

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

## Battery plant is planned for '25 Kokomo

*New facility represents \$2.5 billion investment, 1,400 jobs*

By CARSON GERBER  
Kokomo Tribune

Kokomo is set to be the home of a new electric vehicle battery plant that will employ 1,400 workers and mark a \$2.5-billion investment in the city. The plant is being built through a joint partnership between Stellantis and Samsung SDI to produce batteries for a range of electric vehicles produced at Stellantis' North American assembly plants.

The facility is Stellantis' first battery plant in the U.S., and the fifth battery plant the company has constructed worldwide. The project also marks Samsung SDI's first manufacturing presence in the country.

The 3.3-million-square-foot factory will be built at the site of the city's new industrial park, located at 2644 N. 50 East, just southeast of the Kokomo Engine Plant.

Charlie Sparks, CEO of the Greater Kokomo Economic Development Alliance, said they anticipated development would happen gradually at the industrial park, but didn't expect such huge results so quickly. He said the market-ready site put the community in a solid position to compete for the battery plant.

The announcement of the project came Tuesday afternoon at Ivy Tech Kokomo, where officials with both companies touted the local workforce, the city's infrastructure and the caliber of students graduating from the college as major reasons for choosing Kokomo for the project.

"Today's announcement is a big win. ... Investment like this helps Indiana remain the manufacturing capital of America, and the best state in the country to start, build, and grow a business."

See Plant page 5

## Finally a Cavalier

*Weekley has joined DCI group two years after he originally planned to be a part of the summer tour*

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Two years later, Isaiah Weekley is getting his opportunity with The Cavaliers.

The Dunkirk resident who will be a Jay County High School senior in the fall was slated to tour with the elite Drum Corps International group during summer 2020.

Then the coronavirus pandemic happened.

The DCI summer tour was canceled. Weekley's dream was off.

"I didn't think that I was gonna go back and go for it again because I was so ready for it in 2020 and then it got wiped out," he said. "I didn't even try out for the 2021 season."

Then he attended the DCI World Championships last August in Indianapolis.

The experience left him wishing he had been a part of it.

"So I went to auditions in December," he said.

He earned a contract with The Cavaliers and on Sunday he left for their home base in Rosemont, Illinois.

Weekley remembers first going to Indiana State Fair Band Day to watch his siblings Trenten Finnerty and Allie Weekley perform with the Marching Patriots. That's when he first noticed the performers with the flags, sabres and rifles who were on the track with the band.

"I was just like, 'What's that next to the band? What's happening?'" he said.

He thought it was cool. He wanted to be a part of it.

When his sister Aleah Weekley was a freshman and joined the color guard, she started teaching her brother — he was a third grader — some basic skills.

"I was always like, 'Yup, this is it. This is what I want to do,'" said Weekley. "There wasn't really any other sport or activity that stuck out like color guard did."

He was spinning with the high school's winter guard group as a fifth grader, and he joined the Marching Patriots in the summer prior to his seventh grade year, which was as soon as he was eligible.

Weekley estimates that he spent two hours a day practicing on his own.

"I would practice all the time," he said. "Almost every day outside if I could, especially the summertime. And then in the winter I'd try to go out as much as I could."

See Finally page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Isaiah Weekley, who will be a senior at Jay County High School in the fall, prepares to catch his flag during the winter guard's performance as part of the band concert in April. Weekley left Sunday to join The Cavaliers, a Drum Corps International Group, for the summer. He will spend about a month learning the show in Rosemont, Illinois, before The Cavaliers spend about six weeks competing in a tour that concludes Aug. 11 through 13 in Indianapolis.

## Questions arise after shooting

By KEVIN RECTOR,  
JENNIE JARVIE,  
RICHARD WINTON  
and MOLLY HENNESSY-FISKE  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

UVALDE, Texas — With criticism swelling about the police response to the Texas elementary school massacre, a law enforcement official said Thursday that the gunman who killed 19 children and two teachers entered the school "unobstructed" through an unlocked door 12 minutes after police were alerted about a man nearby with a rifle.

Those fateful minutes — and an hour in which the police took cover outside the classroom, apparently seeking to negotiate with an active shooter — have become the focal point of questions from parents and law enforcement experts about whether more could have been done to halt the unfolding tragedy.

Victor Escalon, South Texas regional director for the Texas Department of Public Safety, said at a news briefing that the gunman, Salvador Ramos, 18, did not initially encounter any police officers when he entered Robb Elementary School in Uvalde on Tuesday and opened fire. Ramos shot most of his victims inside the school within the first few minutes of entering, Escalon said. He was unable to explain why it took an hour for a federal special weapons team to enter the classroom and kill the gunman.

*Gunman was inside facility for an hour before being killed by police*

As chaos engulfed the small, predominantly Latino community outside the school, some Uvalde residents — including parents who lost children — criticized the police response. See Questions page 5



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## On the ball

Sixth grader Claire Gaerke and eighth grader Autumn Leuthold get ready to catch a dodgeball during Fort Recovery Middle School's field day Thursday. (The event was originally planned to be played outside with water balloons, but the school had to move festivities inside because of rain.)

### Weather

About a half inch of rain fell Thursday in Jay County. The high temperature was 70 degrees. The low was 56.

Tonight's low will be 52 with

showers and thunderstorms expected before midnight. Skies will be mostly sunny Saturday with a high of 73. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available 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** — Results from the FRHS track team in the regional meet at Troy.

