Thursday, June 19, 2025

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Moratorium consideration



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Nathan Howard

This aerial view shows an Amazon Web Services data center in Stone Ridge, Virginia. Portland City Council approved a moratorium on data centers on first reading during its meeting Monday. The council also decided to set a meeting to discuss a proposed moratorium on carbon sequestration.

Council gives initial approval to pause on data centers, plans to hold a special meeting on carbon sequestration

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

A moratorium on data center facilities first fell short of the necessary votes, then passed on a second try.

mately approved a one-year first reading during its meeting ties. Monday and also decided to schedule a special meeting to Planning director John Hem-

bon sequestration facilities.

Plan Commission made a rec- that his mind was changed after ommendation for a one-year attending a recent meeting. He moratorium on data centers. It noted concerns about heat and Portland City Council ulti- made no recommendation on a power use by such a facility. proposed one-year moratorium moratorium on data centers on on carbon sequestration facili-

consider a moratorium on car- melgarn explained that he ini- centers proposed for the comtially did not see data centers as Earlier this month, Portland a possibility for Portland but

munity.

Council members initially voted 3-1 in favor of the moratorium with Mike Aker, Michele Brewster and Ashley Hilfiker in favor and Ron May against, leaving it one vote short of passage. (Members Kent McClung, Matt Goldsworthy and Dave Golden were absent.) See Consideration page 2

House Bill could impact funding

Legislation could eliminate *'inside* millage'

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY - Some legislation proposed at the statehouse could make a significant impact on the school district's budget.

Fort Recovery School Board heard about Ohio House Bill 335 at its meeting Monday.

Superintendent Tony Stahl talked about the state's biennial budget process, which will wrap up by June 30. He noted various concerns from the school district's standpoint that have been proposed, including a potential year-end cash balance cap for school districts as well as discussion about scrapping the Fair School Funding Plan and creating a new model.

A recently proposed piece of legislation that would specifically hit Fort Recovery Local Schools' budget if approved is Ohio House Bill 335. Among other items, it would eliminate inside millage starting Jan. 1. (In Ohio, property taxes are charged as millage, with one mill equal to one-tenth of a cent.)

If inside millage is eliminated, Stahl noted, an estimated \$3.5 billion in property tax collection

Jay/Portland Building and

We need to, as a community, put the breaks on a lot of things and take a look at them," Hemmelgarn said.

There are currently no data

across Ohio would stop in January. For the village's school district, that would amount to just over \$1 million.

See Funding page 2

Khamenei: Iran will not surrender to Israel

By ELTAF NAJAFIZADA

Bloomberg News Tribune News Service

Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said his country won't surrender to Israel after U.S. President Donald Trump called for the Islamic Republic's capitulation amid growing speculation that Washington could enter the conflict.

know that the Iranian Trump said he knows nation is not one to surrender," Khamenei said in a statement published on his official website, Khamenei.ir. He warned that if the U.S. joined Israel's military offen-sive, it would see "irreparable damage."

Khamenei also said he opposed an "imposed peace," suggesting he would not engage in any U.S. or Israel-led efforts to force Iran into accepting a ceasefire.

Khamenei's latest comments, which were origi-

Leader is also opposed to 'imposed peace'

"The Americans should vised, come a day after where the supreme leader is "hiding" and also called for Iran's surrender.

On Tuesday, Trump and his national security team had a meeting that lasted more than hour, according to people familiar with the matter. Trump spoke with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Minister Ishaq Dar said Netanyahu afterward, a White House official said. resuming talks about its No further official comments were made.

nally scheduled to be tele- Friday and has hit scores counterpart in Tehran.

of targets in residential and commercial areas of the capital Tehran as well as nuclear facilities, gas fields and oil refineries.

In response Iran has fired hundreds of missiles at Israel, most of them targeting Tel Aviv. So far, at least 224 Iranians have been killed by Israel's attacks and 24 Israelis have been killed by Iran's strikes, according to government figures from both countries.

The White House has said Trump will meet Pakistan's army chief on Wednesday. The South Asian country — a key ally of Iran — has expressed a willingness to play a role as a mediator between the U.S. and Iran. Pakistan's Foreign

Monday Iran is open to atomic activities if Israel refrains from fur-Israel started its mili- ther strikes, citing direct tary strikes on Iran last communication with his

Flag on parade

Aubree Heitkamp spins her flag while performing with the Fort Recovery High School Marching Band during Sunday's parade at the conclusion of the Fort Recovery Harvest Jubilee.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Weather

In review

Applications are open for The Portland Foundation's Women's Giving Circle grants. The grants of up to \$5,000 are for not-for-profit organizations in Jay County for projects and programming in the community. Applications are available at portlandfoundation.org. The deadline is Friday, July 11.

Coming up

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

Saturday — Results from the Jay County Summer Swim Team's meet against Catalina.

Tuesday — Photos from the Portland Evening Optimist Club fishing derby.



Jay County had a high temperature of 84 degrees Tuesday. The low was 70.

Tonight's low will be in the lower 60s. Expect mostly sunny skies Friday with a high in the mid 80s. Highs will climb into the 90s beginning Sunday.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

Local/Indiana

Consideration

Continued from page 1 May said he voted against the moratorium because he would like to hear more information on the topic.

Council member Ashley Hilfiker responded that the purpose of a moratorium is to pause new facilities in order to allow local officials to gather more informa-Hemmelgarn agreed, tion. explaining that a moratorium provides time to put an ordinance in place to govern new facilities.

The council then took a second vote, with the moratorium passing 4-0 on first reading. (It will need to be approved on second reading before going into effect.)

City attorney Wes Schemenaur suggested that, because there was no recommendation from the plan commission on carbon sequestration, the council set a special meeting to discuss the issue. The meeting will need to be advertised in order to allow anyone who would like the

comment on the issue the ability to do so.

Council voted unanimously to schedule a special meeting to discuss carbon sequestration, which involves "capturing" carbon dioxide, transporting it, typically via a piping system, and injecting and storing it deep underground. With several members absent, they didn't set a date for the meeting

POET Biorefining, which is outside the city limits but falls within the city's 2-mile buffer for zoning, is planning a carbon sequestration project at its facili-

In other business:

·Approved a road use ordinance on second reading. It requires a permit for any project removing or altering a street's surface or subsurface material at a fee of \$500, with fines of up to \$3,000 for those who do such work without a permit. Firms handling such work must be insured and bonded. Those who remove or alter a street will be required to repair and replace all materials. The city's board of works, which will oversee the permits, may require that the entire block be repayed.

•Council approved tax abatement compliance reports for Pennville Custom Cabinetry, FCC (Indiana), Fisher Packing, Fort Recovery Industries, Pioneer Warehousing, Priority Plastics and Tyson Foods.

•Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition shared details about its various initiatives, including working with inmates at Jay County Jail, distributing naloxone and reaching out to individuals in the community. May donated \$200 to the organization. Mayor Jeff Westlake asked about the status of a planned recovery house at 422 W. Votaw St. Execu-tive director Kimbra Reynolds said plans have been submitted to the state for approval.

\$50,000 economic development

income tax (EDIT) loan to Rollin J Lanes, which has been advertised for sale. Schemenaur indicated that owners Tammy and David Jellison have been in communication with the city. He suggested a wait-and-see approach.

•Aker provided a reminder that Portland Evening Optimist Club will host its annual fishing derby Saturday at Hudson Family Park. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. with fishing to start at 8:30 a.m. Food will be provided at 11 a.m. The free event is for ages 3 through 18 (those 16 and younger must be accompanied by a parent)

•May asked whether there has ever been discussion locally about combining local law enforcement units into a single department. He raised the question out of concern for departments having challenges with recruiting employees.

•Phillips noted that construc-•May raised a question about a tion on the Seventh Street bridge over the Salamonie River is

scheduled to begin Monday. It is expected to be closed until mid-October.

•Phillips brought up several issues regarding city finances, noting that she and Westlake have talked about numbers for 2026 and at council's next meeting would like to propose 2% raises. She also said there remains hope that state legislators will make modifications in coming years to minimize the impact of Senate Enrolled Act 1, which addressed a variety of tax-related issues. In the meantime, she said, the city can impose a local income tax in an effort to recoup some of the expected funding that the city will not receive as a result of changes made by SEA1.

•Hilfiker expressed concern about speeding vehicles on First Street along the north side of Weiler-Wilson Park, suggesting speed bumps or another stop sign. (The street was recently paved.) Westlake said he would look into solutions.

