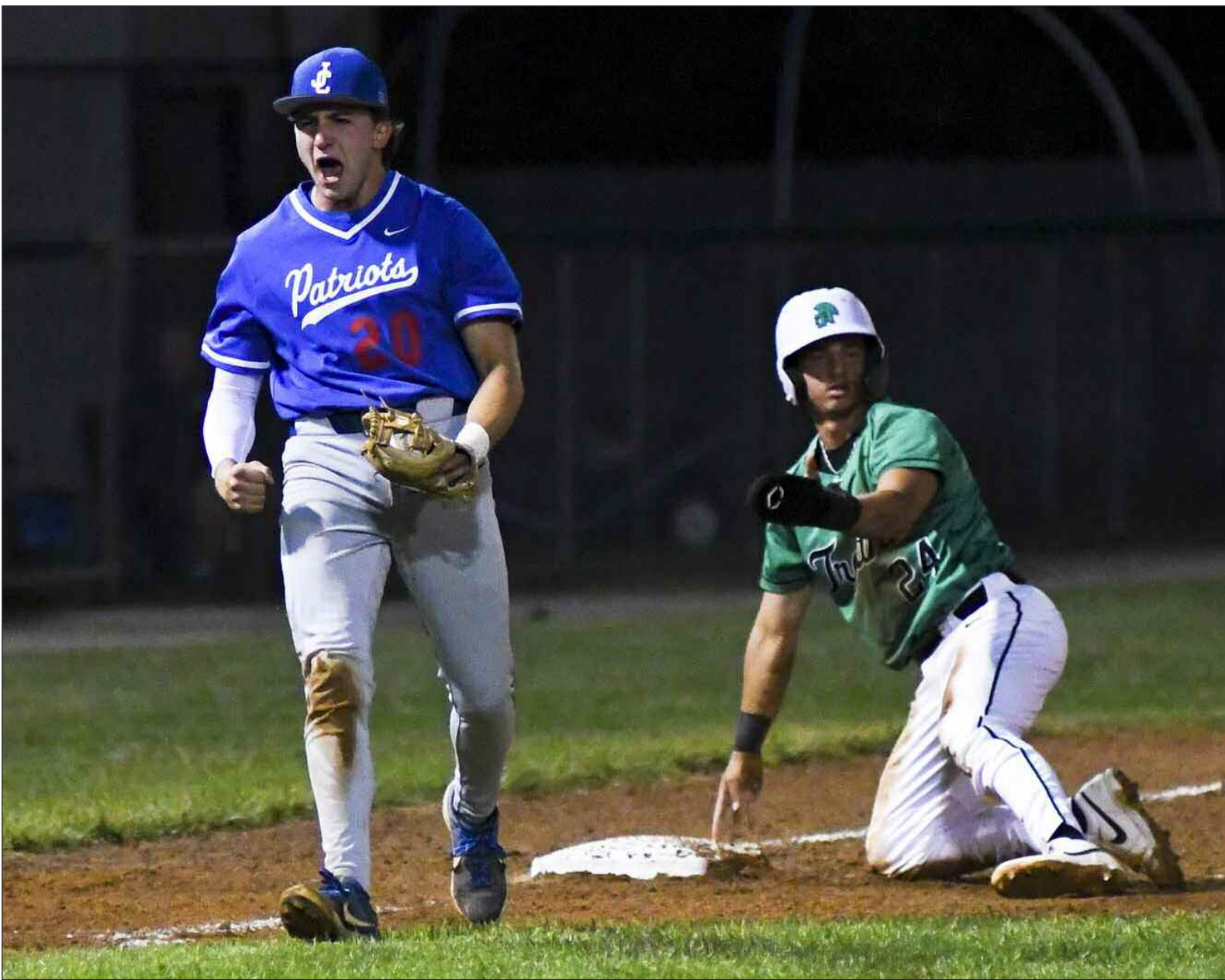


State declared free of avian flu

Disease hit more than 5.5 million birds in Jay

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review
Indiana is free of bird flu. In a press release issued by Thursday, Indiana State Board of Animal Health said Indiana “may declare freedom” from highly pathogenic avian influence, also known as bird flu. The declaration, which follows World Organization for Animal Health standards, eases expert restrictions and trade barriers for the state’s poultry and poultry products. The release clarifies that the designation does not declare an “all clear” for the disease in the state. “Owners of all flocks, large and small, need to remain vigilant in biosecurity and in preventing the introduction of the virus. The influenza virus is still active throughout parts of the United States.” Jay County has been impacted by avian flu more than any other county in the state, with 11 cases and more than 5.5 million birds affected. (Elkhart is the next hardest-hit with six cases, followed by Allen County with five and Dubois County with four.) The largest operations hit in the county had 1.4 million and 1.34 million birds, respectively. The last confirmed positive test in Jay County came on March 18. Only two new cases have been reported in Indiana since, with one in Kosciusko County in late March and the other in Portland County early this month. Jay County had not experienced any cases of avian flu prior to this year. Adams County had three locations impacted, affecting just over 25,000 birds. There was one local affected in Randolph County. See Flu page 2



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Sectional exclamation

Jay County High School third baseman Carter Fugiett exclaims after Drew Schemenaur caught New Castle’s Jayden Sticco stealing the bag early in the Patriots’ 10-2, 12-inning win in the sectional opener at Yorktown on Wednesday. JCHS got five Trojans out on the base paths as Schemenaur caught three stealing, Kade Sommers picked off a runner and Joe Geesaman doubled up a runner at second base for a key defensive stop late in the game that ended at about 1 a.m. Thursday. For more on Jay County’s first sectional win since 2019, see page 8.

Court for trade blocks tariffs

By SHAWN DONNAN, ERIK LARSON and LAURA CURTIS
Tribune News Service
President Donald Trump’s tariff strategy has been thrown into turmoil after a U.S. court issued a rare rebuke blocking many of the import taxes he has threatened and imposed on other countries. In a ruling issued late Wednesday, a three-judge panel for the U.S. Court of

International Trade declared that the Trump administration had wrongly invoked a 1977 law in imposing his “Liberation Day” tariffs on dozens of countries and they were therefore illegal. It also extended that ruling to previous tariffs levied on Canada, Mexico and China over the security of the U.S. border and trafficking in fentanyl. The Trump administration immediately said it would appeal, putting the fate of the tariffs in the hands of an appellate court and potentially the Supreme Court. The ruling doesn’t affect Trump’s first-term levies on many imports from China or sectoral duties planned or already imposed on goods including steel, which are based on a different legal foundation that the Trump administration may now be forced to make more

use of to pursue its tariff campaign. It’s unclear just how fast Wednesday’s ruling will go into effect, with the court giving the government up to 10 days to carry out the necessary administrative moves to remove the tariffs. But if the decision holds, it would in a matter of days eliminate new 30% U.S. tariffs on imports from China, 25% tariffs on goods from Canada and Mexico and 10% duties on most other goods entering the U.S. Those tariffs and the prospect of retaliatory ones have been seen as a significant drag on U.S. and global growth and eliminating them — even temporarily — would improve prospects for the world’s major economies. Some central banks have cited the uncertainty caused by trade wars as a hindrance to economic activity. See Blocks page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Portland fire chief Mike Weitzel shakes hands with former The Portland Foundation executive director Jack Cole after receiving the foundation’s Jack Cole Award for Volunteerism on Wednesday. Along with leading Portland Fire Department since 2016, Weitzel’s involvements include the United Way of Jay County and Youth Service Bureau boards, Portland Main Street Connect and Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition.