**Wednesday** — Coverage of Tuesday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.



# CR almanac

| Saturday<br>5/28   | Sunday<br>5/29  | Monday<br>5/30   | Tuesday<br>5/31   | Wednesday<br>6/1  |
|--|---|--|---|---|
|  |   |  |   |   |
| <b>73/57</b>   | <b>83/66</b>  | <b>87/67</b>   | <b>88/69</b>  | <b>89/65</b>  |
| Mostly sunny skies are expected Saturday with the high reaching around 73 degrees. | Sunny skies are in the forecast for Sunday with wind gusts reaching up to 20 mph. | Memorial Day looks to be sunny and hot, with a high around 87 degrees. | Another day of sunny skies and hot temperatures. The high may reach 88 degrees. | There's a 40% chance of thunderstorms Wednesday. Otherwise, mostly sunny. |

## Lotteries

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Powerball</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$150 million  | 19-21-22-23-24-33-41-44-46-50-57-58-63-64-70-71-77<br>Cash 5: 6-11-20-37-41<br>Estimated jackpot: \$584,500   |
| <b>Mega Millions</b><br>Estimated jackpot: \$157 million  | <b>Ohio</b><br>Midday<br>Pick 3: 1-1-9<br>Pick 4: 6-1-8-5<br>Pick 5: 4-8-3-1-9<br>Evening<br>Pick 3: 4-2-9<br>Pick 4: 6-6-9-2<br>Pick 5: 8-5-1-5-7<br>Rolling Cash: 8-29-30-34-37<br>Estimated jackpot: \$130,000 |
| <b>Hoosier</b><br>Midday<br>Daily Three: 8-8-3<br>Daily Four: 0-3-6-6<br>Quick Draw: 5-7-8-12-17-29-33-36-43-47-58-60-61-64-66-69-71-72-76-79<br>Evening<br>Daily Three: 0-1-6<br>Daily Four: 1-9-3-8<br>Quick Draw: 12-15-18 |   |

## Markets

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Cooper Farms</b><br><b>Fort Recovery</b><br>Corn.....7.97<br>June corn .....7.97<br>Wheat .....9.62                                | Wheat ..... 10.67<br>June wheat..... 11.08   |
| <b>POET Biorefining</b><br><b>Portland</b><br>Corn.....8.01<br>June corn .....7.96<br>July corn.....7.99                              | <b>Central States</b><br><b>Montpelier</b><br>Corn.....7.68<br>June corn .....7.66<br>Beans .....17.43<br>June beans .....17.38<br>May wheat.....11.13 |
| <b>The Andersons</b><br><b>Richland Township</b><br>Corn.....7.67<br>June corn .....7.77<br>Beans .....17.38<br>June beans .....17.43 | <b>Heartland</b><br><b>St. Anthony</b><br>Corn.....7.50<br>June corn .....7.50<br>Beans .....17.37<br>June beans .....17.37<br>Wheat.....11.24         |

## Today in history

In 1703, the city of St. Petersburg was founded by Peter the Great of Russia.

In 1851, Adolf Anderssen won the world's first chess tournament, which was held in London.

In 1861, Chief Justice Roger Taney, sitting as a federal circuit court judge in Baltimore, ruled that President Abraham Lincoln lacked the authority to suspend the writ of habeas corpus (Lincoln disregarded the ruling).

In 1896, 255 people were killed when a tornado struck St. Louis, Missouri, and East St. Louis, Illinois.

In 1933, Walt Disney released "The Three Little Pigs" animated short film.

In 1935, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Schechter Poultry Corp. v. United States*, unanimously struck down the National Industrial Recovery Act, a key component of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's "New Deal" legislative program.

In 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge opened in San Francisco. It spans the mouth of the San Francisco Bay. More than 200,000 people paid a quarter to walk across the bridge.

In 1941, the British Navy sunk the German battleship *Bismarck* during World War II.

In 1960, the demo-

cratic government of Turkey was overthrown in a coup.

In 1969, Disney began construction of Walt Disney World in Florida.

In 1972, President Richard Nixon and Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev signed an arms reduction agreement.

In 1994, exiled author of "The Gulag Archipelago" Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, who won the 1970 Nobel Prize for Literature, returned to his Russian homeland after 20 years.

In 1999, the International Criminal Tribunal found former leader of Yugoslavia Slobodan Milosevic guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in Kosovo.

In 2003, the Jay County High School baseball team recorded a rare tie. Its game against the Class 3A No. 4 Braves was called in the top of the sixth inning because of lightning with the score tied 4-4.

In 2006, a massive earthquake that left 6,000 dead and 1.5 million homeless hit in Java, Indonesia.

In 2021, Aaron Funkhouser of Jay County High school placed eighth in the 400-meter dash during the regional meet at Lawrence Central.

—The CR

# Finally ...

Continued from page 1  
He became a featured performer with the Marching Patriots, as staff members tried to find ways to show off his skills within both the summer band and winter guard shows.

One such moment was during the band's 2019 "Through the Clouds" show. It included a moment when the band split, leaving Weekley and fellow guard member Dallas Negele in the spotlight. They performed a sabre duet before Weekley launched the sabre high in the air, Negele jumped into his arms, and Weekley caught it behind her back.

"It's been super fun to have a kid that works as hard as he does to master the color guard art," said JCHS color guard director Emilie Garringer. "He's super talented, so we try to use him and his talent. ... "We're just super proud."

It was a winter guard performance — Weekley helped JCHS place eighth in the state in Regional A Class this year — that got him connected with the Cavaliers.

A representative from the group approached him after seeing Jay County perform in a contest at Hamilton Southeastern. He asked if Weekley would like to audition.

DCI had always been his goal, so the answer was an emphatic yes.

Following his audition in December this year, Weekley went to April camp in Chicago with The Cavaliers and a weekend practicing and learning a little bit of the group's 2022 show.

The Cavaliers will spend a little more than a month running 12-hour-a-day practices in Rosemont to learn their show before opening their summer tour June 28 in Detroit.

Their second stop? Ball State University's Scheumann Stadium on July 1.

"I think I'm most excited for the Muncie show just because that's when all of my family gets to go and watch," said Weekley, who got sponsors, donations and fundraisers to help pay for the \$4,400 donation to tour with the group this year. "Muncie is when a lot of my friends and family will be there and I'll get to show them, 'Hey, this is what I've been working on for the past month and a half.'"