CR almanac						
Friday 6/20	Saturday 6/21	Sunday 6/22	Monday 6/23	Tuesday 6/24		
ò						
85/69 Mostly sunny on Fri- day, when the high will be in the mid 80s.	day when the	93/75 Sunday's forecast shows sunny skies with a high of a blistering 93 degrees.	93/74 Monday's weather looks to be sunny with heat index values reach- ing triple dig- its.	92/74 Mostly sunny skies are expected Tuesday when there's a slight chance of rain.		
Lotteries Powerball Daily Three: 1-8-8 Estimated jackpot:						
Estimated jackpot: Daily Four: 5-4-5-8 \$101 million Quick Draw: 9-1 16-17-25-31-34-43-47-4 Mega Millions 55-58-65-67-68-71-74-7				: 9-11-13- -47-48-53-		
16-23-39 Mega E Estima \$302 milli)-46-55 Ball: 12 Ited jack	.pot. Mi Pie	esday dday ck 3: 5-5-2			
Daily F	y	Pic Ev Pic Pic Pic	ck 4: 2-8-5-3 ck 5: 2-8-3-2 ening ck 3: 4-3-3 ck 4: 6-6-6-2 ck 5: 6-6-4-6 lling Cash	-0		

Funding

Continued from page 1 Fort Recovery Village Council approved a resolution Monday opposing the bill. (The village receives approximately \$72,000 annually from inside millage.)

The bill hasn't made its way through the House of Representatives yet. If it is approved, Stahl suggested school board look into a tax levy to help make up for the loss.

Also Monday, Stahl noted work is ongoing with the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) project at Fort Recovery Elementary and Middle School. Hopes are to have the project completed by Aug. 15.

In other business, Fort Recovery School Board members Sean Kahlig, Greg LeFevre, Mitch Fullenkamp, Nick Wehrkamp and Don Wendel:

•Approved high school boys and girls bowling as a full sport for the upcoming school year. Fort Recovery's program had previously been recognized as a club sport. (See related story on page 8.) The school board also approved other sports and approved wrestling and indoor track as tournament sports.

•Accepted resignations from fifth grade teacher Kim Niekamp and high school English teacher Brent Niekamp.

•Hired second grade teacher Abi-

gail Bowers and fourth grade teacher Kiah Bruns, effective Aug. 1. Both teachers are Fort Recovery alumni.

 Approved hiring Nicole Fennig as a long-term substitute for the 2025-26 school year. Stahl noted Fennig will be hired as a full-time teacher once she completes requirements for obtaining her teaching license.

 Accepted the following as volunteer coaches for the upcoming school year: assistant junior high football coach Troy Homan, assistant junior high football coach Connor Kaikala, assistant junior high football coach Gabe Knapke and assistant basketball coach Hunter Muir.

•OK'd hiring several substitute bus and van drivers as needed for the 2025-26 school year.

•Approved participating in the federal free and reduced price lunch program for the upcoming school year.

•Authorized an agreement with Stolly Insurance for liability, fleet and property insurance and CFC for cyber insurance from July 1 of the current year through June 30, 2026. Treasurer Deanna Knapke noted liability insurance this year jumped to \$63,000, an increase of \$8,000.

•OK'd renewing liability insurance for eligible school groups at a cost of \$70 each for one year, effective July 1.

•Approved, with Kahlig dissenting, supplemental contracts with the following junior high football coaches: coach Darien Sheffer, assistant coach Bo Thien, assistant coach Brian Bihn and assistant coach Reece Guggenbiller.

•OK'd high school and junior high sporting event ticket prices as established by Midwest Athletic Conference and season ticket prices for the 2025-26 season. Varsity sport tickets are \$8 per adult and \$7 per student, junior high sport tickets are \$5 per adult and \$4 per student and season tickets are \$150 for adults and \$50 for students.

•Set lunch prices for the upcoming school year as follows: preschool through fifth grade, \$2.55; sixth grade through 12th grade, \$2.80; adults, \$4; main dish, \$1.75; fruit or vegetable, 50 cents; two breadsticks, \$1; chips or granola bars, 75 cents; and milk, 35 cents.

•Authorized an agreement with Jostens for producing the high school's yearbook from 2026 through 2028.

•Recognized nearly 25 students for obtaining perfect scores on their end of course state exams.



10-20-00-40-00	Ohio
Mega Ball: 12	
Estimated jackpot:	Tuesday
5 I	Midday
\$302 million	Pick 3: 5-5-2
11	Pick 4: 2-8-5-3
Hoosier	Pick 5: 2-8-3-2-1
Tuesday	Evening
Midday	
0	Pick 3: 4-3-3
Daily Three: 9-4-0	Pick 4: 6-6-6-2
Daily Four: 3-7-3-1	Pick 5: 6-6-4-6-0
Quick Draw: 2-6-7-12-	Rolling Cash: 1-14-19-
20-21-22-25-38-41-43-52-54-	24-25
55-56-58-59-61-65-69	Estimated jackpot:
Evening	\$140,000

ADM

iviarkets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery 1 70

Corn4.76 July corn4.79 Aug. corn4.90	
POET Biorefining Portland	
Corn4.77	
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July corn4.74 Oct. corn	
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The Andersons

Richland Township	
Corn4.69]
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Montpelier Corn.....4.50 July corn.....4.52 Beans10.60 July beans10.55 Wheat5.32 eartland St. Anthony Corn.....4.71 July corn.....4.71 Beans10.53 July beans10.16 Wheat5.21

July beans10.78

Wheat 5.36

Today in history

In 1775, the Continental Congress com- nia created a motion George picture missioned Washington to be commander in chief of the first state to do so. Continental Army. He later went on to serve Rockets swept a doubleas president of the United States.

event is celebrated win. today as "Juneteenth."

In 1911, Pennsylvacensorship board, becoming the

In 2011, the Portland header from the host South Bend Sultans — In 1865, Galveston, 12-0 in five innings and Texas, received word 7-2 — to improve to 10from Union troops that 5. Tyler Reynolds, who the Civil War was over returned to the Rockets and remaining slaves this year, tossed a noin Texas were free. The hitter in the game-one

— The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday

4 p.m. — Jay County rium, courthouse, 120 N. S. Main St. Court St., Portland.

7 p.m. — Dunkirk City **June 30** Council. city building, 131 S. Main St.

Tuesday

6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, Redkey Morgan Park, 50 Mooney St.

Wednesday

6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Commissioners, audito- Board, city building, 131

9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 3:45 p.m. — Jay County

Solid Waste Management District Board, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.

another delay anvuici ucia

Project faces

By JOSEPH S. PETE The Times (Munster) Tribune News Service

The massive \$311 million SoLa project that aspires to elevate Michigan City's skyline and position the beach town in LaPorte County as more of a restore destination faces another delay.

Michigan City and the developers had agreed to a June deadline to break ground on the 628,000square-foot mixed-use project that includes boutique hotels, condos, townhomes, upscale restaurants, retail, bars and a rooftop pool overlooking Lake Michigan. That deadline has now been pushed back to the end of the year, said Clarence Hulse, the executive director of the Economic Development Corporation and a member of Michigan City's redevelopment commission.

The redevelopment commission agreed to a new deadline as Chicagobased Farpoint Development group looks to line up financing for the project, which has been touted as a transformative game changer for downtown Michigan City and North-Indiana's west Lake Michigan lakefront as a whole.

Scott Goodman, а prominent Chicago developer whose previous Sterling Bay firm developed Fulton Market and the Tyson Food Headquarters in Chicago, is looking to build the 14-story-tall development to lure Chicagoans to have second homes along the lake and make Michigan City more of a summer getaway like neighboring New Buffalo.

Farpoint, which has done major projects like 830 N. Michigan Ave. and 939 W. North Ave. in Chicago, originally discussed a \$150 million project at the "You Are Beautiful" site near the Michigan City lakefront back in 2011. The project had faced a number of delays and factors driving up the cost, including the pandemic, inflation, high interest rates and spikes on construction costs.

One of the original financiers fell though and banks have not been looking to finance condos in the current environment, Hulse said.

Felony arrests

A Portland woman was arrested Tuesday for unlawful possession of a

Christian M. Scott, 24, 824 W. Race St., is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for the alleged crime, along with a Class C misdemeanor for operating a vehicle while intoxicated. She was being held in Jay County Jail on a \$4,500 bond.

SERVICES Saturday Smiley, Franklin: I p.m., Tribute Funeral Home, 1000 N. Broadway St., Greenville, Ohio. Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE **DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS**



Unlawful possession

syringe.

First to Eleven performs tonight

The Hudson Family Park amphitheatre concert series begins tonight.

First to Eleven, a cover band based out of Erie, Pennsylvania, will perform at 8 p.m. today at the park in Portland. The band takes popular songs and adds an extra twist, mashing different styles from songs from the 1980s, '90s and present.

The free family friendly event will also feature activities for children and food.