Weitzel wins Cole award

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review
Volunteers set the framework for nonprofits and their communities. One such volunteer in Portland received recognition for his various contributions Wednesday. The Portland Foundation honored Mike Weitzel with its Jack Cole Award for Volunteerism during its annual meeting. “I was completely taken by surprise,” said Weitzel, who has served as Portland’s fire chief since 2016. A board member of United Way of Jay County, Weitzel spearheaded Splashin’ with a Passion: Peggy’s Plunge. The event has raised more than \$20,000 over the past two years and benefits organizations such as Jay County Special Olympics, Jay County Cancer Society and Jay Homeless Shelter. Weitzel has been involved in ongoing discussions at Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition, serving on the opioid settlement task force for determining how to spend opioid settlement funds and working to establish Portland’s upcoming recovery home, The Vision on Votaw. Weitzel has been named Citi-

Portland’s fire chief adds honor to two Citizen of the Year awards

He also serves as a board member for Youth Service Bureau and has been active with Portland Main Street Connect. Former foundation executive director Jack Cole presented the award, sharing a few words about Weitzel’s involvement in the community. He read a nomination letter written by Cindy Denney. “Volunteers are the foundation for every nonprofit organization,” read Cole. “There are volunteers, and then there are, underscored, volunteers who deserve to be recognized for all they do in their community. Chief Weitzel is a perfect example of what it means to be dedicated to his community as an extraordinary volunteer.” Weitzel has been named Citi-

zen of the Year twice in the last five years for his volunteer efforts and various leadership roles. As he stood at the podium Wednesday at John Jay Center for Learning, his voice trembled. “I’m honored,” he said. “Thank you. I couldn’t do it without my family and the guys at my department. They support everything I do. It’s a great community.” Adding to Denney’s comments about volunteers, Cole spoke highly of the Portland community and its representatives overall. “I would like to add that volunteers are the very essence necessary in any community to ensure it is a place for people to thrive, survive and prosper,” he said. See Weitzel page 2

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 62 degrees Wednesday. The low was 55. Tonight’s forecast calls for a low in the mid 50s with a slight chance of showers and thunderstorms. Expect mostly sunny skies Saturday with a high in the lower 70s. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers Saturday. Trailers will be open from 9 a.m. to noon in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, and Dunkirk City Park.

Coming up

Saturday — Details from Fort Recovery in the regional track meet at Troy. Tuesday — Jay County Civic Theatre is preparing to put “Freaky Friday” on stage.

Weitzel ...

Continued from page 1

“Portland continues to represent the community that every one of you in this room should be proud to call home.”

Also Wednesday, during The Portland Foundation’s annual meeting, foundation executive director Doug Inman reported record achievements in 2024.

The foundation’s assets totaled \$55.2 million at the end of 2024, up from the previous year of \$47.1 million and surpassing its 2021 record of \$50.7 million.

The Portland Foundation had 30 new endowments last year, setting a record high and bringing its total to 474. It received \$4.91 million in gifts

and granted \$1.65 million in grants and scholarships.

The foundation has given \$13.5 million in grants and \$8.5 million in scholarships since its founding in 1951.

Inman shared updates about participation in the eighth iteration of the Lilly Endowment Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT) initiative. He said one component of the initiative requires the foundation to raise \$375,000 in unrestricted endowment gifts to receive \$750,000 in matching funds. As of Wednesday, the foundation had received \$343,298. Inman asked community members to consider making a gift.

“If you desire to create a lega-

cy for your family or for yourself, by establishing a new endowment, a gift of \$1,667 will get you \$3,334 matching dollars from Lilly endowment, will take you to \$5,001, which is the minimum amount to establish any endowment fund in our foundation,” explained Inman, noting gifts of any size can also be made to existing endowments.

He also talked about Jay County Early Learning Center, which opened its doors in December after.

The Portland Foundation purchased the former Judge Haynes Elementary School building in Portland for \$35,000 from Jay School Corporation in 2022. The foundation entered into a five-

year agreement in 2023 with Westminster Preschool of Marion to operate the learning center, which underwent nearly \$4 million in renovations.

The learning center serves newborns through 5-year-old children and currently cares for 30 children, although the space allows for up to 150 children. Inman and learning center officials noted spots are available. (The learning center is hosting a summer carnival open to the community from 4 to 7 p.m. today. The indoor event will include games, a bounce house, food and community resources.)

He also discussed hopes to offer early learning opportunities in Dunkirk. He noted the






foundation wasn’t granted dollars in a proposal last year to the Lily Endowment fund for the project, placing the effort on a temporary hold.

He also pointed out next year will mark The Portland Foundation’s 75th anniversary.

The Portland Foundation board president Jeremy Gulley spoke highly of the work the foundation accomplishes.

“Imagine for a moment, without this institution and all those who have supported it, what would it have looked like?” asked Gulley. “I think what’s even more exciting is what it will look like, could look like, the stories we haven’t heard yet, as we come to these meeting over the time.”

CR almanac

Saturday 5/31	Sunday 6/1	Monday 6/2	Tuesday 6/3	Wednesday 6/4
 71/45 <small>Mostly sunny on Saturday, with wind gusts reaching up to 20 mph.</small>	 74/50 <small>Another day of mostly sunny skies is in the forecast for Sunday.</small>	 82/60 <small>Sunny skies on Monday. The temperature may swell to the 80s.</small>	 85/67 <small>Tuesday's forecast shows sunny skies with highs in the mid 80s.</small>	 82/62 <small>Mostly sunny on Wednesday when the high reaching the mid 80s again.</small>

Lotteries

Powerball 23-27-32-35-59 Power Ball: 11 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$207 million	Daily Four: 5-3-8-5 Quick Draw: 11-12-15-17-18-21-23-24-25-41-43-46-47-54-59-63-72-75-77-78 Cash 5: 2-12-23-27-45 Estimated jackpot: \$90,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$189 million	Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 6-1-0 Pick 4: -6-7-8-3 Pick 5: 1-3-5-9-4 Evening Pick 3: 9-4-1 Pick 4: 2-2-3-7 Pick 5: 3-1-5-1-6 Rolling Cash: 6-19-24-30-36 Estimated jackpot: \$543,000
Hoosier Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 0-8-4 Daily Four: 6-4-9-5 Quick Draw: 1-2-5-7-12-13-14-15-16-17-32-49-54-55-60-68-70-73-74-77 Evening Daily Three: 1-2-0	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....4.75 June corn4.77 July corn.....4.15	June beans10.69 Wheat 4.91
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....4.77 June corn4.77 July corn.....4.80	ADM Montpelier Corn.....4.61 July corn.....4.61 Beans10.65 June beans10.67 Wheat4.80
The Andersons Richland Township Corn4.65 June corn4.65 Beans10.64	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.72 June corn4.72 Beans10.43 June beans10.43 Wheat4.81

Today in history

In 1381, the Peasants’ Revolt, which was the first popular rebellion in the history of England, erupted because of an unpopular poll tax.

In 1431, Joan of Arc was burned at the stake. The woman who had led the French Army to a victory over England and Orleans during the Hundred Year’s War had been convicted of heresy and witchcraft.

In 1806, Andrew Jackson, who went on to serve two terms as president, fatally shot Charles Dickinson in a duel.

In 1854, the U.S. Congress passed the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which indicated that the status of slavery in the Kansas

and Nebraska territories would be determined by popular sovereignty.

In 1974, singer and songwriter CeeLo Green was born Thomas DeCarlo Burton in Atlanta.

In 2003, Fort Recovery High School senior Tyler Niekamp finished as the district runner-up in the long jump to earn a berth in the OHSAA Division III Track and Field State Finals.

In 2022, Jay County High School baseball coach Lea Selvey’s 34-year career came to a close as the Patriots lost 6-2 to New Castle in the semifinal round of the sectional tournament at Yorktown.


—The CR

Citizen’s calendar

Monday 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.	Development Corporation, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland Park Board, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Meridian St. 7 p.m. — Salamonina Town Council, School-house Community Center.
Tuesday 4 p.m. — Jay County	

Tile replaced

Ryan Sheffer, Dustin Somers, Brandon Davis and Mike Cline move a new section of sewer tile while working Thursday morning on Main Street just west of Meridian Street in Portland. The crew was working on replacing a damaged section of the sewer line.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Flu ...

Continued from page 1

Darke and Mercer counties were the hardest-hit by avian flu in Ohio, with about 8.6 million and 6.1 million cases, respectively. Darke County had the most recent positive test in the Buckeye state at a commercial layer facility in mid-April.

In most cases, the facilities were “depopulated” — birds were euthanized — and many have been

approved for restocking. All control areas and surveillance zones have been released.

Jay, Mercer and Darke counties are among the top agriculture producers in their states. Jay County ranks second in Indiana in the market value of poultry and eggs sold annually at \$301.8 million, according to the 2022 Census of Agriculture. Darke and Mercer counties are No. 1

and 2, respectively, out of Ohio’s 88 counties at more than \$1.1 billion combined.

The first case of avian flu in Indiana in the 2022 through 2025 outbreak was reported in Dubois County in February 2022. The state has had 34 commercial poultry flocks and 11 small/hobby flocks test positive in 20 counties. More than half of the total cases have been identified this year.

Blocks ...

Continued from page 1

U.S. stock futures pulled back from session highs as traders parsed the court ruling. S&P 500 contracts rose 1.1% by 7 a.m. in New York.