They will also compete in Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, Ohio and Pennsylvania before closing with the DCI World Championships from Aug. 11 through 13 at Lucas Oil Field in Indianapolis. (JCHS resumes classes Aug. 11.)

Weekley, who said he probably won't spin with the JCHS winter guard as a senior, is looking forward to a summer immersed in



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Isiah Weekley catches a sabre while holding fellow color guard member Dallas Negele during the Jay County High School Marching Patriots' performance of "Through the Clouds" during 2019 Indiana State Fair Band Day. Weekley started spinning with the JCHS winter guard as a fifth grader and joined the Marching Patriots for the summer season prior to his seventh grade year.

guard and getting to be a part of the activity he loves at its top level. "The experiences that you have, it's one of the hardest things that you can do, but doing it with a bunch of people that you become best friends with, there's nothing

like it," he said. "State fair, with the high school, there's no other feeling than the feeling of marching off the state fair track. So I can't imagine what it's going to feel like at Lucas Oil when we finish up for our final show."

## Capsule Reports

### Backing accident

A Tennessee man backed his vehicle into a Bryant man's truck on Votaw Street about 6:10 p.m. Thursday.

Ronald J. Gores, 55, Louisville, was backing his 2003 Buick Regal out of a parking spot on the street near the intersection with Alexander Street when his vehicle struck an oncoming 2022 GMC Sierra, driven by 55-year-old Joseph D. Goodhew of Bryant, according to a Portland Police Department accident report. Gores told police he didn't notice the vehicle behind him. Damage is estimated between \$1,000 and \$2,500.

### Fence struck

A Kentucky man drove into a fence along county road 650 North about 10:05 p.m. Wednesday.

Michael P. Riddle, 41, Cannon, was driving a 2012 Ford Edge east on the road just east of county road 50 West when he drove off the north side of the road and through the fence.

See page 5

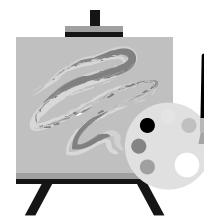
**art** by **Steve McClung**  
**show**

**Saturday, May 28**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

### Participating Artists:

Steve McClung, Margie Prim, Tami Tillman,  
Kathy Ayres, Mary Miller, Ginny Fennig  
and Ken Bantz, Music

Steve McClung's Art Shop  
103 West High Street  
Portland, IN 47371  
(260) 726-8614  
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## Citizen's calendar

**Tuesday**  
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

**Thursday**  
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.

**June 6**  
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St., Portland.

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St., Fort Recovery.

## SERVICES

Friday  
**Wellman, Eugene:** 3 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Service listings provided by  
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# Pandemic, gas prices impact food program

By SUE CARLTON  
Tampa Bay Times  
Tribune News Service

TAMPA, Fla. — Retired teacher Kitty Wallace, 75, has been a Meals on Wheels volunteer for 17 years, delivering hot food to elderly, disabled and homebound people around the neighborhood.

Some days, she's the only person they'll see.

"By getting to know the individual folks, you get a sweet word and some thanks," said Wallace as she loaded that day's turkey meatball subs, sweet potato planks, veggies, fruit and bottled water into her blue 2009 Ford Focus. "You get far more than you give."

Officials at Meals on Wheels of Tampa say they're currently hurting for drivers like Wallace — volunteers they call the heart of what they do. First it was the pandemic that had people hunkered down at home, they say — and now, spiking gas prices.

"Demand (for meals) is up ... but what we're struggling with right now is the volunteer issue," said Cindy Vann, director of mission engagement. "I think a lot of people are thinking: 'Yikes, I fill up my car and it's 80 bucks.'"

"I've had a couple say 'I'm going to have to drop this extra route. I'll pick it up if gas prices go back down.'" said volunteer program manager Yvette Rouse.

The pandemic also hit the Meals on Wheels program in which a company "adopts" a delivery route and its employees do the volunteer driving. Meals on Wheels officials say some were lost to the work-at-

home business model, and some businesses closed. All of which has office Meals on Wheels staff members driving routes themselves and sometimes paying for delivery drivers. "It's the only way we can get the meals out," Vann said.

It's not just Tampa where volunteers have taken a hit. David Lomaka, executive director of Neighborly Care Network, which provides Meals on Wheels in Pinellas County, said a generous donor recently gave them \$8,000 in gas cards, and \$10 gas cards were passed out to volunteers. "Some volunteers don't

take it," he said. "Others, the \$10 card is a lot."

In Tampa, volunteers currently deliver hot meals to 1,000 homes a day from the Meals on Wheels kitchen on Hillsborough Avenue between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekdays. They serve 94 routes in neighborhoods across the city and county, stretching from Lutz to Riverview. Delivery routes are tailored to be close to where a volunteer lives or works and to take about an hour to an hour and a half.

In the last six months, the nonprofit added 10 new routes. They could easily add 10 more, officials say,

but there aren't enough volunteers.

"We're just growing so quick because there's such a need," said Rouse. More than half of the recipients pay for the meals on a sliding scale based on what they can afford — from 50 cents to \$3.50 per meal. About 20 percent are able to pay the full price of \$5.50. And 20 to 25 percent "can't pay anything at all," said executive director Steve King, who on a recent weekday was readying to deliver meals himself in Seminole Heights.

They operate a 28-day rotating menu (A sampling: chicken pot pie, pork with black beans and rice, spaghetti, sweet and sour chicken). They serve diabetic and renal diets and pureed food.

But drivers do more than deliver meals. They are also "the touchpoint of having somebody knock on your door and look you in the eye, and to do a safety check," said Vann.

Todd Austin, a yacht broker, has been volunteering

for a couple of months now. "As it went along, I realized it wasn't about the food — it's about talking to Miss Linda," said Austin, 50. "Sometimes I'm the only person they see. I ask how the knee surgery went. You get to know them. They're excited when you get there."