For more information or to learn more about how to get involved, please contact Arts Place by calling (260) 726-4809 or emailing jcc@myartsplace.org.

Cruise-in carnival

The carnival is coming to list at Miami University. town

Taking Note

host a carnival cruise-in on downtown Main Street in Portland Saturday.

Activities from 4 to 7:30 p.m. include free carnival games and dunk tanks, as well as a pie-inthe-face event. The festival will also include cars, vendors and food trucks.

President's list

A Fort Recovery resident recently made the president's include:

Peer Addiction Support Team honor, which is awarded to Amphitheater at Ball State Uni-(PAST) Recovery Services will undergraduate students ranked versity

in the top 3% within each division for the spring semester.

Dean's list

A Portland native made the dean's list at University of Alabama.

Sharon Villas earned a spot on the college's spring semester dean's list. In order to receive the honor, students must have a 3.5 GPA or above.

Series continues

The Muncie Three Trails Music Series is in full swing.

Its next concert, a performance by Blue Moon Marquee, opens at 7 p.m. Aug. 16 at Canan Commons.

Other upcoming shows

•Saturday, Aug. 23 — Vanessa Megan Knapke earned the Collier at Brown Family

JH students make honor roll

School recently announced its second semester honor roll students.

Making the list were seventh graders Caiden Acheson, Avery Ainsworth, Jake Arnold, Brailynn Barker, Yesenia Barrientos, Lyle Beiswanger, Marshal Bihn, Makenzie Blizzard, Layla Boyer, Jaylen Brown, Bentley Brunswick, Jayden Butler, Avery Carpenter, Urijah Carpenter, Angela Carreno, Jordyn Champ, Danica Chowning, Roman Clamme, Ellie Clark, Emalynn Clark, Carter Cox and Mackenzie Coy.

Also Raelynn Crabtree, Ava Dame, Macy DeHoff, Jackson Denton, Job Dirksen, Dillon Dunnington, Jenson Edwards, Violet Eley,

Jay County Junior-Senior High Logan Fifer, Allianna Fosnaugh, Joslyn Norman, Folton Parr, Joan-Ashlynn Fox, Gabriella Friddle, Daisy Garcia-Benitez, Daniel Garcia-Benitez, Vanessa Gatto and Aliyha Gilbert.

Also Katieann Graber, Finn Hemmelgarn, Bentley Hodgson, Eli Homan, Logan Hornbaker, Frederick Howell, Grace Huelskamp, Aubree Hunley, Kamzy Johnson, Bristol Kahlig, Ango Kato, Kellan Keys, Alexander Koenig, Harper Kunkle, Nadlie Landers, Sophia Lawhead, Anderson Layton, Chloe Lewellen, Arabella Link, Murphy Link, Brandon Loyd and Ali Luna.

Also Trinity Marcum, Eric Martinez Alvarez, Parker McCoy, Gabriella Miller, Lexi Miller, Elvira Elliott, Mohamed Elshiekh, James Moore, Andrew Myers,

na Peterson, Lillyan Petro, Solomon Petro, Ayva Pitman and Fletcher Post.

Recker, Hallie Also Ryan Reynolds, Journey Reynolds, Tristin Romine, Gavin Rosenbeck, Brenna Rowles, Karson Schilling, Joe Schwartz, Easton Siegrist, Kyla Sims, Emma Skirvin, Nicholas Somers, Kaitlin Southworth and Aiden Stallsmith.

Also Kaylynn Stanley, Leah Steed, Andrew Swartzentruber, Kari Timmerman, Brantley Towell, Byron Upp, Sofiia Us, Brayden Walker, Alexa Watkins, Sophia Weesner, Aubrie Weitzel, Brenna Weitzel, Alyssa Wendel, Eli Westgerdes, Jade Westgerdes, Saige Winget and Daniel Wright.

Husband is quick to judge

DEAR ABBY: In the four vears my husband and I have been married, his distaste for the LGBTQ community has grown into a passion. He calls it immoral and unnatural. I've never tried to change his opinion, but because I don't enthusiastically agree with him, he is convinced I'm going to hell. He uses nearly every conversation as an opportunity to share his feelings on this issue. Any response I volunteer goes unheard.

Shortly after our wedding, my father revealed he is gay. Thankfully, my husband can be kind to him while disapproving of his sexuality. I'm not sure Dad knows the extent of my husband's negative feelings. (They live in different states, so they rarely see each other.)

My problem is, my father recently became engaged to his partner, and I'm not sure how to tell my husband. I'm not asking him to agree with my dad's life, but I don't want him to steal my joy over this event or make me feel guilty for going to their wedding. I will certainly be going alone. Advice, Abby? ALLY IN MICHIGAN

DEAR ALLY: Yes, I do have some. However, it is more far-reaching than you may expect. That your husband discounts or "doesn't hear" what you need to communicate to him does not bode well for the future of your marriage. Your father's sexual orientation may be abhorrent to accused again.

your husband, but it is not "unnatural." If you wish to attend your father's wedding, do it, and do not feel guilty for supporting him at this important time. You are not going to hell for loving and accepting your father — quite the opposite, in fact.

Dear

DEAR ABBY: We have been friends with a couple for many, many years. Unfortunately, someone took some items out of their house. Our long friendship is now over because they think we stole from them. Although they have gotten over it, we cannot. They say it's "in the past" and it's time to move on. They can't understand that we feel so insulted that we no longer want to remain friends with them. They never offered an apology, which makes us feel they still doubt us. Are we oversensitive? - INNO-CENT IN NEW HAMP-SHIRE

DEAR INNOCENT: No, you are not. In light of the fact that you never received an apology for the wrongful accusation, it makes sense that you not put yourselves in the position of being

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in A group for those strugmit an item, news@thecr.com.

Today

STITCH AND CHAT-TER QUILT CLUB Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and tell is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334. CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more meet at 3 p.m. on the third information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251- main conference room. 8792.

Community Calendar as gling with addiction that space is available. To sub-focuses on motivation, Lions Civic Center, 307 W. *email* coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health ness will meet from 7 to 9 Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland. EN AVANT CLUB -

Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland

100 North. FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illp.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1.

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

HISTORI-DUNKIRK CAL MUSEUM — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the third Friday and Saturday of each month at Webster Depot, 132 W. Railroad St.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will hold its next meeting at noon Friday, June 20, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Consumer Cellular

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UNDERSTANDING YOUR SUICIDE GRIEF — Meets from 1 to 2:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month. The support group serves to help individuals who have lost a loved one to suicide. To register. contact Stephanie Patterson at (260) 251-3259.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford

4

PORTLAND SMART RECOVERY — CLUB — Will meet at 6:30

2

6

3

Sudoku

Fridav

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

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — 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.

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Level: Intermediate

9

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

Run all the following: Four 3x5 Ads in The Commercial Review Two 3x5 Ads in The News Gazette One 3x5 Ad in The News Times

The commercial Review	\$120
The News Gazette	\$145
The News Times	\$120



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Opinion

Will U.S. remain on the sidelines?

Bv HUGO BALTA The Fulcrum

Tribune News Service

"I want to thank President Trump for his leadership in confronting Iran's nuclear weapons program. He has made clear time and again that Iran cannot have a nuclear enrichment program,' said Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in an address soon after launching Operation Rising Lion, an attack on Iran.

Netanvahu said that Israel targeted Iran's main enrichment than 100 drones toward Israeli facility in Natanz and the country's ballistic missile program, as well as top nuclear scientists and officials, in Friday's strike.

According to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), Israel deployed approximately 200 fighter jets in a major aerial operation, striking more than 100 targets across Iran. The IDF stated that over 330 munitions of various types were used in the attack, which remains ongoing. A military source familiar with the operation told CNN that the campaign is not limited to a single day, sug-



gesting further strikes may follow.

The IDF also reported that Tehran responded by firing more territory. The IDF said Israeli defenses were working to intercept the drones.

Soon after news of the military strikes broke, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio put a distance between the U.S. and what he called "unilateral action" by their close ally. Rubio cautioned Tehran against retaliatory strikes targeting American forces. "We are not involved in strikes against Iran, and our top priority is protecting American forces in the region," he said.

On Thursday, President Don-

ald Trump warned of the possi- potential rifts between the U.S. bility of "massive conflict" in and Israeli leadership. the Middle East that could take place "soon." "I don't want to say imminent, but it's something that could very well happen," Trump told reporters at the White House, CNN reported. "I want to have an agreement

with Iran. We're fairly close to an agreement. ... As long as I think there is an agreement, I don't want them going in the past. because that would blow it. Might help it, actually, but also could blow it," he said when asked about a potential Israeli strike.

In recent days, the U.S. has initiated partial diplomatic drawdowns, relocating some personnel from Iraq's capital and offering voluntary deparoptions for military ture dependents across the broader Middle East.

