back-toback walks against Evan Conner. On the first pitch to Aiden Philips, the JCHS iunior laid down a bunt that Connor fielded, but The Patriots got off to a didn't have anyone to throw

and Zane Cline broke for second base.

During Garrett Bennett's at bat, Connor let go of a wild pitch, allowing Fugiett to score to cut the deficit to 2-1. Bennett then reached base on a fielder's choice to

base as he looked back at Byrum before throwing it late to first base.

Brady Jetmore, the Jay County High School baseball team's center fielder, camps under a fly

ball during the Patriots' 6-4 win over the Delta Eagles on Monday. Jetmore, along with Aiden Phillips in

left and Garrett Bennett in right, played all 12 balls that reached the grass without any errors in the win.

Delta nearly got out of the jam as Maddox Huffman struck out Geesaman and Jetmore on seven pitches with fastballs above

lacks

Campbell Light at third the strike zone as the putaway pitch. With two outs and the bases loaded, a redhot Schemenaur — he has had 13 RBIs on seven hits over the past eight days came to the plate. The junior catcher hit a sharp

ground ball down the third

The Commercial Review

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Jay County Civic Theatre's Production of

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The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

See Sixth page 7

WINGS RINGS

Jacks

Bailey stays undefeated, Patriots draw Union City

Brenna Bailey put together the final touches on a perfect regular season as the No. 1 singles position and learned who her first opponent will be as she looks to continue her senior season all in one evening.

The Jay County High School girls tennis team fell to Alexandria-Monroe 3-2 on Monday afternoon and drew the Union City Indians in the opening round of the IHSAA Sectional 53 hosted by the Patriots. Bailey finished the regular season 14-0

after taking down Avery Cueno 6-2, 6-0.

Meredith Dirksen picked up the other

Local roundup

point for Jay County (7-7) by beating Kara Quinn 6-0, 6-2 in the No. 2 singles contest

Lily Johnson dropped the No. 3 singles match to Fayte Bridwell 6-0, 6-1. See Roundup page 7

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today Jay County — Girls tennis sectional opener vs. Union City – 5 p.m.; Softball at Bellmont – 5 p.m.

Thursday

Jay County — Boys track sectional at Muncie Central – 5 p.m.; Baseball at Bellmont - 5:30 p.m.; Boys golf at Wodlan - 5:30 p.m.; Softball vs. Huntington North - 5:30 p.m.

TV sports

Today 12:35 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds vs. Pittsburgh Pirates (FDSN Indiana) 8 p.m. - NHL Playoffs: Edmonton Oilers at Dallas Stars (ESPN)

8:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Indiana Pacers at New York Knicks (TNT)

Thursday 11 a.m. - College baseball: Michi-

gan at UCLA (BTN) 4 p.m. – Texas (BTN) College baseball: TBD vs.

7 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Michigan State at Oregon (BTN) 7 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament: Texas Tech vs. Florida State (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — NHL Playoffs: Florida Pan-

thers at Carolina Hurricanes (TNT) 8:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Minneso-ta Timberwolves at Oklahoma City Thunder (ESPN)

9 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament: Clemson at Texas (ESPN2)

Local notes

Registration open Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. То register, visit RunSignUp.com. There are rides ranging from 20 to

100 miles long. The event will be held at 7 a.m.

Saturday, June 21. It will start at

Bellmont High School and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.

Jay hosting Jay Community Center will be hosting its 23rd annual J Gordon Meeker Golf Outing on May 30 at Portland Golf Club.

Registration is at 11 a.m. with a shotgun start at noon. Jay Community Center will be

honoring The Portland Foundation for being a longtime supporter at this year's event.

Support can be shown by sponsoring a hole, with packages ranging between \$100-\$390.

Those interested in sponsoring a hole or putting in a team should visit https://bit.ly/3YQzE7W or call (260) 726-6477.

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



Booky by **Bridget Carpenter**

WINGS

RINGS

Music by Tom Kitt

Lyrics by **Brian Yorkey**

Based on the novel Freaky Friday by MARY RODGERS and the Disney films

Shows are 7 p.m. June 5, 6 and 7, and 2 p.m. June 8 at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland

Advance tickets \$10 for students and \$12 for adults Available by visiting bit.ly/JCCTFreakyFriday, by calling (260) 726-4809, or at Arts Place, 131 E. Walnut St., Portland.



Freaky Friday seried through special amangement with Music Theatre International (MTI) All authorized parformance materials are also supplied by MTI, 423 West 55th Streat, New York, NY 10019 Fax: 212-397-4684 Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 2 www.MTIShows.com