When he's done, he said, "I get in my car and I go back to my world of plenty where I can't even see the back of my fridge. Just, for two hours, I've done something for someone else and not just myself."

On a recent weekday, Wallace approached her clients' doors with a jaunty shave-and-a-haircut knock. When one didn't answer, she made a call to make sure there would be a wellness check and continued her deliveries. Another client was already peeking out her open door in her slippers, waiting.

"I don't know what I'd do without them, because I don't cook," said another recipient, Sarah Gardner, 79. "I'm very grateful."

*'Demand (for meals) is up ... but what we're struggling with right now is the volunteer issue. I think a lot of people are thinking: 'Yikes, I fill up my car and it's 80 bucks.'*

—Cindy Vann, Meals on Wheels of Tampa

# Devious boyfriend sabotages longtime friendship

DEAR ABBY: I have a gay friend I'll call "Allen." We have been close friends for 13 years. Allen has visited me often with his friends from England, and two years ago, when I could finally afford to visit him, he invited me to stay in the home he shares with his boyfriend, "Rupert." Rupert took an instant dislike to me. He treated me rudely and mocked my American accent the entire time I was there. I let it be and concentrated on the beautiful scenery, the beautiful people I met and my longtime friend.

On my last day there, Rupert offered to take me around London, which surprised me. But I was happy to get into the city, so I agreed. It was extremely unpleasant.

He berated me loudly in pub-

lic, called me old and ugly and yelled at me at top of his lungs in a gift shop.

I texted Allen later that day asking if I could stay the last night at a hotel instead of their guest room. He replied by telling me all the stuff Rupert had texted to him that day about how I had been treating HIM badly. I was shocked. I hadn't mentioned anything about Rupert, but simply asked if he would be able to drive me to a

hotel near the airport for my last night in England. I have since tried to reach out to Allen to explain my side of the story, but he continues to ignore me. Any advice on how to move forward would be helpful. — SAD TRAVELER IN NEVADA

DEAR SAD TRAVELER: For whatever reason, Rupert regarded your long friendship with Allen as a threat, so he used the afternoon in London to cut you off at the knees. As long as Allen continues to ignore your efforts to mitigate the damage, consider him unreachable. With the passage of time, he may eventually realize how devious Rupert is, but this is a conclusion he must arrive at without your help. Please accept my sympathy for the



loss of your friendship, which I am sure was important to you.

.....

DEAR ABBY: Everywhere, it seems, there are books and guides for caring for aging parents. But what about aging siblings? The age difference is smaller, so it can end up with the elderly caring for the elderly — especially if there isn't a next generation of family members on whom to rely.

As we baby boomers hit our 70s, we can find ourselves caring for siblings in their early 80s, and they're even less likely to listen to us than our parents were. Frankly, some of us are already worn out from caring for elderly parents. We're at the point of concern about our own health and that of our spouses.

When you've got a 73-year-old trying to take care of an 80-year-old who is childless and lives 700 miles away, and who says only, "I'll let you know when I need you," it's frightening. Any guidance? — DAUNTING IN THE SOUTH

DEAR DAUNTING: Yes, I think you should follow the directive of your 80-year-old sibling and wait to be asked for help instead of "hovering."

Familiarize yourself with what senior services are available in their community and cross your fingers they will not be needed. In addition, take whatever relevant guidance you can from the books on caring for parents, because in many ways, there may be great similarities.

# Community Calendar

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

## Reunions

Graduates of Portland High School will host an alumni banquet on June 18 at Jay County High School. Honor classes are from the years 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1972. All Portland High School graduates are welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-7209.

Jay County High School Class of 1997 will hold its 25th reunion at 7 p.m. June 11 at Jay County Event Center.

## Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS

MARKET — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday at in the parking lot at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St.

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.

## Monday

PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER — Walking from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon

each Monday at Jay Community Center.

EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

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

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

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 5:30 p.m., with the meeting at 6 p.m., in the fellowship hall at Evangelical Methodist Church, 930 W. Main St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5312.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 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.

PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.

## Tuesday

BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.



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Advertising deadline is June 7  
Section will run June 17

Contact Lindsey Cochran  
260-726-8141 or L.cochran@thecr.com

# Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

## Thursday's Solution

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

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.

# Become an organ and tissue donor

To the editor:

Did you know the oldest Hoosier to give the gift of life was 103 years old? You are never too old to register to be an organ and tissue donor.

May is Older Americans Month, a time to reflect and celebrate the contributions of Indiana's older residents and increase awareness about aging and its related issues. Hoosiers ages 50 and older enrich the lives of their family, friends, loved ones and communities. Many have saved lives as organ, tissue and eye donors while many others in this age group have been given a second chance at a healthy life through organ or tissue transplant.

There is a myth out there: Many Indiana residents over age 50 mistakenly think they are too old or not healthy enough to be an organ and tissue donor. That is

## Letters to the Editor

often not the case. Here are the facts.

More than one-third of all deceased organ donors in the U.S. are over age 50. In 2021, of the 13,863 donors in the country, 5,254 — or nearly 38% — were people 50 and older. When Norma Berkey, of Goshen, died in 2020, she saved lives as a tissue donor and became the oldest Hoosier to ever do so.

There are no restrictions for registering to be an organ and tissue donor, and that includes one's age and medical history.

The priority of a physician is to

save your life. Your donation status does not affect your medical care. A separate team of medical professionals determines your donation status, not the team of physicians and medical staff responsible for your immediate medical care. This separate team determines if you are a viable organ donor and if you can be a donor.

There are more than 106,000 Americans, including nearly 1,100 Indiana residents, who need a lifesaving organ transplant. Organs that can be transplanted include the heart, liver, pancreas, lungs, kidneys and intestine. Every donor can potentially save up to eight lives.

Unfortunately, 16 people die every day while waiting for a transplant. The number of people who need a lifesaving transplant is simply rising faster than the number of willing donors.