The possibility of the U.S. staying out of the fight in Israel is complex and depends on evolving circumstances. There have been some indications of

While publicly, the White House has been attempting to signal that it wants to remain out of the immediate fight. The U.S. is Israel's most important ally, making it difficult for Washington to detach itself from the conflict completely. Historical precedents suggest the U.S. may be called upon to defend Israel, as it has in

The U.S. has provided significant military aid and defense support to Israel, including missile defense systems. It has also maintained a military presence in the Middle East, with troops stationed across several countries.

Countries worldwide, including Oman, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Britain, Australia, and New Zealand, have expressed concern over Israel's airstrikes, with some describing the actions as escalatory. Many nations are calling for both Israel and Iran to de-escalate tensions and to ensure stability in the region.

Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-SC, of the Fulcrum.

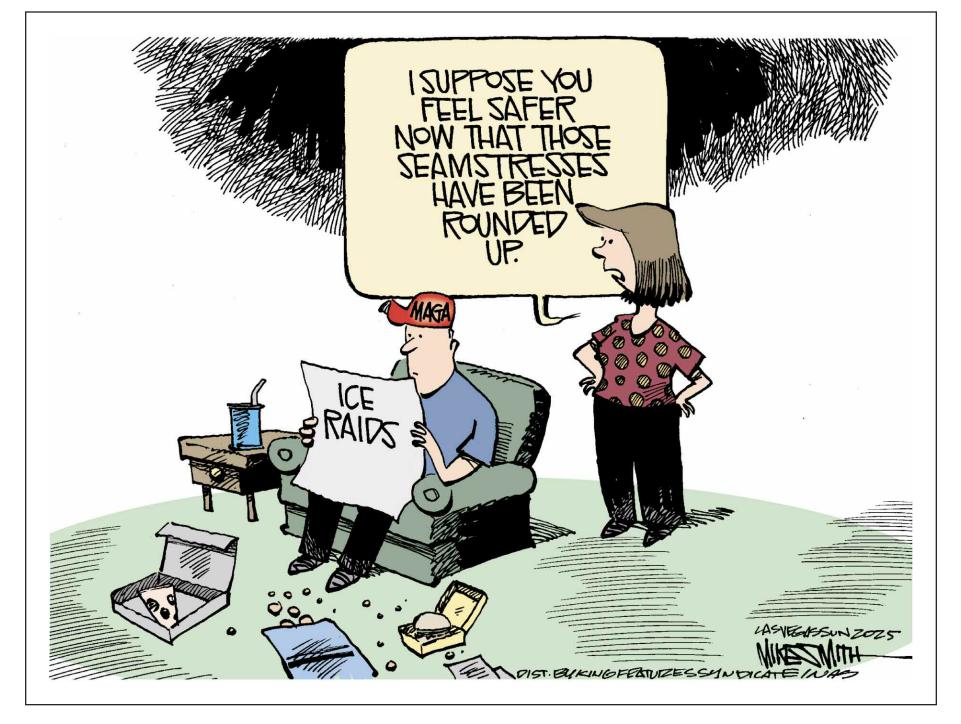
reacted by saying, "Game on. Pray for Israel."

In the United States, while many lawmakers voiced their support for Israel's preemptive strikes on Iran, a number of skeptical lawmakers, primarily from the Democratic Party, raised alarms about the potential for these strikes to trigger a broader conflict in the region.

While opinions are divided, a slight majority of Americans (55%) still support the U.S. supporting Israel militarily until all hostages are returned. Polling shows support for taking Israel's side is stronger among Republicans (56%), while majorities of Democrats (62%) and Independents (60%) prefer impartiality.

The U.S. may attempt to avoid direct military involvement, but its strong alliance with Israel, combined with regional dynamics and ongoing support, makes complete detachment from the conflict improbable.

Balta is the executive editor



Economic freedom is more than taxes

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

Over the past few years, academic economists and think tanks have published studies on freedom that offer valuable insights for Hoosier policymakers.

The Cato Institute, for example, ranks states on policies that drive population, income and job growth. Indiana ranks 8th in regulatory freedom, 21st in fiscal freedom (tax and spending) and 23rd in personal freedom.

These rankings measure whether policies expand or limit choices for families and businesses. Regulatory freedom is the strongest indicator of growth, followed by personal freedom, with tax and spending issues coming in a distant third or lower. In studies that measure quality of life, the importance of tax and spending falls even further.

Places with fewer restrictions on housing construction Michael J. Hicks

and occupational licensing attract more residents. For example, in the miscellaneous regulation category that covers topics including hospital regulation and price gouging laws, conservative Arizona ranks first in regulatory freedom while conservative South Carolina ranks last, showing this isn't a partisan issue.

The second-most important predictor of growth and prosperity is personal freedom, which is far less politically aligned than fiscal policy. Liberal states like California and conservative states like Montana outrank Indiana.

nomic outcomes, no matter with lower tax rates. who supports it.

freedom are incarceration rates, freedom to gamble, smoke, marry who you wish, buy alcohol whenever you wish, use cannabis, donate to political candidates of your choice and be free of a whole slew of miscellaneous rules, such as bans on buying unpasteurized milk or allowing mixed martial arts fights.

For the record, drinking unpasteurized milk is generally stupid. It'd be best to let natural selection, rather than legislation, keep it under wraps.

Tax and spending tend to have a more modest effect on migration, income, employment or any other measure of outcomes. I've made this point in a previous column. As a raw empirical fact, counties and cities with higher tax rates grow faster and enjoy higher

Households and businesses The components of personal aren't the idiots that the antitax crowd supposes them to be. Families and business owners are very good at judging the quality of local schools, the safety of local communities, the quality of local roads and the availability of well-educated workers.

> Businesses and families would like to pay lower taxes, but they also desire better services. We all understand trade-offs, so the variable that matters most for the tax-andspending measurement is how good a state, city or county is at delivering those public services.

Research confirms this: Regulatory freedom strongly predicts growth, personal freedom nomic Research and the George has moderate impact and fiscal policy shows no significant effect. Fiscal freedom matters only insofar as governments Ball State University. Email Freedom generates good eco- standards of living than places deliver services efficiently and him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

effectively. Families and business owners are good judges of government efficiency.

Economic freedom particularly attracts college-educated families, who have more mobility options. The lesson for Indiana is clear: Our future growth depends more on reducing regulatory barriers and expanding personal freedoms than on cutting taxes. We've maintained our regulatory edge for 25 years, but we've slipped badly on personal freedom.

Fixing that slide — not chasing fiscal rankings — is how Indiana can compete for the families and businesses that drive prosperity.

.....

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Ecoand Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at



US PS 125820

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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.

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with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday,

Asbury United Methodist

204 E. Arch St., Portland Joe Boggs (260) 726-8464 Services: 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. asburyministries.org

unless otherwise indicated.

Bellefountain United Methodist 440 S. 600 East Pamela Freeman Services: 9 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends 80 E. 650 South Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Boundary St. Paul Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East Ava Gannon (260) 726-2373 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan

209 S. Hendricks St. Paul VanCise (260) 997-6231 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist 301 N. Main St., Dunkirk

Susan Durovey-Antrim (765) 499-0368 Services: 10:30 a.m. susan.duroveyantrim@in umc.org

Christ Chapel 2535 Wabash Road, Fort Recovery Recoverv (419) 733-1469 christchapelfr.com

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)

City Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of **Prophecy** 797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland Nanette Weesner (260) 766-9334 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.

nanybell@yahoo.com **Church of the** Brethren

Floral and Chicago avenues, Portland Kevin McClung (260) 729-7295 Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God Street, South Broad Dunkirk Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Area churches are listed Fellowship Baptist

289 S. 200 West Hugh Kelly (260) 726-8873 Services: 9 a.m., 11 a.m. Sunday school: 10 a.m. pastorkelly@fbc-portland.com

First American Baptist

427 S. Main St., Dunkirk Dan Coffman (765) 768-7157 Services: 10:40 a.m., 5 p.m.

First Church of Christ

1049 Union City Road, Fort Recovery David J. Nicholson (419) 375-2860 Services: 10:30 a.m. fccftrecovery.org

First Community

Baptist 341 S. Meridian St., Redkey Everett Bilbrey Jr. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; 7 p.m. Wednesday

First Free Will Baptist

12369 W. 600 South, Dunkirk Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 10:50 a.m., 6 p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

First Presbyterian

402 N. Ship St., Portland Rev. M. Rex Espiritu (260) 726-8462 Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 10:15 a.m. firstpcportland.org

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene 401 E. Boundary St., Fort (419) 375-4680

Services: 10:30 a.m. Kids vision and teen ministries: 6 p.m. Wendesdav frnaz@frontier.com

8472 S. 800 East, Union Fort Recovery **United Methodist** 309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recoverv Rev. Carol McKay (304) 617-0101 Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle 468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk Robert Thomas (765) 348-4620 Services: 6:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Thursday

Geneva First United Methodist 100 W. Line St., Geneva Barry McCune (260) 368-7655

Mary Help

of Christians 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt (419) 375-4153 Services: 4:30 p.m. Satur- The ROCK day, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor

Community Church 216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk Scott McClain (765) 768-7273 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Mount Zion

United Methodist County roads 600 East and 200 North **Rev. Darrell Borders** (260) 726-4786 Services: 9 a.m.