The Bloomberg dollar index initially strengthened as much as 0.4% on Thursday, before erasing that advance. Yields on 10-year U.S. Treasuries rose five basis points to 4.53%, while two-year yields climbed as much as six basis points to around 4.05% before trimming the move.

Even as investors cheered prospects for a tariff reprieve, there’s uncertainty over whether the ruling represents a permanent setback to Trump’s push to reshape global trade or a mere impediment. Trump and his supporters have attacked judges as biased and his administration has been accused of failing to fully comply with other court orders, raising questions over whether it will do so this time.

A White House spokesman dismissed the spokes as one made by “unelected judges” who should not have the power “to decide how to properly address a national emergency.” Trump has invoked national emergencies ranging from the U.S. trade deficit to overdose deaths to justify many of his tariffs.

“Foreign countries’ nonreciprocal treatment of the United States has fueled America’s historic and persistent trade deficits,” White House spokesman Kush Desai said in a statement. “These deficits have created a national emergency that has decimated American communities, left our workers behind, and weakened our defense industrial base —

facts that the court did not dispute.”

If the ruling isn’t reversed or ignored, one of the consequences could be greater fiscal concerns at a time when bond markets are questioning the trajectory of the U.S.’s mounting debt load. The Trump administration has been citing increased tariff revenues as a way to offset tax cuts in his “one big, beautiful bill” now before Congress, which is estimated to cost \$3.8 trillion over the next decade.

U.S. importers paid a record \$16.5 billion in tariffs in April and Trump’s aides have said they expected that to rise in the coming months.

Major trading partners including China, the European Union, India, and Japan that are in negotiations with the Trump’s administration must now decide whether to press ahead in efforts to secure deals or slow walk talks on the bet they now have a stronger hand.

SERVICES

Friday

Laux, Giles: 10 a.m., Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, 506 E. Walnut St., Portland.

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

Toland, Rhonda: 4 p.m., Cardinal Hall, 100 W. Line St., Geneva.

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60th anniversary



Diane and John Coldren - 2025

John and Diane Coldren

The Coldrens are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary today. John Coldren and Diane Wiley wed May 30, 1965. The Portland High School sweethearts have lived in Jay County for 56 years. John Coldren is a retired attorney, and Diane Coldren retired from substitute teaching. They had three children, Jade Coldren of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Eric Coldren of Bradenton, Florida, and Julie Bolling of Fishers. They also have seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Diane and John Coldren - 1965

Try following tips to prevent biking injuries

Mayo Clinic News Network
Tribune News Service
Bicycling is a great way to stay active and enjoy the outdoors. Whether you're a recreational rider or a daily commuter, it's important to protect your hands and wrists. Dr. Sanj Kakar, a Mayo Clinic orthopedic surgeon

specializing in hands and wrists, shares practical tips to prevent injuries while biking. Whether you're a pro or biking for fun, there are common injuries all cyclists might experience. "The first one is a traumatic injury if somebody falls off a bike," says Kakar.

Common breaks from traumatic injury include wrist fractures. "We also see overuse-type injuries. So, for example, we see patients where they're pressing on the brakes for too long, squeezing hard, putting pressure on their palm, and their hands sometimes fall asleep — called numb-

ness and tingling," Kakar says. He says it could be carpal tunnel syndrome, a condition you don't want to ignore. The numbness and tingling can become permanent and result in the loss of muscle strength. "There are simple preventive measures you can take," says

Kakar. "Having thicker grips so you're not squeezing as hard can also help. Bike gloves help as well and sometimes puts your wrist in a better position than putting pressure on your palm." You can't always avoid an accident, but you can make your ride safer by wearing a bike helmet.

Long marriage has been a ride

DEAR ABBY: A man I know has been married for 40 years. His wife gets mad at him for small things and stops talking to him for three to four months at a time. Also, he will make her supper, and she'll make something else. Or she will make supper and quickly put it in the refrigerator. They leave very brief notes about where they are going. During long rides, no words are spoken. If company or their kids or grandchildren come, she puts plates of food out for everyone but him. Then, the switch flips and it's a great normal marriage again — with sex and everything else for three or four months. Then it happens again. This has been going on for most of their marriage. But it used to be shorter periods of time — two or three weeks — which I think is also too long to not speak. They have grown kids who come home and haven't noticed most of it. When this man confronts his wife during these stretches, she refuses to talk about it. I believe she must be bipolar. A nephew of hers has been diagnosed with it and is being treated. Her husband is ready to divorce her even though he still loves her.

Dear Abby



He's not sure what to do. Please advise. — LOOKING ON IN MINNESOTA
DEAR LOOKING ON: It is difficult for me to understand why a husband would tolerate the emotional abuse this man has suffered for 40 years. Please tell your friend that my advice is to consult an attorney, describe what has been happening and ask what his alternatives to the status quo may be. Then he should tell his children the truth about his marriage and inform his wife that he will no longer tolerate the way he has been treated. He should also tell his wife that unless she gets professional help for her problem, he's leaving.
.....

DEAR ABBY: I am a dog sitter in my 70s who has been taking care of a dog for the last five years. Her owner is a nice young man who is well mannered and polite. We have had a good relationship. A few months ago, he started seeing a lovely young woman, and I am feeling jealous and sad. I realize I could be his grandmother and there never could be anything between us. Perhaps I feel this way because I'm alone and missing the relationship I had with my husband, who passed away 12 years ago. How can I get over this feeling? — LONELY PET SITTER
DEAR SITTER: I'm glad you wrote. A dose of human companionship would be a start. If you are caring for a dog, you must be walking it regularly and, by virtue of that, meeting people. Step it up a bit. See what other activities are available for seniors in your community and join some of them. Whether you fall in love again or not, you are sure to meet new people and have less time alone. Please think positively and give it a try.

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Community Calendar

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

Friday
PAST RECOVERY SERVICES — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. To learn

more information, please call (260) 251-3259.

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

Sunday
A BETTER LIFE – BRI-

ANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. each Sunday at Fellowship Baptist Church, 289 S. 200 West, 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.

— 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.

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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.

Rates do not apply to special sections. Ads must run in June.

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New law raises drug costs for most

By **ASHTON ELLER**
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Because most Hoosiers rely on their employers for health care coverage and the manufacturing industry employs 1 in 5 Hoosiers, the Indiana Manufacturers Association (IMA) has long championed efforts to control spiraling health care costs. This issue is critical to individuals and employers alike and the IMA is encouraged that Indiana has seen a lot of improvement on this topic in recent legislative sessions.

Senate Enrolled Act 140, however, takes a step in the wrong direction. By mandating pharmacy dispensing fees, SEA 140 will ultimately burden employers and individuals with higher prescription drug expenses across the board.

At the heart of our concern is

*Ashton
Eller*



the provision within SEA 140 that mandates insurers, pharmacy benefit managers, or other administrators of pharmacy benefits to reimburse pharmacies at a rate that includes “a fair and reasonable dispensing fee.” This mandated fee will raise prescription drug costs on consumers.

Our estimates indicate that this bill will lead to at least \$100 million in new health care spending.

It’s crucial to understand that these increased costs won’t sim-

ply be absorbed by insurers or employers. Instead, they will inevitably be passed down to consumers, further straining already tight family budgets.

As businesses grapple with higher health care expenses, they may be forced to make difficult decisions, such as reducing benefits, raising employee deductibles or increasing employee copays for prescription drugs. This ultimately translates to less money in the pockets of Hoosier families, making it harder to afford essential goods and services.

Indiana employers, who provide health insurance benefits to their employees, will also bear a substantial burden. The increased cost of providing these benefits may very well negate any progress made this year in lowering health care costs. This is a serious concern

for Indiana manufacturers, who already face a competitive disadvantage compared to companies in states with lower health care costs. The new spending mandated by SEA 140 will only exacerbate this problem.

We are also troubled by the fact that SEA 140 exempts Medicaid and the state employee health plan. This exemption means that commercial payers, employers and individuals who purchase private health insurance will disproportionately shoulder the burden of these increased costs, while the state itself avoids the financial impact.

Simply put, legislators recognized the cost of this new fee and protected the budget they were writing but still raised the cost of prescription drugs on the private sector.

Pharmacy benefit manager

(PBM) reform is necessary and SEA 140 does contain some positive provisions. However, these positive aspects are overshadowed by the misguided and unfair mandate on health care payers.