Further, thousands of people each day need healing tissue donations. Tissues that can be donated include the corneas, skin, heart valves, bone, blood vessels and connective tissues, such as tendons. By donating tissue, you can save and heal the lives of up to 75 people.

You should not rule yourself out from becoming an organ and tissue donor simply because of your age. You are never too old to choose to help save and heal lives.

Educate yourself and talk to your family and friends while considering your decision. There is an abundance of educational information on the Donate Life Indiana website, including informative videos that explain the organ donation process and share why donation is so critical to saving lives.

When you decide to sign up, you can do so immediately at

DonateLifeIndiana.org or you can register to become a donor the next time you are at your local Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch.

Finally, once you choose to be a donor hero, make sure you share your decision with your family so they know your wishes. That is a very important step to ensuring the donation process is a comforting one for your family.

It is my hope you will say "yes" to becoming an organ and tissue donor because the need is great. Not everyone can be a donor, even if they register. But registering is the first step.

Being an organ and tissue donor, no matter your age, can be your legacy. Giving the gift of life is truly the greatest gift you can ever give.

Kellie Tremain  
President and CEO  
Indiana Donor Network

## Reseal the deal with Iran

By **PHYLLIS BENNIS**  
and **KEVIN MARTIN**  
Progressive Perspectives  
Tribune News Service

It could be make or break time for the Iran nuclear deal.

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) was the Obama administration's top foreign policy achievement. It led to dramatic reductions in Iran's ability to enrich uranium in return for the U.S. and its allies lifting nuclear-related sanctions that were crippling Iran's economy.

Former President Donald Trump abrogated the agreement just over four years ago. The Biden administration's talks with Iran to revive the deal have since progressed impressively, but now they have stalled again.

The problem lies with one of the many new sanctions Trump imposed against Iran during his last days in office that have nothing to do with Iran's nuclear program or the JCPOA.

Under Trump, the U.S. designated an elite Iranian military unit, the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, as a foreign terrorist organization. That led to extreme sanctions against individuals and agencies connected to this group.

The designation was explicitly designed by Trump to serve as a "poison pill" that would make it politically much harder for the U.S. to rejoin the deal, since it would require lifting sanctions against a so-called "terrorist" organization.

Unfortunately, the ploy seems to have worked.

The Senate recently approved a nonbinding GOP-backed measure pressuring the Biden administration not to delist the Revolutionary Guard, even though getting back to the agreement will be almost impossible without delisting. Diplomats on all sides are working to overcome this obstacle, but time is running short.

Trump's blatantly political move has made the United States, the region and the world less safe.

During the period that the JCPOA was in effect, all sides agreed that Iran was in full compliance with its requirements. But still it faced devastating new sanctions from the Trump administration.

## Guest Opinion

While Iran has gradually enriched uranium to higher levels since Trump abrogated the deal, it has made no attempt to acquire nuclear weapons. Returning to the JCPOA is the best way to prevent this from happening.

Israel is the region's only current nuclear weapons state. But others — including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Turkey (which already has U.S. nuclear weapons on its soil as part of NATO's nuclear sharing) — could end up joining the nuclear club if Iran does.

To repeat, Iran has, to date, not moved toward acquiring nuclear weapons. But its people continue to endure punishing economic sanctions, with the poorest and most vulnerable always the hardest hit.

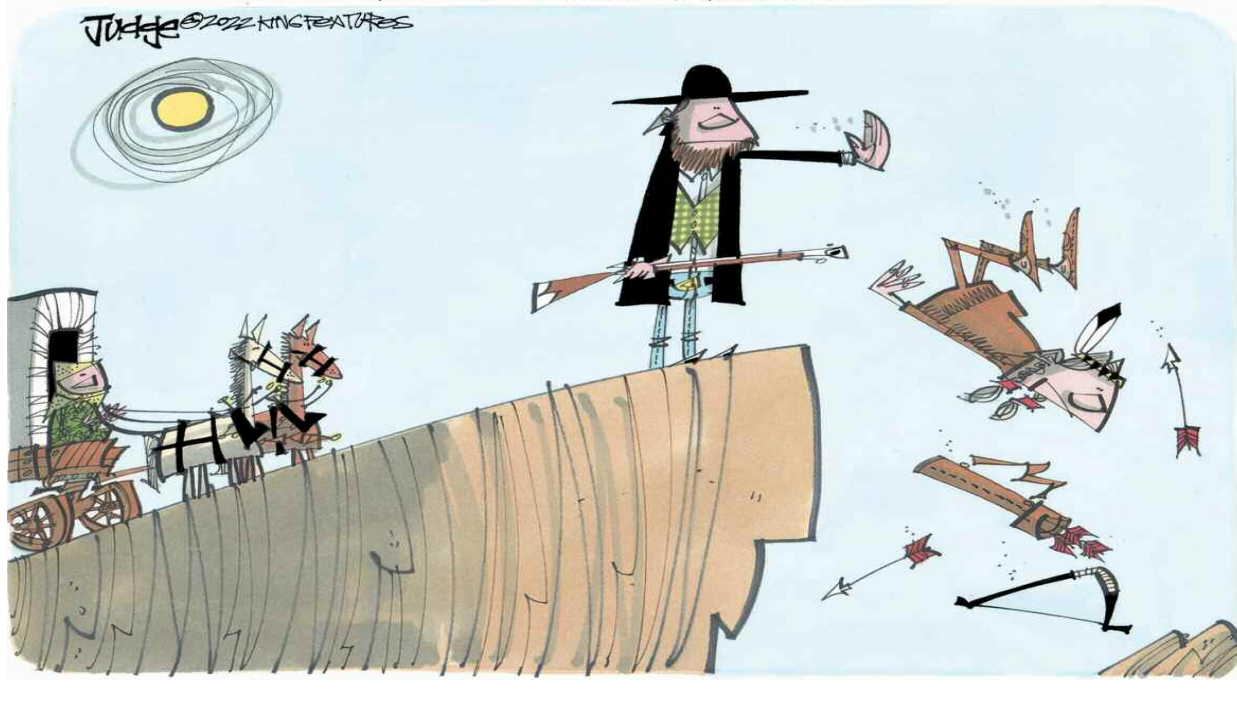
A renewed JCPOA provides a way to avoid the threat of war — initiated by one of Iran's regional rivals, or even the United States — that would arise should Iran at some point move toward nuclear capability. It might also serve as the basis for future negotiations with Iran on broader military and regional issues, and even set the stage for beginning negotiations towards global nuclear disarmament.