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine

4017 W. 200 South Randy Smith (260) 251-2406 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nbholiness.com

New Covenant Fellowship 1238 W. 450 South Chuck Myers

(260) 251-0063

Services: 10:30 a.m. **New Life Ministries** 415 S. Helen St., Portland Dr. Kay Fairchild (260) 223-2961 Services: 4 p.m. drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant **United Methodist** 5905 S. Como Road Neil Butcher (765) 499-7838 Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian 1964 N. 800 East Aaron Huey Services: 10:30 a.m.

Oak Grove United Methodist 829 S. Indiana 1 Neil Butcher (765) 760-9085 Services: 10:45 a.m.

Pleasant Hill 9945 N. 800 East, Union Temple Baptist City Bruce Bryan (765) 964-3664 Services: 9 a.m., 6 p.m. mypleasanthillchurch.org

Portland Church of Christ 1217 W. Votaw St., Port-

land Bob Graham (260) 726-7777 Bible class: 9:15 a.m. Services: 10:20 a.m. Bible School: 6 p.m. Wednesday portlandcoc.com

River of Life

722 W. Main St., Portland Susan Hathaway (260) 729-1095 Services: 10:30 a.m.

1605 N. Meridian St., Portland Matt Ransom (260) 726-7474 Services: 10 a.m. matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia **Church of Christ** 3900 S. 600 East **Bruce Phillips** (260) 335-2017 Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries 228 S. Meridian St., Portland

Dave Keen (260) 251-8792 Mike Eads (260) 703-0733 Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

St. Mary's Catholic 346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk Rev. Kevin Hurley Services: 5 p.m. Šaturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic 1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene 3984 N. 550 West, Portland Pastor Mike Heckman (615) 517-1017 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:30 a.m. Bible study: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Sugar Grove Church County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk Scott McClain Services: 9 a.m.

Indiana 17920167, Dunkirk John Elam (765) 768-7708 Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday 7pillarsdirector@gmail.com templebaptistin.com

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Collett Nazarene 450 South, 1 mile west of U.S. 27 **Billy Stanton** (260) 251-2403 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Cornerstone Baptist 211 E. Main St., Portland Wayne Ward (260) 726-7714 Services: 10 a.m.

Cornerstone Church of Pennville 190 W. Main St., Pennville

David Davidson (260) 202-9718 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene

St., 226E. Center Dunkirk Tom Fett (765) 768-6199 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist 930 W. Main St., Portland Steve Arnold (260) 251-0970 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County

2875 E. 200 South Pamela Freeman Lay leader: Beth Stephen (260) 726-9184 Services: 10:15 a.m.

Faith Community

W. 200 South, 9560 Dunkirk Joe Schmit (260) 251-5254 Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center

200 E. Elder St., Portland Ronald Willis (260) 726-4844 Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesdav thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene 225 Decatur St., Geneva (260) 525-8609 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday school: 9 a.m. Prayer meeting: 6 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church

County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Balbec Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren

Indiana 1 and Indiana 26 Earl Doll (260) 731-4477 Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist

435 High St., Geneva Rev. Joseph Hampton (260) 368-7233 Services: 9 a.m.

Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 Holy Trinity Catholic

7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage Services: 8 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday

Hopewell of Life Ministries

County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1 Rev. Ruth Funk (260) 251-8581 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate **Conception Catholic**

506 E. Walnut St., Portland Fr. Peter Logsdon Fr. Martin Sandhage (260) 726-7055 Services: 5:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel

4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk Stuart Phillips Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Portland First Church of Nazarene

920 S. Shank St., Portland Recovery Steve Cecil (260) 726-8040 Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends

226 E. Main St., Portland Herb Hummel (260) 202-9732 Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9 a.m.

Praise Chapel Church of God

4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line) Rev. Josh Canfield (765) 584-7045 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran

Malin and Elm streets, Brvant Father Dan Layden (260) 997-6787 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith Ministries

9811 W. Indiana 67, southwest of Redkey Rev. Craig and Robin Cotherman (765) 369-2920 Services: 10 a.m. RedkeyFaith.org

Redkey First

Christian Union and Malin streets Jeff Hammers (765) 468-6172 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey United Methodist

122 W. Main St. Lori McIntosh (765) 369-2085 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene 801 W. High St. Fred Stevens (765) 369-2676 redkeynaz.org Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 ail.com p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:35 a.m. churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran

301 N. Wayne St., Fort Robin Owen (419) 375-4498 Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sundav) pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity ArchBridge Church

323 S. Meridian St., Portland Dan Vore (260) 726-8391 Sunday school: 9 a.m. Services: 10:15 a.m. portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel

6200 N. 375 West, Bryant Interim Pastor Chris Kruchkow (260) 849-0687 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene

County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line) Fred Stevens Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Walnut Corner

County roads 200 North and 500 West Steve Rogers (260) 251-1113 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

West Walnut **Church of Christ**

204 W. Walnut St., Portland Gil Alicea (260) 726-4691 Services: 10 a.m. westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical

Lutheran Church Robin Owen 218 E. High St., Portland (260) 726-8832 zion luther an port land @gm

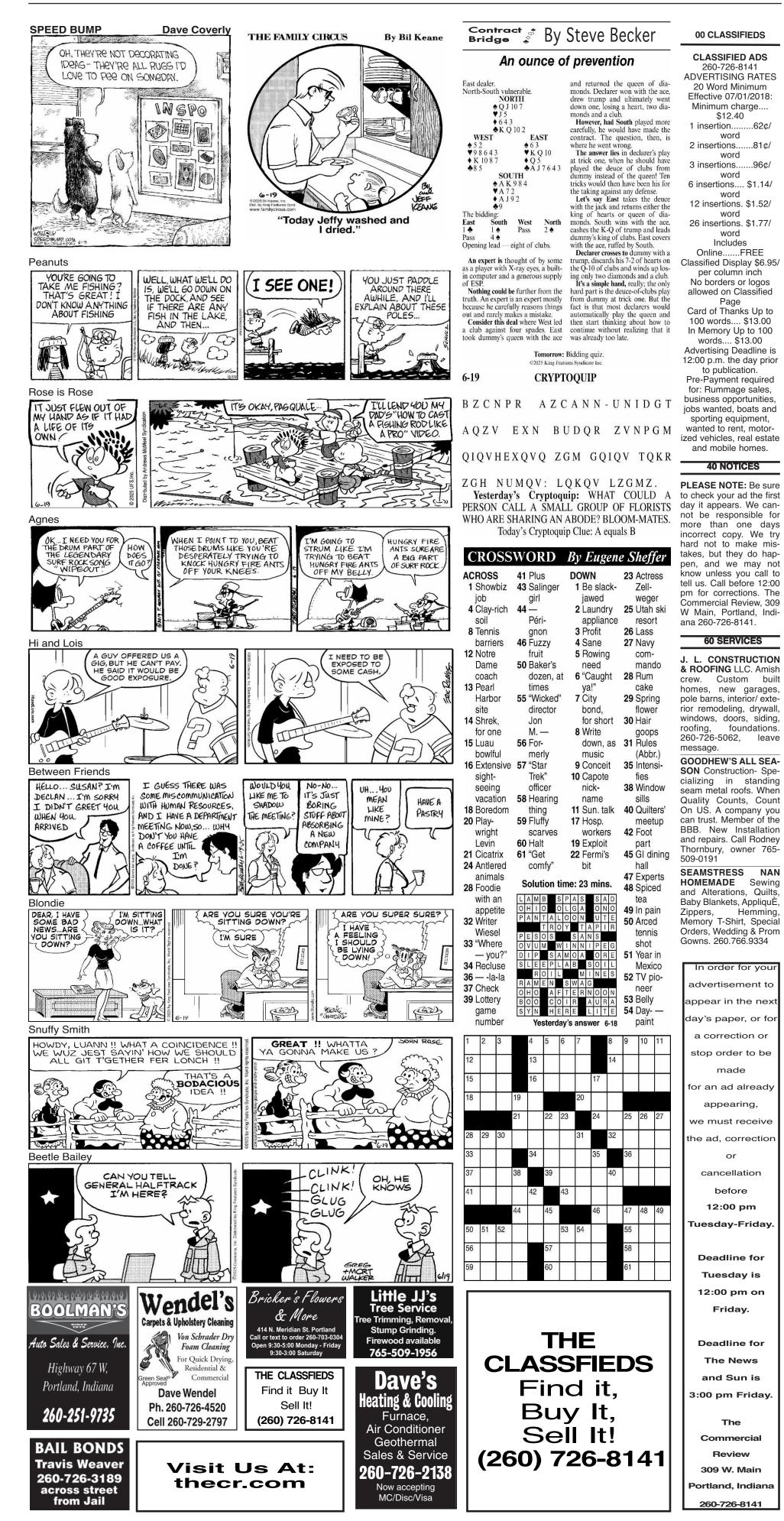




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Panthers

Continued from page 8 And they did it on Tuesday by doing exactly what they did most of the postseason: Dominating early, wearing down the opponent late and getting superb goaltending when it mattered the most.