The IMA is committed to addressing the rising cost of health care in Indiana because we recognize the burden it places on Hoosier employers, employees and families. Moving forward, we encourage the legislature to pursue a more equitable approach to addressing pharmacy reimbursement issues.

Eller is vice president of governmental affairs for the Indiana Manufacturers Association.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

Students want systems, not sides

By **PRINCETON LOCK**
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

You can walk into almost any American high school right now and feel it. Students aren’t just frustrated. They’re disillusioned. The message we’re hearing isn’t “get involved,” it’s “good luck.”

We’re told to pick a side, vote blue or red, join a cause, or take a stand. But when you’re inside the system, when you see firsthand how outdated, slow, and unaccountable it really is, the idea of choosing a side becomes absurd. It’s like choosing between two captains on a sinking ship.

My generation isn’t tuning out because we don’t care. We’re tuning out because the entire structure of American politics feels rigged for theater, not for outcomes. The debate stage gets more airtime than the budget. Symbolism beats strategy. And every issue, from housing to healthcare to public education, becomes a tribal fight instead of a solvable problem.

We’re not apathetic. We’re done pretending the current model still works.

We need to make systems that don’t care about sides.

The problems my generation faces aren’t ideological. They’re operational.

Student debt and food insecurity aren’t partisan issues.

Infrastructure decay, collapsing mental health support and outdated curricula are not left vs. right debates. They’re systems that aren’t delivering, period.

And yet our politics keeps framing every failure as a moral question instead of a design flaw. This makes reform nearly impossible. Instead of asking what works, we ask who’s to blame.

The result is gridlock. And the cost is paid by the people who can least afford it: young people, low-income families and those without political capital.

We don’t want control. We want coherence.

When I talk to students in my district, my city and across the state, I hear this: They’re not looking for power. They’re looking for function.

They want transportation systems that show up, housing policies that don’t collapse under “not in my backyard” pressure and schools that prepare them for real life, not recycled

*Princeton
Lock*



civics myths. They want to know what a policy does, not just what it represents.

Most of all, they want systems that don’t need to be believed in... because they already work.

Post-partisan does NOT mean neutral. It means useful.

This isn’t a call for centrism. It’s a call for precision. The old left-right spectrum doesn’t reflect how we think anymore. It doesn’t map to how we work, build, learn, or vote.

Young people today move differently. We collaborate across ideologies. We work in decentralized groups. We care about results, not reputations. When something’s broken, we don’t argue about it for five election cycles. We build around it.

What comes next isn’t a new political party. It’s a new political operating system, one focused on throughput, accountability and scalable design.

Where this starts:

If we’re serious about fixing democracy, we need to stop idolizing the debate and start fixing the delivery. That means:

—Making laws that expire if they don’t perform

—Creating real-time scoreboards for public institutions

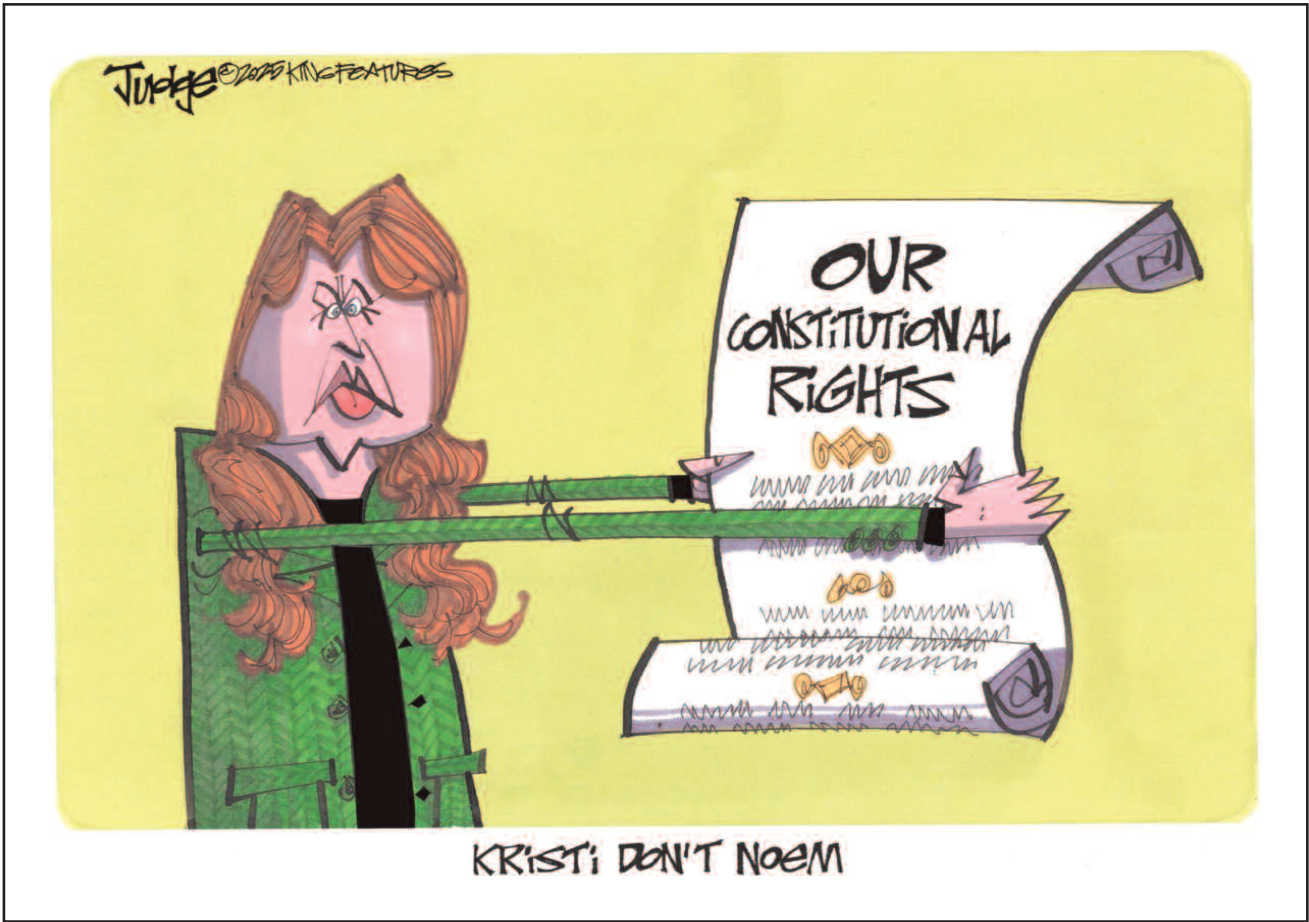
—Teaching students not just how government works, but how to measure if it’s working

—Incentivizing governance that scales, not just wins headlines

None of this is radical. It’s basic infrastructure logic and it’s what young people are already doing in our own spaces, from civic tech to mutual aid to digital education platforms.

We are not waiting for permission. We’re building workarounds. The real question is whether anyone in power is paying attention.

Lock is a student at Newport High School and the Project Lead of Youth Finance University, a student-led initiative providing free financial education to elementary and middle school students.



Community efforts are powerful

By **CAMERON CONNER**
The Fulcrum
Tribune News Service

Door after door, the response was the same: “Why would I vote? It’s not going to change anything.” Even in Grand Rapids, Michigan, one of the key swing counties of the 2024 election, people felt despondent — powerless. But three months later, those neighbors had organized with hundreds of others in the city to win \$20 million for their community — and that sense of powerlessness was changing.

We’ve swallowed a myth that the only change worth pursuing is national, forgetting it was historically robust networks of local clubs, organizations and associations that made national change possible in the first place. This is what good organizing can do, and we need more of it.

The community members in Grand Rapids didn’t do it with a 30-second sales pitch to garner votes for election day. Instead, they simply asked: “What are the pressures facing your family?”

Everyone had a story — deaths due to a lack of traffic safety, a public water main failure that flooded dozens of homes, and rising housing prices. At the heart of each was a feeling that wealthy interests kept pouring the city’s resources into beautifying the downtown while ignoring the needs of everyday people.

Canvassers were trained not to offer solutions but to issue a challenge: “What do you want to do about that?” Neighbors who expressed an interest in taking action were invited to begin organizing with others who had similar concerns.

The organization behind this was Together West Michigan (TWM), a coalition of faith communities, schools and neighborhood groups and an affiliate of the Industrial Areas Foundation (the oldest and largest community organizing net-

*Cameron
Conner*



work in the U.S.). Their goal was to put the needs of everyday people at the center of the coming elections.