Negotiations over restoring the JCPOA are ongoing, and a resolution could come soon. A separate agreement between Iran and the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog agency, allowing UN inspection of Iran's nuclear sites, is scheduled to expire around June 6. That gives sharp urgency to getting the U.S. team to the table.

There's still time to undo Trump's reckless abandonment of diplomacy. The last thing the world needs is another regional arms race, or another war.

.....  
*Bennis directs the New Internationalism Project at the Institute for Policy Studies. Martin is the president of Peace Action and the Peace Action Education Fund.*

## WHY WHITE PEOPLE FIND THE GREAT REPLACEMENT THEORY BELIEVABLE:



## Missing Montpelier memories

By **BAILEY CLINE**

The Commercial Review

School's out for summer.

For Montpelier Elementary School, it's out forever.

Blackford County School Board decided earlier this year to close the school. Students walked out of the building today for the last time.

Montpelier Elementary School — like many Montpelier regulars, let's just stick to calling it Montpelier School — served as a second home to me. (It previously operated as a school for kindergarten through eighth grade.) My dad, Jeff Cline, taught math at Montpelier School for 21 years before all junior high classes were relocated to Hartford City. My mom, Renee (Moorman) Cline, also attended the school in her youth.

Some of my earliest memories at Montpelier School are the annual father and daughter dances we attended starting when I was 3 years old. Dads would intermingle along the back wall while the girls danced to the upbeat songs. Every so often a slow tune would start to play, signaling the dads to join us on the dance floor.

Other memories that come to mind:

- Racing down the hallway in first grade after saying goodbye to Dad so I could give my kindergarten boyfriend a kiss on the cheek

- Spending time with other teachers' kids, like Joey Gallatin, Rachel Rhoton, Joel Sharp and Meghan Foster, before school

- Directing groups through a "haunted hallway" attraction on the second floor for student council

- Sneaking through the internet firewall after school so my brother, Myles, and I could watch YouTube or play online games like Webkinz or Club Penguin

## On the Line



The community hosted an open house at the school May 18. Unfortunately I wasn't able to make it because of a meeting. In a way, though, I'm glad I had an excuse not to go. I'd rather remember the school how I left it at the end of sixth grade.

For the last few years, Montpelier School had been operating mainly on its first floor, opting to use the second and third floors for storage. That's a lot of building to maintain for such little usage.

"No," my dad responded over the phone last week when I asked if he stopped by Montpelier for the open house. "It's sad."

It is sad. Schools are a vital part of the community, and Montpelier School's closing will definitely impact the town. But there comes a point where it's just not feasible to keep a school going anymore.

Many of us at Montpelier School were devastated when administration chose in 2010 to combine all Blackford junior high students in one Hartford City school building. (Nine years later, Blackford Junior High School moved to the same facility as Blackford High School.)

We spent our last few days of school crying, saying goodbyes and wallowing around the hallways. I remember a lot of parents being frustrated and angry with administration over the whole ordeal. As a result, a good portion of our students flocked to Southern Wells.

I can remember that summer, before we changed schools. My dad

had accumulated more than 20 years of stuff in his classroom. It took us a good chunk of time that summer to move everything. We'd stop by the school around midnight — it was cooler and few people were there late at night — to load furniture and other personal items into our Ford Expedition. Once filled, we'd stop by a Big Red pop machine on the way to Hartford City. Whenever I taste red cream soda, I think about those late nights at school with Dad.

The first year for Montpelier students at Blackford Junior High School wasn't easy. We were the outliers on a path we didn't choose but had to take.

Students from Montpelier Elementary School will be facing similar issues next year. Hopefully the transition goes smoothly.

Looking at the positives, though, consolidating gave me a chance to make new friends. If seventh and eighth graders hadn't been relocated to Hartford City, I wouldn't have met my significant other, Justin Call, in seventh grade. I wouldn't have challenged Sara Carpenter for first chair in the flute section, nor would I have ended up becoming such good friends with her by the time senior year rolled around. I wouldn't have reunited with Whitley Felver, whose parents had sent her to Hartford City a year prior.

Overall, I'm grateful for the connections I made. We grow and adapt as time goes on. I hope Montpelier will be able to do the same.

As for my nostalgia, I have to remind myself it's just a building. Most of the friends and teachers I knew at Montpelier School have moved on to other places. The memories I'm missing are with the people, not with the brick and mortar.

Still, it's a shame to see it go.

# The Commercial Review



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## Plant ...

Continued from page 1  
Mark Steward, COO of Stellantis North America, said it made sense to bring the plant to Kokomo, where the company recently opened the engine plant producing motors that can be used in both traditional gas vehicles as well as hybrid vehicles. In October, the company also announced plans to retool three local plants to produce 8-speed transmissions for electric and hybrid vehicles.

"This is a key piece of our strategy," Steward said about the battery plant. "This ensures that the Kokomo community continues to play a central role in our company's efforts to provide safe, clean and affordable mobility to our customers today and into the future."

Steward said in an interview after the announcement that the company partnered with Samsung SDI on the project because of its expertise and knowledge in the battery space. The South Korea-based company manufactures rechargeable batteries for the IT industry and energy storage systems, as well as cutting edge materials used in semiconductors.