Reinhart, who scored the game-winner in Game 7 of the Cup Final last vear. opened scoring 4:36 in with a beaut of an individual effort. He stole the puck from Oilers defenseman Evan Bouchard in the neutral zone, charged Oilers forward, beat Mattias defenseman Ekholm and let off a wrist shot as he was falling in the slot that beat Stuart Skinner. It was Reinhart's eighth goal of the postseason and fourth consecutive game of the series with a goal.

Tkachuk, battling all postseason with an apparent groin injury he sustained during the 4 Nations Face-Off in mid-February that sidelined him for the final 25 games of the regular season, then gave Florida a 2-0 lead with 46.4 seconds left in the frame with a wrist shot from the high slot.

Florida took down Oilers 4-3 in 2024 Stanley Cup Finals and 4-2 in 2025

multiple goals in the first period of every game in the series and outscored the Oilers 13-4 in the opening frame, including holding Edmonton scoreless in the first period over the final four games. Florida scored 30 first-period goals this postseason.

Reinhart then pushed Florida's lead to 3-0 with 2:29 left in the second period when he tipped in an Aleksander Barkov shot after an excellent shift in the offensive zone from Florida's top line overall.

And then the Panthers sealed it — and Reinhart sealed his hat trick with a pair of empty-net goals. Reinhart's hat trick is the 36th in a Stanley Cup Final in NHL history but only the second this century. Mark Stone recorded a hat trick in the

The Panthers scored Vegas Golden Knights' Cup-clinching Game 5 win over the Panthers in 2023

He is just the fourth player in NHL history with at least four goals in a Cup Final game, joining Maurice Richard in 1957, Ted Lindsay in 1955 and Newsy Lalonde in 1919.

Through it all. Bobrovsky was fantastic in net, as he has been all postseason. The 36-yearold goaltender, who just wrapped up his 15th NHL season, held Edmonton off the board for 55:18 before Vasily Podkolzin broke up the shutout with garbage-time goal. а Bobrovsky held opponents to two goals or fewer in 14 of 23 games.

And so the Panthers put a ribbon on another masterclass postseason after being

through the regular season.

While essentially all of the team's core from last year's title run returned, Florida had to replace nine key contributors from that championship in forwards team Tarasenko, Vladimir Kevin Stenlund, Nick Cousins, Ryan Lomberg, Kyle Okposo and Steven Lorentz; defensemen Brandon Montour and Oliver Ekman-Larsson; and backup goaltender Anthony Stolarz.

The Panthers did so first in the offseason by signing forwards A.J. Greer, Tomas Nosek and Jesper Boqvist plus defenseman Nate Schmidt.

And then they beefed up at the trade deadline, with president of hockey operations and general manager Bill Zito swinging two massive deals to bring in forward Brad Marchand and defenseman Seth Jones as well as forward Nico Sturm and goaltender Vitek Vanecek.

At full strength, the moves gave the Panthers battle-tested 15 forwards and eight

defensemen they felt confident in rolling out on any given night.

But the team wasn't at full strength down the stretch. Far from it.

Tkachuk missed the five games. final 25 games with the injury from 4 Nations.

Top-pair defenseman Aaron Ekblad had to sit out the final 18 regularseason games and first two playoff games due to suspension.

Marchand didn't suit up for Florida until March 28 — three weeks after being acquired because of an injury he sustained prior to the trade.

Key defensemen Niko Mikkola and Dmitry Kulikov missed time late in the season, too.

after Florida So clinched its playoff spot, coach Paul Maurice took the onus upon himself to rest players as the regular season came to an end.

It cost them a spot atop the standings, dropping them from first place in the Atlantic to third and forcing them into a position where they would start every playoff series on the road.

But when the postseason arrived, the Panthers were ready.

A first-round rematch with the Tampa Bay Lightning? Dispatched in

A second-round tilt with the Toronto Maple Leafs, after digging themselves a 2-0 hole? A sevengame series victory.

An Eastern Conference final set with the Carolina Hurricanes? Advanced after five games.

And then the Stanley Cup Final rematch with the Oilers one year after the first series between the teams went seven games? Florida prevailed again.

The Panthers' stars showed up when it mattered, but Florida won because of its depth. Nineteen players scored at least one goal. Six had at least 20 points. They had three players — Reinhart, Bennett and Marchand — score at least five goals in the Cup Final, something only one other team (the 1955 Red Wings) has done before.

And with that, back-toback championships secured.

Roundup

Continued from page 8 **Alberson leads**

Cook's Nursery swept a pair of games, while POET also earned a victory in Portland Junior League Rookie baseball on Tuesday.

Cook's Nursery defeated Williams Auto Parts 10-9 in its first game of the night and later beat Pioneer Packaging 17-13.

Kayden Alberson led Cook's Nursery with 3 RBIs on three singles in game No. 1. Matthew Bollinger had the strongest and a double.

showing at the plate for **PG14 dominates** Williams Auto Parts, going 3-for-3 with two runs scored.

While Alberson and Duke Steed both went 4-for-4 with four runs scored Dax Vance drove the offense with three RBIs against Pioneer Packaging. Lake Willman's two RBIs on two hits was the most for the opposition.

POET also pulled off a 14-11 win over Matt's Garage. Griffin Spoonemore had five hits for POET, while Rowan Ingram led Matt's Garage with three singles

PG14 had its way in a 14-0 victory over Southern Thunder on Tuesday in Portland Junior League Willie Mays baseball.

Ashton Conn led the way for PG14 on the offensive end. He finished the game 3-for-3 at the in Portland Junior League plate with a double, two RBIs and three runs scored.

Parker Huntsman also had two RBIs on a triple. He scored two runs himself as well.

Southern Thunder got no-hit in the game, largely due to Trey

Corbin Brown and Waylon McGill also pitched in the combined no-hitter.

Optimist sweeps

Optimist won both its games Sandy Koufax baseball on Tuesdav.

Optimist started the day with a 5-4 win over Local 1620 before taking down Loy's 9-8 in game No. 2.

Lathan Hamilton, Rayden Sol-

Hirschy's efforts on the bump. lars, Antonio Crawford, Tanner Day and Kendal Glessner all scored for Optimist against Local 1620. Carter Lloyd led Local 1620 with an RBI and a run scored, while Cason Lloyd and Brvce VanSkvock accounted for the other runs.

Sollars led Optimist in the second game with three RBIs that included a two-run home run in the first inning.

Sam Wiggins, J.T. Davis and Cooper Reynolds all hit consecutive homers for Loy's in the fifth inning of the contest.

Sports on tap

Local schedule Today

Jay County Summer swim at Catalina - 6 p.m.

Saturdav

Fort Recovery ACME baseball at Minster - 12 p.m. Portland Rockets doubleheader vs. Fort Wayne Devils - 1 p.m.