In this process, leaders discovered plans for a major development in the heart of downtown: a request for \$565 million in taxpayer subsidies to build luxury condominiums, a hotel, and an office building. For residents, it was more of the same — gilding the lily while people fighting to keep their homes and streets safe were patted on the head and told it would all trickle down. One leader called the proposal “a slap in the face.”

Jumping into action, veteran TWM leaders worked with neighbors to meet with City Commissioners who would be voting on the deal. Residents made clear that, while they did not oppose development, they did oppose a deal that took half a billion dollars in taxpayer money in exchange for minuscule investments in affordable housing and a token promise to “improve the downtown.”

When the developers refused to budge, Together West Michigan turned up the heat — 140 of its leaders held a press conference in front of City Hall, calling for a “public benefit that matches the public’s investment,” before packing the Commission Chambers to deliver testimony.

A month later, after tough negotiations, their work paid off. In front of another packed audience, the City Commission approved an amended proposal that required developers to invest an additional \$20 million in local women and minority-owned

businesses in exchange for the public subsidy.

But that wasn’t the only victory. In an election year where voter turnout dropped drastically across Michigan, in the precincts where TWM organized, turnout decline was drastically slowed. People voted when they saw the impact on their own lives.

At a time when it feels harder than ever to rein in the abuses of those in power, stories like this give us a clear message of hope and a model for future action. They remind us that when communities organize strategically, people really can — and often do — win.

To be sure, the evidence of Grand Rapids is anecdotal. But it’s not unique. The civil rights movement, women’s suffrage, the 40-hour work week, the abolition of child labor, and other pivotal victories in American history drew on the same type of hyper-local organizing work grounded in kitchen-table issues.

Today, in living rooms, church basements, union halls, and schools across the country, thousands of Americans carry on this legacy. They meet to identify shared concerns, organize, and take action. Their work has led to billions of dollars in public investment and corporate accountability that has transformed communities.

It’s time we brush aside the failed conviction that our problems will be solved by electing better leaders and instead recommit to investing in citizens. It’s time to return to the foundation of local organizing that networks like the IAF have pioneered and get back to the day-to-day work of developing citizens well versed in the habits of a democratic culture.

Conner is a professional community organizer currently serving as a Professor of the Practice at the Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts University.

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—Thomas Jefferson

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Discovery sheds light on early ag

China Daily
Beijing/Asia News Network
Tribune News Service

XIANJU — At Xiatang village in Xianju county, East China's Zhejiang province, remains of a primitive village more than 9,000 years old have been discovered. There, residents of this ancient settlement cultivated rice, built houses and fired pottery over a span exceeding 5,000 years.

Excavations conducted in 2018 and from 2022 to 2024 that cover an area of 2,250 square meters — less than one-third the size of a standard soccer field — have revealed the general layout of the village. Various necessary components of an agricultural society, such as house foundations, a food processing base, a ditch, a road and tombs, have been found.

Chen Xingcan, a researcher at the Institute of Archaeology, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said: “The Xiatang archaeological site is one of China’s earliest known settlements with agricultural practices. It presents a panoramic view of the settlement forms and structures of an early agricultural society, providing a vital specimen for studying the early rice farming societies in southern China.”

In late April, the site was included among the country’s top 10 archaeological discoveries for 2024, jointly released by the China Cultural Relics News and

the Society for Chinese Archaeology. The annual list is recognized as one of the highest domestic honors in archaeology.

Discovered in 1984, the Xiatang site is located at the center of a basin, elevated 1 to 2 meters above the surrounding farmland and covering an area of around 30,000 square miles. It’s flanked by rivers on the east and west, and around 2 kilometers to its south is the Lingjiang River, Zhejiang’s third-largest water system.

Cultural layers of the site have reached 2.5 meters, encompassing the periods of Shangshan (c. 8000 to 6500 B.C.), Kuahuqiao (c. 6300 to 5200 B.C.), Hemudu (c. 5000 to 3300 B.C.) and Haochuan (c. 2500 to 2000 B.C.) cultures.

Zhong Zhaobing, a research librarian at the Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology, leads the excavations of Xiatang. He said that the site is unique across China as this single ancient settlement lasted 5,000 years and spanned the entire Neolithic period.

“It serves as crucial evidence for the independent origin and continuous development of China’s 10,000 years of cultural history,” he added.

While rice farming originated in the Yangtze River Basin, the Shangshan culture — the earliest known Neolithic culture in the lower reaches of Yangtze River —

is considered the cradle of the cultivation.

A research team led by Lyu Houyuan from the Institute of Geology and Geophysics at the Chinese Academy of Sciences found that wild rice was prevalent at the regions influenced by Shangshan culture as early as around 100,000 years ago. About 13,000 years ago, human ancestors started to grow rice, and around 2,000 years after that, domesticated rice emerged. The findings were published by the international academic journal Nature in May 2024.

Xiatang is the southernmost of the 24 sites associated with the Shangshan culture. Echoing with Lyu’s research, at Xiatang, wild rice dating back around 15,000 to 30,000 years has been discovered, while domesticated rice constitutes 75% of the rice remains found in the soil deposits of the Shangshan culture, Zhong said.

According to him, the Xiatang site reveals the layout and evolution of the settlement during the mid to late period of Shangshan culture.

Enclosed by the moat is a large terrace at the center with remnants of four mid-Shangshan culture house foundations — either circular or rectangular, possibly with fence-like facilities — a food processing base, a ditch and a road.

This central terrace is sur-

rounded on its northern and eastern sides by a dozen smaller elevated earthen platforms, where one mid- and two late-Shangshan culture house foundations and three high-level late-Shangshan culture tombs have been found. On the outskirts of the site, archaeologists have also discovered relics of rice fields dating back more than 4,000 years.

Analysis into the leftover traces on the many millstones unearthed from the food processing base shows that ancient Xiatang residents developed a variety of diet: rice, acorns and coix seeds, apart from pork, deer, fish and freshwater shellfish.

Zhong said the elevated earthen platforms, each being relatively independent and equipped with production, living and ritual facilities, may have represented the basic social organizational units within the ancient village. The central terrace, on the other hand, was likely to have served a public function.

Besides diverse stone tools for farming and handling food, around 400 pottery pieces in various shapes and sizes, such as large-mouthed basins, flat-bottomed jars, bowls and cups, form another highlight of the Xiatang site. Notably, clay mixed with rice husks was applied to strengthen some of the pottery items.

The pottery pieces are typically stored in groups within vari-

ous pits. “Pottery ware pits are a significant feature of Shangshan culture, although their functions remain unknown,” Zhong said.

In one of these 50 pits, there’s a large pottery pot containing 15 smaller pieces of ware. Archaeologists speculate that the pot may have been used for cellaring, sacrificial or burial purposes.

Moreover, the three high-level tombs were each buried with more than 20 pottery items, indicating the emergence of social stratification around 8,500 years ago, according to Zhong.

The academic community used to believe that complex social structures supported by a rice-farming economy were formed in the mid to late Neolithic period, exemplified by Zhejiang’s Liangzhu culture which thrived around 5,300 to 4,300 years ago.

The discovery at Xiatang has pushed the starting point of social differentiation much further back, said Wang Wei, a veteran archaeologist.

According to Zhong, further excavations at the Xiatang site are planned for the next five years. This year, efforts will be focusing on uncovering parts of the earthen platforms to the east of the central terrace to thoroughly study their contents, layout and function.

Farmers push back on report

By ANNA STAVER
cleveland.com
Tribune News Service

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ohio farmers are pushing back after a federal report questioned the safety of glyphosate and other pesticides.

The report was released as part of the Trump administration’s Make America Healthy Again initiative. While it stops short of recommending restrictions, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert Kennedy Jr. questioned long-term pesticide exposure — especially in children.

One section cited research on glyphosate linking the pesticide to “a range of possible health effects, ranging from reproductive and developmental disorders to cancers, liver inflammation and metabolic disturbances,” the report stated.

That’s stirred frustration in Ohio farm country, where growers say the report fuels unnecessary fear.

‘Ohio farmers live and work on the same land where they raise their families. They prioritize safety for their crops, communities and children.’

—Tadd Nicholson, Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association

but stopped short of classifying it as a cancer risk.

Monsanto, and later its parent company Bayer, has been sued by American farmers over claims the herbicide causes cancer. The company, which manufactures Roundup, denies those allegations but has paid billions to settle legal disputes.