"They are really experts in terms of that technology space, so we're learning from them," he said. "While we are very good at efficiencies and traditional manufacturing, they are outstanding at energy, and this form of it. That's why we're coming together."

The partnership will eventually become its own entity, with the name of the new venture being announced in the coming months.

Construction is set to begin on the facility later this year, with a planned launch in the first quarter of 2025. Steward said they will begin hiring initial positions once construction is underway. Employees will work directly for the new company that will emerge from the partnership, he said.

The plant marks a huge win for the community, and the state, which had to compete with other locations around the nation to land the facility.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb called the plant, and the number of new jobs it will create, a "dream come true" for the region.

"Kokomo, Indiana, is a community that is resilient, it is trusted, and it's going to make you look good," he said to both companies. "... It's a perfect home for your new venture. We're proud to have you as part of our family."

Holcomb also directly praised Kokomo Mayor Tyler Moore and Howard County Commissioner Paul Wyman for bringing a "positive force to the discussion and the negotiation table."

"They always responded with quickness and always with a smile, and that's endearing as well when you're going after something as competitive and fast-moving as this whole process has been," he said.

Moore said the new battery plant is another example of the city and Stellantis leading the way in the auto industry.

"This multi-billion-dollar investment will help solidify the Kokomo region as a global leader in automotive manufacturing," he said.

## Capsule Reports

Continued from page 2

The vehicle he was driving is registered to Samantha Hubbard of Oneida, Tennessee, and it was towed. Riddle was cited with an infraction for driving with a suspended license.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The fence is owned by Willis Wickey of rural Bryant.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Maypole with the McClungs

Children join Anni and Julia McClung in dancing around a maypole Sunday afternoon during the Arts Festival on the Jay County Campus of Arts Place. The activity involves taking colored ribbons attached to the pole and weaving around each other.

## Questions ...

Continued from page 1  
Videos posted on social media, apparently recorded outside the school during the shooting, show law enforcement personnel drew weapons on parents and pinned one parent to the ground to prevent them from entering the building.

"Everyone was like, 'What's going on?'" said Derek Sotelo, 26, who was outside the school Tuesday with a friend whose son is a Robb student. The friend was frantically trying to get police to go in — or go in himself. "What the heck's going on? Why aren't they going in? What are they waiting for?"

His friend, he said, screamed at a cop: "Man, give me your vest. You're not doing nothing with it! Give me that vest and I'll go in and kill that guy!"

Law enforcement experts across the country said the police response in the working-class city of about 16,000 appeared to fall significantly short of national best practices for dealing with active shooters in school.

"Charge. Don't wait. Run toward the threat and

engage," said Art Acevedo, the former police chief of Houston, Austin and Miami.

"We learned after Columbine and other mass shooting incidents that in a world of high-capacity firearms, the carnage occurs quickly and not engaging immediately is not an option, especially when shots are actively ringing out," Acevedo said.

Congressman Joaquin Castro, D-Texas, on Thursday urged the FBI to investigate local law enforcement actions.

"The people of Uvalde, of Texas, and of the nation deserve an accurate account of what transpired," he wrote in a letter to the FBI.

Over the last two days, Texas officials have provided changing and sometimes contradictory narratives of what happened at Robb Elementary, from whether the school security officer and the gunman exchanged fire outside to how long law enforcement officers took cover and waited for backup as the gunman barricaded himself in a classroom.

Four minutes after Ramos entered the school, officers with the Uvalde Police Department and Consolidated Independent School District Police went inside. Hearing gunfire, they attempted to enter the classroom, authorities said, but some were shot or grazed and took cover. Sporadic gunfire erupted as police attempted "negotiations," Escalon said.

"During the negotiations, there wasn't much gunfire apart from keeping officers at bay," he said.

It was not until an hour after police entered the building that a Border Patrol tactical team arrived and killed Ramos.

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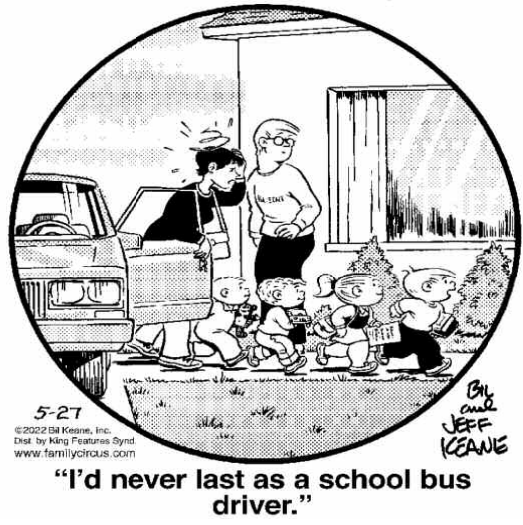
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Bidding quiz

It is said that if you go to three different doctors to have an ailment diagnosed, you'll get three different opinions. Well, the same thing is true if you consult a group of bridge experts about a bidding problem. As proof, we offer the following question presented by Bridge World magazine many years ago to 44 nationally known experts.

You are South, both sides vulnerable. The bidding has gone: North East South West 1 ♠ Pass 2 ♣ Pass 2 ♥ Pass ?

What would you now bid with the following hand: ♠ Q5♥ J7♠ AJ7643♣ A96

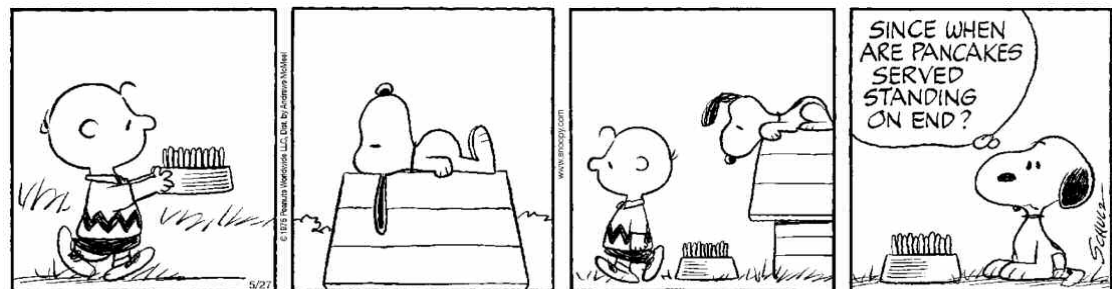
It can be seen that there was quite a diversity of opinion. This writer feels that a strong effort to reach game should be taken with these cards. Consequently, the three-club bid, which has the virtue of being forcing, is favored here.