TV schedule Today

12:40 p.m. - MLB: Minnesota Twins at Cincinnati Reds (FDSN Indiana) 2 p.m. - NCAA baseball tournament (ESPN)

3 p.m. — FIFA Club World Cup soccer: Inter Miami at Porto (TNT) 6:45 p.m. — CONCACAF Gold Cup

soccer: Trinidad and Tobago at Haiti (FS1)

7 p.m. — NCAA baseball tournament

7 p.m. — WNBA: Phoenix Mercury at New York Liberty (FOX) 8:30 p.m. — NBA Finals: Oklahoma City Thunder at Indiana Pacers (ABC) 9:15 p.m. — CONCACAF Gold Cup

(ESPN)

90 SALE CALENDAR

soccer: Saudi Arabia at United States (FS1)

Friday

9 a.m. - Horse racing: Royal Ascot

2 p.m. - FIFA Club World Cup soccer: Flamengo at Chelsea (TNT) 5 p.m. — NASCAR Craftsman Truck

(NBC)

90 SALE CALENDAR

Series: MillerTech Battery 200 (FS1) 7 p.m. — USL Championship soccer: Lexington at Colorado Springs (ESPN2)

7:15 p.m. — MLB: Cincinnati Reds at St. Louis Cardinals (FDSN Indiana) 7:45 p.m. — CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer: Jamaica at Guadeloupe (FS1)

8 p.m. - NHL Stanley Cup: Florida

Panthers at Edmonton Oilers (TNT) 8:30 p.m. — MMA: Professional Fighters League (ESPN)

9 p.m. — FIFA Club World Cup soccer Bavern Munchen at Boca Juniors (TBS) 10 p.m. — CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer: Guatemala at Panama (FS1)

Local notes

Registration open Registration for the 35th annual Flat 50 tap", email details to sports@thecr.com

Plus bicycle ride in Adams County is now open. To register, visit RunSignUp.com There are rides ranging from 20 to 100

miles long. The event will be held at 7 a.m. Satur day, June 21. It will start at Bellmont High School and will have stops in Willshire, Geneva and Monroe with refreshments.

To have an event listed in "Sports on

90 SALE CALENDAR

PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 3563 E 600 N, Bryant IN Saturday Morning JUNE 21st, 2025 9:30 A.M. **OLD & COLLECTORS** ITEMS (2) wood 36 section bolt bin; 2 drawer work bench: wood 30 section bolt bin: Hover Round mobility cart: Gem Hot Blast 816 cast iron stove; hump back trunk; oun cabinet: several Tipp Mann paint ball guns; Red Ryder & other BB guns; duck decoys; POCKET WATCHES: 20 PLUS TO INCLUDE ELGIN, WALTHER, AND CROWN; Several pocket and hunting knives with names such as Old Timers and Buck; metal folding chairs; small windmill; hand corn sheller; Coleman butane stove; and many other items not listed. BOAT-TRACTOR S-**VEHICLES-MOTOR BIKES-TOOLS** 1956 Wagemaker Wolverine 12' Cedar Lined Boat with 3 hp Evinrude motor and trailer; Ford 8N wide front tractor with 3 point (non runnina): 1972 GT6 Triumph MK car, (non running); Indian Enduro 175 motorcycle (non running); Scorpon Whip 440TR snowmobile; Cub Cadet 101 garden tractor (non running); 1984 Pryer 3 wheeler ice cream scooter: Honda 13 hp 60î gas trail type mower; Country Plow 60î front blade; Woods 60î - 3 pt. finish mower; Cub Cadet mower (non running); Test Rite tool cabinet: Dewalt drill; hay hooks; cleaver; fishing poles; cane poles; rod & reels; tackle boxes; log chains; hatchets; and many

other items not listed.

90 SALE CALENDAR AUCTIONEERS NOTE: This is the first of 2 auctions. We will be running 2 rings most of the day. Auction #2 will be held on June 28, 2025 and will offer a large selection of guns, ammo and Indian artifacts. JON SMITH, DECEASED Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khavyata AU12400069 Eric Robbins AU2014000129 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 3563 E 600 N, Bryant IN Saturday Morning JUNE 28th, 2025 9:30 A.M. GUNS AND AMMO (4) Stack On gun safes; Ranger Model 34 - 22 cal bolt action rifle; Savage Model 220 - 410 single shot; ARMI JAGER Model 8P874 -22 cal semi-auto rifle; ; Bowlan & Brenner muzzle shotgun; Remington Model 788 - .308 cal bolt action rifle with scope; Remington 870 Wingmaster TB 12 ga pump shotgun; Auto Ordnance Model 1911 A1 US Army 45 acp semi-auto pistol; Barnett Crossbow with scope; Recruit Recorve crossbow with scope; AMMO: 20 gauge & 16 gauge slugs; 20 gauge & 12 gauge shot gun shells; 410 shot gun shells; 243 Remington; Black Powder and other ammo not listed. INDIAN ARTIFACTS Over 100 lots of artifacts to include Arrowheads of various sizes, Birdstone, Megalodon Teeth, Pestle, Pendants, Horn

Stone Blade, Deflower-

ing Tool, Spearheads,

Butterfly Banner Stone,

Pipe Ends, Hafted Stone Blades, Axes, Scapers, and various Indian Stones. ARTIFACTS WILL BE SOLD BOTH LIVE AND ON LINE USING HI BID. AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Artifacts will be sold beginning at 9:30 a.m. Guns will start selling at approximately 12:30 p.m. Guns will not be on site until day of auction. Hand guns will be registered thru local FFL dealer. For more information contact I OY **REAL ESTATE & AUC-**TION at (260) 726-2700. JON SMITH, DECEASED Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 Travis Theurer AU11200131 Aaron Loy AU11200112 Kaden Khayyata AU12400069 Eric Robbins AU2014000129 **PUBLIC AUCTION** Located: 925 West Race Street, Portland IN FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 11TH, 2025 5:30 P.M. REAL ESTATE Single story home with approximately 1036 square feet of living space situated on a 52' x 136' lot. Home features include 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. A new water heater was installed recently. Property also offers a 12' x 14' deck and a detached garage with approximately 720 square feet. This property will make a great starter home or rental investment property. Terms of Sale: 10% nonrefundable deposit day of auction and balance at closing. Closing to be no later than 45 days from date of

auction. Buver to Gorgets, Drillheads, assume taxes due and payable in May 2026 and thereafter. expense. Sale of Real Estate is subject to approval of the Jay Circuit Court. For more information or private showing contact GARY LOY. Auctioneer and (260) 726-5160 or KIM LOY, Real Estate Broker at (260) 726-2700. PERSONAL PROPER-TY INCLUDING A 2002 GEO TRACKER WILL **BE SOLD IMMEDIATE-**LY AFTER THE REAL ESTATE SONJA YOHE ESTATE BY AMBER WANKEN, PERSONAL REP JOHN LARUE - ESTATE ATTORNEY Loy Auction AC#31600027 Auctioneers Gary Loy AU01031608 PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday JUNE 21st, 2025 TIME 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 2011 E 200 S, HARTFORD CITY, IN VEHICLES - CAMPER -TRACTOR - ATVs 1973 Volkswagen Beetle (Non running) with extra parts. 1996 Chevy ZR-2 Pickup 4x4 extended cab. 2002 Sprinter by Keystone 27' Camper with slide-out. Harris Pontoon boat with trailer. Paddleboat. Iseki TS1910 Tractor. Polaris 400 and 300 Xplorer 4x4 ATVs. Hotspring 8 Person Hot tub w/ Chemicals and Filters. ANTIQUES - TOOLS HUNTING - MISC Large Stamp Collection. Hotwheels Collection. Longaberger Baskets. Childs Sled. Large Childs Makeup Stand. Galvanized 10 hole Chicken Nest. Craftsman Roll away Tool Boxes, Craftsman Transmission Jack. McCoulloch Generator.

90 SALE CALENDAR

Front-tine Tiller. Predator

Post Hole Digger. Diamond Plate Toolbox. Wire Cages. Chicken Feeder. Fishing Supplies. Yeti and other Coolers. Bicycles. Pullbehind Childs Buggy. Vera Bradley Purses. Building Supplies and Materials, Several Rolls of R-19 Insulation. Insulation Blower and Blown Insulation. Refrigerators. Hammock. Several Items Not Mentioned. **OWNER: CHARLES** EDWARDS ESTATE BY JACKIE EDWARDS Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more 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 28th, 2025 TIME 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 346 E 400 N, Portland, IN **TRACTOR - EQUIP-**MENT - GUNS Ford Jubilee Tractor. 3pt 5' Box Blade. 5' King Cutter 3pt Rotary Mower. 3pt Post Hole Auger. 6' x 10' Single Axle Utility Trailer w/ Winch. Craftsman Rollaway Tool Boxes. Craftsman 20 Gallon Air Compressor. 10î Table Saw. Insulated Dog Houses, Winchester Model 1200 12 Gauge Pump. Ruger .22 Cal Single 6 Revolver. Thompson 45 and 50 Cal Muzzle Loaders. (2) Muzzle Loader Barrels. Compound Bows and Arrows. Clay Targets

and Thrower. ANTIQUES - MISC 2 and 3 Gallon Crock

90 SALE CALENDAR

Butter Churns. Horse Shoes, RR Anvil, Stoplight. Coca Cola Chest Cooler. Coca Cola Carrving Cooler. Bronze Horse Figure. Cross Cut Saw. Miniature Tricycle and Child's Wagon. Old Kitchen Cabinets.3 Cushion Sofa w/ Matching Love Seat. Oversized Recliner. Rocker Recliner. 2 Person Bicycle and Other Bicycles. OWNER: Charles Anderson Estate by Darlene Anderson Note: Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 **100 JOBS WANTED** AMISH CREW LOOK-ING FOR any work. No job is too big or small.