Globally, several countries have taken action. France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany have all restricted use of glyphosate in recent year.

“Some people who drink water containing glyphosate well in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for many years could experience problems with their kidneys or reproductive difficulties,” according to Ohio State University Extension’s Ohio Watershed Network.

Glyphosate remains largely unrestricted in America, where regulatory agencies say it’s safe when used as directed.

That’s the position Ohio growers say they trust — and the one they want policymakers to defend.

“What Ohio farmers need is support, not suspicion,” Nicholson said. “This report only adds to the confusion in a conversation that should be rooted in facts.”

HEALTHCARE

How to understand your metabolism

Metabolism is often discussed but perhaps not fully understood. The Cleveland Clinic says a person's metabolism encompasses all of the processes within cells that keep the body functioning as it should. Metabolism provides the body with constant energy so it can perform essential tasks like breathing and digestion.

There are many myths surrounding the metabolic process. The following are some things to know about metabolism and whether it is possible to utilize it to spur weight loss.

What is a fast metabolism or a slow metabolism?

A person's basal metabolic rate (BMR) may be fast, slow or somewhere in between. Someone with a fast BMR will burn a lot of calories, even while at rest. Those with a slow BMR need fewer calories to keep it going. Genetics, medication use, illness, and activity level may affect BMR.

Does exercise boost metabolism?

The answer to this question is yes and no. According to MedlinePlus, it is true that a person burns more calories when they exercise, but that increased calorie burn only lasts as long as the workout and maybe an hour or so afterwards. Once a person stops moving, his or her metabolism goes back to its resting rate. Therefore, eating a ton of calories after a workout thinking that a red-hot metabolism will burn through them for the rest



of the day could be setting a person up for weight gain.

The same can be said for mistakenly thinking adding muscle will boost metabolism. Muscle burns more calories than fat and that boost does last a bit longer than the workout itself. However, most people only gain a few pounds of muscle in the exercises they do. It's not a big enough difference to affect metabolism dramatically. One may have to be a body builder to see a BMR boost associated with strength training. When muscles are not in active use, they burn very few calories.

What has the biggest impact on metabolism?

Metabolism is largely influenced by genetics, according to Harvard Health Publishing. Therefore, diet and exercise can be beneficial, but ultimately a person's genes dictate BMR. Also, most of the time the activities of keeping the brain, heart, kidneys, and lungs working account for most of a person's metabolic function.

What is diet-induced thermogenesis?

Many people think that restrictive diets that are light on calories are good for losing weight, but that can

sometimes backfire by slowing down a person's BMR. Harvard Health says diet-induced thermogenesis (DIT), or the effect of eating certain metabolism-boosting foods, may increase resting metabolic rate. Foods and beverages that may impact DIT include lean protein, unrefined carbohydrates, caffeine, and green tea. DIT tends to be higher in the morning, so eating larger meals earlier in the day may help burn more calories.

How does sleep affect metabolism?

While the jury is still out on whether or not lack of sleep can lower BMR, a 2019 study published in the Journal of Lipid Research found that a lack of sleep for four nights or longer may slightly decrease how the body metabolizes fat. Also, those who don't get enough sleep often feel hungry and may overeat as a result. This isn't a direct metabolic cause, but one to consider nonetheless.

Metabolism is a complex process that is affected by many things, none greater than genetics. A person may be able to realize moderate gains in boosting metabolic rate but there is no magic pill to increase metabolism.

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Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone:

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	1 ♠

What would you bid now with each of the following six hands?

- ♠ Q97 ♥ Q2 ♦ K83 ♣ AQ765
- ♠ 42 ♥ KQ83 ♦ AK ♣ KQJ73
- ♠ 87 ♥ K64 ♦ KQ5 ♣ AJ732
- ♠ KJ94 ♥ 5 ♦ A92 ♣ AKJ43
- ♠ 85 ♥ AJ74 ♦ AQ ♣ KQ652
- ♠ AJ8 ♥ Q2 ♦ A10 ♣ AQJ964

1. Pass. East's spade overall relieves you of the obligation to respond to partner's heart bid, and by far the simplest way of letting him know you have no clear-cut action at this point is to pass. To bid one notrump would tend to indicate something more than a dead-minimum opening and/or better spades, while to bid two clubs would show a stronger suit than you have.

2. Four hearts. You certainly aren't going to play this hand in less than game, so you bid four hearts to show the expectation of making 10 tricks even if partner has only six points. Three hearts — a non-forcing bid — would be altogether inadequate.

3. Two hearts. Admittedly, you'd like to have four trumps for the single raise, but three is all they dealt you. Raising with three-card support is surely better than passing and running the risk that partner will allow East to play in one spade.

4. Double. With six probable defensive tricks in your hand, and a partner likely to contribute one or two more, the best contract would seem to be one spade doubled played by East. Some of the biggest profits in bridge are collected on hands where opponents bite off more than they can chew.

5. Three hearts. Game prospects are good, but not good enough to ensure 10 tricks. All you can properly do at this point is to make a jump-raise to invite partner to carry on to game. If he passes, which he might do with a bad hand, he may struggle to make even nine tricks. The raise to three hearts shows 16 to 18 points, including distributional values.

6. Three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump or three clubs at this stage, either of which partner could pass with minimum strength for his one-heart bid. You should feel confident of making nine tricks in notrump and disregard the relatively few hands partner might have that would not produce a good play for game.

Tomorrow: A deductible deduction.
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CRYPTOQUIP

BNB FAXE ANSPU BFIAD
YXEPXTL ZMPUM BDNBAD ZNEJ
NT CFEPTS UPYPA UNFEL
UXRDR: RFD-CNJF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOW DID THE ONCE-RESPECTED FELLOW FEEL WHEN HE STARTED LOSING HIS PRESTIGE? UN-STATUS-FIED.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: I equals Z

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Early calculators

6 Abolish

9 Roman

12 Column style

13 Sch. URL

14 Jungfrau, e.g.

15 Justice Samuel

16 Florida neighbor

18 Colorful flower

20 Diamond heads?

21 "I love," to Ovid

23 Do wrong

24 Gather

25 Flex

27 Painter Frida

29 Long recliner

31 Conan of late-night TV

35 Bungle

37 Ellist

38 Brewer Frederick

41 Resistance unit

43 "CSI" evidence

44 Matty of baseball

45 Tennis great

47 New Hampshire neighbor

49 Draws close

52 Before

53 "Clear Day"

54 "Seinfeld" character

55 Two, in Toledo

56 Violin tuner

57 Long for

2 La Paz's country (abbr.)

3 Utah neighbor

4 New York's — Field

5 Computer symbols

6 Capital of Saskatchewan

7 Concept

8 Pair

9 Molten rock

10 Film excerpts

11 Bridge call

17 Tabloid fodder

19 Puma

1 Nabokov novel

21 Jackson 5 hit song

22 "What-ehs"

24 Priest's garment

26 Chinese food

28 Uproar

30 Perch

32 Ohio neighbor

33 Very long time

34 Cagers' gp.

36 Soldier's ID

38 Macadamized

39 Bygone Olds

40 Tiresome types

42 "Morning Joe" network

45 Last of the Stuarts

46 Crystal gazer

48 "Alley —"

50 Gun the engine

51 Away from NNW

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterday's answer 5-30

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15					16			17		
	18			19			20			
21	22		23				24			
25		26		27		28				
29			30			31		32	33	34
			35			36		37		
38	39	40			41		42		43	
44				45			46			
47				48			49		50	51
52				53			54			
55				56			57			

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Roundup ...

Continued from page 8
Roessner will await a callback in the long jump, as his distance of 20 feet, 3.25 inches, earned him fifth place. He came up 2 inches short of Marion Local's Cale Nagel and the final qualifying spot — the top four finishes from each regional and the next two best across all competitors earn berths to the state tournament in Columbus.

Bats stumped

MUNCIE — Jay County's 10th-ranked softball team had its bats stymied by the Hamilton Heights Huskies as its season came to a close on Wednesday with a 3-0 loss in the IHSAA Class 3A Sectional semifinal at Delta.

With the win, Hamilton Heights (12-10) moved on to play No. 6 Yorktown in Thursday's sectional championship game.

Lily Cash of HHHS dazzled in the circle, only allowing one hit in the game to hold the Patriots (20-3) scoreless for the first time this season. It was only the sixth game out of 23 in

which the Patriots had less than 10 runs scored. Morgan Missicano had the lone hit in the bottom of the first inning.

Mallory Winner suffered the loss after giving up three runs over seven innings pitched. She surrendered five hits and one walk while striking out three batters.

The Huskies scored two runs in the second inning on a single by Isabel Morrow and a third in the fourth off the bat of Melanee Forrester.

Tri too much

BELLEFONTAIN, Ohio — After winning its first district championship, the No. 5 seed Fort Recovery softball team fell to the top-seeded and third-ranked Tri-Village Patriots 9-5 in the OHSAA Division VI regional opener at Bellefontaine on Wednesday.

The Patriots (27-0) advanced to the regional championship, where they will face No. 2 seed and fifth-ranked Minster on Saturday.

Tri-Village grabbed a 3-0 lead that it would

never relinquish on two singles, an error and a walk in the bottom of the first inning. It put up four more runs in the fourth inning and answered Fort Recovery's four-spot with two final scores in the sixth.

Jenna Homan suffered the loss after surrendering 10 hits and five walks that led to the nine runs. She paced the Indians (17-10) at the plate with a three-run blast in the fifth frame, but couldn't get enough run support to take down Tri-Village.

PG14 wins

PG14's offense flexed its muscles in a 16-4 win over Southern Thunder on Wednesday during Portland Junior League Willie Mays baseball play.

Liam Ridenour, Trey Hirschy and Corbin Brown all were perfect from the plate for PG14. Ridenour had a triple and two singles to drive in and score three runs. Brown matched Ridenour with three RBIs on two singles, while Hirschy had two hits and crossed the plate three times.

12th ...

Continued from page 8
However, the Patriots weren't satisfied with one run. After a fielder's choice for the first out, the next seven batters reached base safely, including RBI singles from Carter Fugiett, Drew Schemenaur and Phillips and RBI walks from Geesaman and Byrum. In all, Jay County scored eight runs in the inning on four hits, two walks and three errors.

Farr was concerned that he had made his own error earlier when he decided to call for a squeeze bunt with two outs in the sixth inning.

The Patriots had two of the first three batters reach base by getting hit with pitches before Joe Geesaman was intentionally walked with two outs to put Brady Jetmore at the plate. Jetmore got his second bunt attempt down and beat out the throw for an RBI single that tied the game 2-2. Farr tried his luck at another squeeze play, but Gavin Byrum didn't get the bunt down and Grant Wendel broke too far down the baseline to retreat, getting tagged out at home.

One run would have been enough for Phillips, who followed Kade Sommers and A.J. Myers on the mound, finishing the seventh inning and get-

ting through the eighth with little trouble. Geesaman made a big defensive play in the ninth inning as he crashed a bunt attempt and slid to his knees to catch the ball for an out. The first baseman then relayed the ball to Wyatt Foster who got it over to Gavin Byrum for an out at second when the runner didn't tag up.

As well as Phillips pitched to that point, he got fired up after the 10th inning. He got the first two batters out on a popup to Geesaman and a ground-out to Foster before a walk and a shallow fly blooper to left put runners on second and third. On the next pitch, Phillips got Jayden Sticco to fly out to end the inning. As the JCHS junior returned to the dugout, he found his coaches and simply demanded, "Leave me in," which Farr and pitching coach Josh Atkinson fully intended to do.

"The guys always have my back," Phillips said. "They have confidence in me and I have confidence in them on defense. So I was like, 'Leave me in. I want to win this.' Last year we struggled with that, so I wanted to stay in and get the job done for this team."

Only one more runner reached base on Phillips via an error as he closed

Box score

Jay County Patriots vs. New Castle Trojans					
Jay County (11-14)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Brown dh	7	1	0	1	
Foster 2b	7	1	1	0	
Fugiett 3b	5	2	2	0	
Schemenaur c	6	0	1	1	
Sollars cr	0	1	0	0	
Bennett rf	2	0	0	0	
Wendel rf	2	1	0	0	
Phillips lf	5	1	2	1	
Collins cr	0	1	0	0	
Geesaman 1b	4	1	0	0	
Jetmore cf	5	1	2	1	
Byrum ss	5	0	0	1	
Totals	48	10	8	5	
New Castle (6-19)					
	ab	r	h	bi	
Murray 3b	5	1	2	0	
Hancock 1b	6	0	2	1	
Bell p	5	0	0	0	
Stilwell rf	4	0	1	0	
White pr	0	0	0	0	
Sticco lf	3	0	0	0	
Harris ss	4	1	3	0	
Ragan dh	4	0	1	0	
Mefford c	5	0	0	0	
Bane cf	5	0	0	0	
Totals	41	2	9	1	
Jay Co. 000 011 000 008 — 10					
N. Cast. 010 010 000 000 — 2					
LOB — Jay County 11, New Castle 11. 2B — Jay County 1.3B — New Castle 1 (Hancock). SB — New Castle 1 (Harris).					
IP H R ER BB SO					
Jay County					
Sommers	4	2	1	4	7
Myers	2.1	5	1	0	3
Phillips	5.2	2	0	0	2
New Castle					
Bell	7	3	2	1	11
Hastings	4.1	3	3	0	3

out the game to earn the win in 5 2/3 innings pitched, in which he surrendered zero runs on two hits and two walks.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Track regional finals at Troy — 5 p.m.; Baseball district final vs. Legacy Christian at Houston — 5 p.m

TV schedule

Today
6 a.m. — French Open tennis (TNT)
7:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix (ESPN2)
12 p.m. — PGA Tour: U.S. Women's Open (USA)

12 p.m. — College baseball: East Carolina at Florida (ESPN2)
2:20 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs (FDSN Indiana)
2:30 p.m. — French Open tennis (TNT)
3 p.m. — College baseball: Miami at Alabama (ESPN2)
6:30 p.m. — NHRA: New England Nationals (FS1)
7 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament (ESPN2)
8 p.m. — NHL Playoffs: Carolina Hurricanes at Florida Panthers (TNT)
8 p.m. — UFL: St. Louis Battlehawks at D.C. Defenders (FOX)

8:05 p.m. — MLB: St. Louis Cardinals at Texas Rangers (FDSN Indiana)
8:30 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: Oklahoma City Thunder at Minnesota Timberwolves (ESPN)
9:30 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament (ESPN2)

Saturday
6:30 a.m. — Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix (ESPN2)
9 a.m. — IndyCar: Chevrolet Detroit Grand Prix (FS1)
1 p.m. — PLL lacrosse: Utah Archers at Maryland Whipsnakes (ABC)

2 Pm. — French Open tennis (TNT)
2 p.m. — LPGA Tour: U.S. Women's Open (NBC)
2:20 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs (FDSN Indiana)
3 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament (ABC)
3 p.m. — UFL: Houston Roughnecks at Michigan Panthers (ESPN)
3 p.m. — UEFA Champions League: PSG at Inter (CBS)
4:05 p.m. — MLB: Milwaukee Brewers at Philadelphia Phillies (FS1)
5:30 p.m. — PGA Tour: Memorial Tournament (CBS)

5:30 p.m. — International Friendly Women: United States at China PR (TBS)
6:30 p.m. — UFC fighting (ESPN)
7 p.m. — NCAA softball tournament (ABC)
7:15 p.m. — MLB: Minnesota Twins at Seattle Mariners (FOX)
8 p.m. — NBA Playoffs: New York Knicks at Indiana Pacers (TNT)
8 p.m. — NHL Playoffs: Dallas Stars at Edmonton Oilers (ABC)
10:10 p.m. — MLB: Washington Nationals at Arizona Diamondbacks (FS1)
10:30 p.m. — FIFA Club World Cup: Los Angeles FC at America (TBS)