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250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

The City of Dunkirk will be accepting sealed bids on the following vehicles until noon June 23, 2025. Bids will be accepted by mail or in person

at the Dunkirk Municipal building located at 131 S Main Street. All envelopes must be marked as containing a bid. Vehicles are located at 588 Industrial Drive for viewing. All vehicles are sold As Is.

2015 Dodge Durango Police -149,986 miles

1979 Ford Ranger F250 4-Wheel Drive Truck - 73,885 miles

1999 Jeep Cherokee 4-Wheel Drive - 53,961 miles CR 6-13,14,17,18,19,20,212025-

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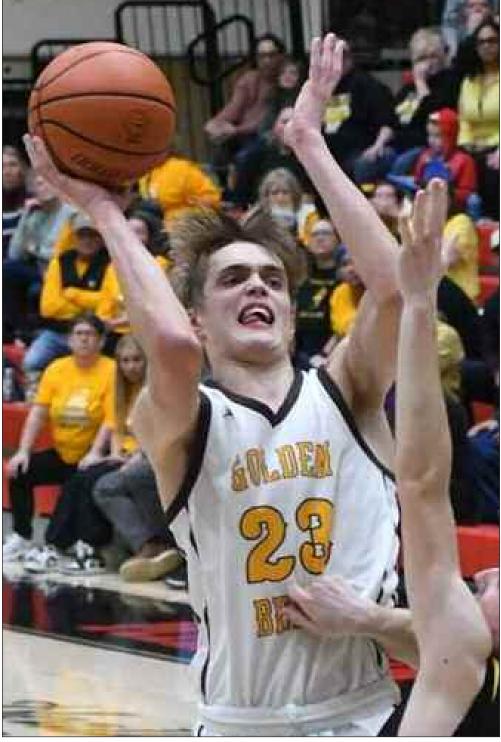
www.thecr.com

The Jay summer swim team travels to Muncie today, see Sports on tap

Page 8

The Commercial Review

2024-25 boys basketball **All-GPC team**



Graphic Printing Company Player of the Year Easton Foster

Monroe Central High School senior

Player of the Year for boys basketball. "It means a lot to me," said Foster, who surpassed 1,000 career points in January. "I know a lot of people were in the running for it and people like Camden Bell, he works really hard and he's a really good basketball player and there's a lot of other really good basketball players, so I'm just happy I got named.

Foster led the Golden Bears to a 19-7 record, second place in the Mid-Eastern Conference and the second semistate appearance in school history. He averaged a double-double with 21 points and 10 rebounds per game. He

Easton Foster was selected as the inaugural Graphic Printing Company with averages of 3.8 assists, 3.2 blocks and 2.2 steals.

But it wasn't just about what happened on the court that mattered to Foster.

"One thing that made this season special for me was everyone on my team felt like my family," Foster said.

"I can't even put into words what he meant to us," MCHS coach Brian Klein said. "He led us in every statistical category, but it was everything else. ... The intangibles he brought beyond what you see statistically ... and then you throw in the fact that he's an incredibly wonderful young man and special kid off the court too.'

All-Graphic Printing Company first team

Nate Luce Wapahani senior

Tucker Griffin Jay County senior

Camden Bell Wapahani junior

Jordan Furney Delta senior

Luce was one of many Raiders who shot the ball over 40% from 3-point range, but he did so at the highest volume, hitting 118-of-255 attempts from deep to average 15.3 points.

In his lone year as a Patriot after transferring from New Castle, Griffin led the team with 12.1 points and 3.2 assists per game with the second-best 3-point percentage.

Bell's season put him in contention with Foster for the top spot as he led the Raiders to a third straight semi-state appearance with 18 ppg and shooting 52% from deep.

Furney led the Eagles in scoring (323 points), assists (77), steals (50) and blocks (18) as Delta made its second consecutive semi-state appearance this season.

Honorable mention

Noah Allen, junior, Randolph Southern Eli Andrews, junior, Wapahani Gage Baker, senior, Blackford Brody Barga, sophomore, Fort Recovery Cooper Bratton, senior, Delta

Bronson Edwards, senior, Delta Carter Fraze, senior, Winchester Amarian Leggett, freshman, Blackford Luke Morgan, freshman, Monroe Central Brock Zickgraf, senior, Wapahani

Panthers win back-to-back Stanley Cups

By JORDAN McPHERSON Miami Herald Tribune News Service SUNRISE, Fla.

27 of 28 shots he faced and the franchise history. Panthers beat the Edmonton

goal, Sergei Bobrovsky stopped last year for the first title in of the year, it was such an 21), Pittsburgh Penguins (1991incredible After winning it all last year, moment, and we just want to do Wings (1997-98), Oilers (1984-85

life-changing 92 and 2016-17), Detroit Red and 1987-88), New York Islanders (four straight from 1980-83), Montreal Canadiens (1968-69 and four straight from 1976-79) and Philadelphia Flyers (1974-

da Panthers are Stanley Cup Stanley Cup Final on Tuesday sion to run it back. Winning it champions — again.

and scored the first hat trick in championship. Panthers playoffs history, Matthew Tkachuk added a seven games in the Cup Final series. "I said it at the beginning the Tampa Bay Lightning (2020-

at Amerant Bank Arena for Sam Reinhart had four goals their second consecutive

The Flori-Oilers, 5-1, in Game 6 of the the Panthers made it their misonce, getting a taste of the success, wasn't enough.

it again.

They did it again.

The Panthers are the seventh team in the expansion era (since "It makes you greedier," the 1967-68 season) to win con-Florida beat Edmonton in Tkachuk said ahead of the secutive Stanley Cups. They join 75).

See Panthers page 7



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FR votes to make bowling a school sport

FORT RECOVERY -The girls have made two trips to state.

The boys have made one. With both team's numbers growing stronger by the year, they can now both claim to be high school sports.

Fort Recovery School Board voted to make bowling a high school sport during Tuesday's meeting.

Girls bowling has been a club sport at Fort Recovery for nine seasons. During that time, they earned two Co-Midwest Athletic Conference titles in 2024 and 2025 and made the state tournament in 2024 and 2025. They have also had nine bowlers selected to the first team All-MAC, five to the second team All-MAC, Allison Rosegrant won Co-Coach of the Year in 2024 and 2025 and Deanna Brown was the 2025 MAC Bowler of the Year.

Boys bowling has been around as a club sport for eight years and made its first state appearance in 2025. The Indians have had four bowlers named to the second team All-MAC during that timeframe and one recognized as the first team, Lucas Acheson, who also was the 2024 MAC Bowler of the Year.

Five recognized

Local Roundup

team's players were recognized by the Allen County Athletic Conference on June 10.

Jaelynn Lykins made the first team All-ACAC as the catcher, Brenna Ruble earned a spot as an infielder and Mallory Winner received the honor as an at-large bid.

Lykins led the Patriots (20-3) with a .593 batting average, a 1.701 OPS, 13 doubles, nine home runs, 57 RBIs and 11 walks, all while only striking out once.

Ruble posted a .488 average with seven doubles, a triple, a home run, 34 runs, 29 RBIs and 15 stolen bases.

Winner pitched 77 ¹/₃ innings for JCHS, earning a 3.168 ERA and striking out 67 batters. She also boasted a .563 average with 21 RBIs.

First baseman Jozey Shimp and center fielder Morgan Missicano were named to the All-ACAC second team as well.

Two honored

Carter Fugeitt and Drew Five of the Jay County Schemenaur of the Jay High School softball County baseball team both

made the second team All-ACAC on June 10.

Fugiett, who primarily played shortstop and third base, received the honor as an infielder, while Schemenaur, the Patriots' starting catcher, was admitted as an at-large bid.

Fugiett led Jay County (11-15) on the season with a .361 batting average, 1.034 OPS, 27 RBIs, five doubles, two home runs and eight stolen bases.

Schemenaur finished the season hitting .232 with 20 RBIs on four doubles and two home runs. He also boasted the team's third-heightest OPS at .795.

Bailey recognized

Brenna Bailey of the Jay County girls tennis team received multiple recognitions recently for her senior season at No. 1 singles.

After posting a record of 15-1 to lead the Patriots (9-8) to their fifth straight sectional title, with a perfect 3-0 in ACAC play, Bailey was named to the first team All-ACAC.

She also was voted onto the All-District 4 team. Bailey was one of 12 players to receive the honor. She also came in as an Honorable Mention All-State.

The team as a whole was also named Academic All-State.

See Roundup page 7