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION
Located: Under cover in the Industrial Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds, 806 W Votaw St., Portland, IN
Saturday Morning
MAY 31st, 2025
9:30 A. M.
HOUSEHOLD GOODS - OLD & COLLECTORS ITEMS - TOOLS
Amana washer & dryer; Amana French door refrigerator; GE stove; Kenmore chest type freezer; mobile cart; Hoover Power Dash carpet cleaner; 1960is VINTAGE LOS ANGELES DODGERS BOBBLE HEAD; paperweights; glass animals; GLASS BASKETS: Carnival, Yellow, Blue, Pink and Clear;
Carnival Glass; jewelry; Mickey Mouse bank; #6 crock with handles; marbles; Wagner skillet; Barbies; primitives; wood planes; ; cast aluminum yard furniture; cement bird bath; lawn chairs; fishing items; ; power washer; cement figures; fence; lawn ornaments; tomato cages; and other items not listed.
JERELDENE FULLER, DECEASED
Loy Auction
AC#31600027
Auctioneers
Gary Loy AU01031608
Travis Theurer AU11200131
Aaron Loy AU11200112
Kaden Khayyata AU12400069
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.
2 bedroom home with Central Air, 30ix40i attached garage, 24ix32i Quonset building. Nicely situated on 2 acres.
Open House: Sunday June 1st
1-3 PM or for private showing phone auctioneers.
RIDING MOWERS - ANTIQUES - HOUSEHOLD
Troybilt Riding Mower

90 SALE CALENDAR

w/ 42i Deck. Troybilt and Murray Mowers for parts. Iron Bed. Steamer Trunk. Hen on Nest and other collectible Glassware. Roll-top Desk. Bird Cages. Elvis Picture. Fishing Poles and Supplies. Generator. Shop Mate. Large Chicken Feeder. Several Items Not Mentioned.
OWNER: Mary L Shory
Estate by Crystal R Suman and Michael Dahlestrom
Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING 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.
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Grandfather Clock. 8 Track Stereo/ Record Player. Glider Rocker w/ Ottoman. 3 Cushion Sofa. Rocker Recliner. Metal Patio Set. Bird Bath. Lawn Cart. Craftsman 10i Table Saw. Craftsman Router w/ Stand. Craftsman Scroll Saw. Craftsman Grinder/Sander. Shop, Hand, and Lawn and Garden Tools.
OWNER: Rose Fennig Estate,
by Dale W Fennig

90 SALE CALENDAR

Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos.
SHAWVER AUCTIONEERING AND REAL ESTATE
AC31800004
AUCTIONEERS
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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY
IN THE JAY COURT
SS:
CAUSE NO.
38D01-2505-MF-000010
FIRST MERCHANTS BANK
Plaintiff,
vs.
THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, LEGATEES, DEVISEES, AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE ESTATE OF ESTHER M. AKER f/k/a
ESTHER M. SHANEYFELT, UNKNOWN TENANTS, TOWN OF SALAMONIA, INDIANA
Defendants.
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
TO: Unknown Heirs, Legatees, Devisees, and Beneficiaries of the Estate of Esther M. Shaneyfelt a/k/a Esther M. Aker
You are hereby notified that you have been sued in the Court named above. The nature of this suit is a In Rem Complaint on Note and for Foreclose Real Estate Mortgage on the following described real estate:
LOT NUMBER FOURTEEN (14) IN BLOCK NUMBER TWO (2) IN THE TOWN OF LANCASTER, NOW SALAMONIA, JAY COUNTY, INDIANA.
Commonly known as, 5910 E 400 S, Salamonia, IN 47381. Your whereabouts are unknown at this time and require this Summons by Publication. You may have an interest in the above described real estate.
In addition to the above named Defendants being served by this Summons, there may be other Defendants who have an interest in this lawsuit. If you have a claim for relief against the Plaintiff arising from the same transaction or occurrence, you must assert it in your written answer. The persons who are served by Publication of Summons must assert any claim or interest they have in writing in the above cause of action in the Jay County Court on or before thirty (30) days after the last publication of this Summons. If they fail to do so, judgment by default may be entered against each of such Defendants for the relief demanded by the Plaintiff in its Complaint. Dated at Franklin, Indiana on May 8, 2025.
Melissa Elliott
CLERK OF JAY COUNTY
COURTS, INDIANA
Attorney No. 29313-49
Matthew L. Kelsey, Attorney No. 29313-49
DEFUR VORAN, LLP
400 S Walnut Street, Suite 200
Muncie, IN 47305
Telephone: (765) 216-0181
Facsimile: (765) 288-7068
ATTORNEY
FOR PLAINTIFF
CR 5-23,31,6-6-2025-HSPAXLP

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Eight in 12th

Jetmore sparks big Jay County inning after midnight in support of heroic hurling effort from Phillips in relief

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

YORKTOWN — Fans had to wait an extra hour and a half from the original start time to watch the fourth consecutive installment of Patriots v. Trojans in the sectional opener.

The Patriots have dropped the last three tournament installments, but got the better of the Trojans during the regular season.

As the teams headed into extra innings for the second consecutive year, the Patriots needed some players to step up if they wanted to avoid getting walked off for the third straight season.

Aiden Phillips took up the mantle on the mound.

The hitters struggled to support him, with only two base runners from the seventh through 11th innings. When Brady Jetmore got a second life to lead off the 12th, he did not waste it. The rest of the order followed suit.

The Jay County High School baseball battered New Castle in the 12th inning to pick up a 10-2 victory in the IHSAA Class 3A Sectional 24 opener hosted by Yorktown in a game that started at 9 p.m. Wednesday and finally came to an end at 1 a.m. Thursday.

The win advanced the Patriots (11-14) to Wednesday’s semifinal game against Delta, which beat Connersville 7-0 in Tuesday’s first semifinal. It marked Jay County’s first post-season victory since the 2019 season.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Jay County High School junior Aiden Phillips slings a pitch during the bottom of the 12th inning during the Patriots’ 10-2 win over New Castle in the IHSAA Class 3A Sectional 24 opener at Yorktown on Wednesday. Phillips shut down the Trojan’s lineup over the final 5 ⅔ innings, only allowing two hits and two walks without giving up a single run.

“We broke through and that’s all that matters,” said JCHS coach Todd Farr. “I’m extremely proud of this group. They battled from the first pitch to the last pitch and I don’t know if we could do that early in the season.”

Before the 12th inning began, the public address announcer informed those in attendance that it would be the final inning of the night. If the

game remained tied, it would have been suspended and restarted early Wednesday evening.

In the first at bat of the inning, Jetmore swung and missed and fouled off another pitch to go down 0-2. On the third pitch, he attempted to lay

down another bunt, which rolled foul and should have resulted in an out. An error by the home plate umpire gave Jetmore another life as he determined the count was 1-1 prior to the pitch.

He did not waste the free life as he watched two more balls

go by before smacking a double to center field.

“It was pretty valuable,” Jetmore said of the extra opportunity and the double that followed it. “He gave me a second chance. I took it and got in the box and took a deep breath. I wanted to get out of here and

win this game. ... It was hype and I was happy to get that run in.”

Back-to-back errors by Arrington Murray at third base got Jetmore home to score what would be the winning run.

See 12th page 7

The Commercial Review
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FR baseball routs Twin Valley South

Local Roundup

FORT RECOVERY — The Indians had a wild ride to the state championship game. Before they can think about making it back to Akron, they need to work through the earlier rounds, and they just check off the first step of the journey.

The second-seeded Fort Recovery High School baseball team picked up a 10-0 victory over the No. 9 seed Twin Valley South Panthers on Wednesday in the OHSAA Division VI Southwest 3 District semifinal.

The victory earned the Indians (17-8) a date with the sixth-seeded Legacy Christian Knights today at 5 p.m. at Houston.

Dylan Klenke pitched lights out for the Tribe, as he gave up only two hits and three walks over the five innings. He also sent batters back to the dugout eight times with strikeouts.

In support of Klenke’s effort on the bump, the middle of Fort Recovery’s lineup teed off on the Panthers (8-14). Caden Grisez led the way by going 2-for-3 with four RBIs and two runs on two-run home run in the third and a double in the fourth. Alex Gaerke and Gavin Evers also hit well, contributing two RBIs each.

Roessners show up
TROY, Ohio — Anna

and Isaac Roessner of the Fort Recovery track competed at the OHSAA Division III track prelims hosted by Troy on Wednesday.

Anna Roessner set herself up well for today’s finals in all three of her events, earning the top seed.

In the 100-meter dash, Anna Roessner earned the top seed with a time of 12.04 seconds, 0.45 seconds ahead of West Liberty-Salem’s Chloe Grif-fith.

Roessner finished over a full second ahead of the second seed in the 200 dash, by running a qualifying time of 12.40 seconds.

Roessner also earned the top seed in the 400 dash and was the only girl under a minute, crossing the finish line at 57.96 seconds.

Her brother, Isaac Roessner, just missed out on making the finals in the 300 hurdles. He finished the preliminary race in 41.68 seconds, while Spencer Center’s Joseph Williams claimed the final spot with a 41.39.

See Roundup page 7