Two spades seems inadequate because it is not sufficiently forward-going. Two notrump, although theoretically stronger than two spades, does not show the full strength of the hand, and might also make the wrong hand declarer in notrump (particularly if partner has the queen of clubs).

However, readers have the freedom to decide the issue for themselves. You pay your money and you take your choice.

Tomorrow: Detection through deduction. ©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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## Jay earns 14th win

The Patriots keep racking up victories.

Jay County High School's boys golf team picked up win No. 14 on Thursday as the rain stopped in time for it to cruise to a 164-196 victory over the Adams Central Jets at Portland Golf Club.

Brock DeHoff birdied three times in a four-hole stretch as he shot his best round of the season to lead the Patriots (14-2). He was 1-under-par on the 471-yard, par-5 sixth hole, the 358-yard, par-4 seventh and the 435-yard, par-4 ninth. He added three pars to go along with three bogeys as he finished even for the round.

Caleb DeRome wasn't far behind as he followed with a score of 37. He also had a birdie on the sixth hole.

Kyle Sanders and Ricky Nava each shot 46. Liam Garringer's 48 did not factor in the team total.

JCHS dropped the junior varsity competition 191-201.

### Kunkler places 13th

INDIANAPOLIS — Isaac Kunkler posted a 13th-place finish Thursday as the Jay County boys track team finished its season in the regional meet at Lawrence Central.

Kunkler posted a time of 16.67 seconds in the preliminaries of the 110-meter hurdles. David Carnell of Ben Davis was the

### Local roundup

last runner to qualify for the finals with his preliminary time of 15.71.

The Patriots also competed in the 4x400 relay with the team of Aaron Funkhouser, Dylan Knapshafer, Cristian Marentes and Kunkler crossing the finish line in 3 minutes, 39.18 seconds for 14th place.

Lawrence North won the regional meet with 73 points. Mount Vernon was the runner-up at 69.5.

### Thwaits earns W

FORT WAYNE — Fort Recovery graduate Nick Thwaits pitched his way to his first win of the season Thursday as the Fort Wayne TinCaps knocked off the Quad Cities River Bandits 6-2.

Thwaits struck out two batters in two scoreless innings of relief for the victory. He did not allow a hit and walked three batters.

He also threw two scoreless innings of relief Saturday in Fort Wayne's 1-0 loss to the West Michigan Whitecaps.

Thwaits is 1-2 in 11 relief appearances for the TinCaps, the High-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres. He had 20 strikeouts in 18 1/3 innings and a 4.42 ERA.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School's Ricky Nava hits a put Saturday during the Allen County Athletic Conference Championships at Celina Lynx Golf Club. Nava matched teammate Kyle Sanders in shooting 46 Thursday at Portland Golf Club as the Patriots defeated Adams Central 164-196.

## Palou is ready for a rematch

*Castroneves and 2021 runner-up highlight loaded field*

By ALISON SNEAG  
Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

A little more than a month before this year's Indianapolis 500, Helio Castroneves stood on Indianapolis Motor Speedway's Turn 2 with his hands atop his head, staring in distress at the now destroyed car he'd raced to a record-tying fourth Indy 500 victory in 2021. Hundreds of hours went into perfecting this car. But a sealant issue on the pit exit lane sent Castroneves (and two other Indy 500 winners) into the wall during a test day and brought the team back to square one leading into the world's biggest motor race.

Castroneves' Meyer Shank Racing team, which the 22-year open-wheel veteran joined for the first time last year, rebuilt the car until it was "perfect" for the start of 500 practice last week.

Two qualifying attempts later, Castroneves felt far from perfect, backing off the throttle but completing his four-lap attempt with the threat of rain looming.

"There's a line between bravery and stupidity and we were really playing with the edge of it," he told NBC Sports.

The Brazilian, who turned 47 on May 10, is vying to become the sport's first five-time Indianapolis 500 winner, and first back-to-back winner since, well, he did it in 2001 and 2002. To do so, he'll have to work his way up from the 27th starting spot through one of the fastest, most competitive fields in IndyCar history — including last year's 500 runner-up, Alex Palou, who lost the race but went on to win the series championship, one of the only accomplishments Castroneves hasn't achieved.

This year, the 25-year-old will start the 106th Indianapolis 500 from the middle of the front row. The Spaniard, who'd never raced on ovals until he joined the IndyCar series in 2020, is one of the favorites to win Sunday's race; he has been among the most consistent cars since practice began May 17. He also sits second in the series championship.

But IMS doesn't care how old you are, or how experienced you are.

"At the end of the day," Castroneves said, "this place, Indianapolis, is gonna pick who's gonna be the winner."

Palou's first Indy 500 in 2020 ended in a crash after 121 laps. But last year, driving for Chip Ganassi Racing, he rocketed into the top nine qualifiers who would compete in a shootout for the pole. Afraid that his time wouldn't be good enough, he pushed members of his team to let him go out for a second run. They agreed — and he crashed.

"I felt really bad for pushing the team," he said. "Not that much for crashing, but it was more like pushing the limits and not having enough downforce for those conditions. ... I knew that was my best car — the best front wing, the best rear wing, undertray, the best everything, and you crash it. And it's like, oh no, I'm done."

See Rematch page 7

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## Warriors return to NBA Finals

By MADELINE KENNEY  
The Mercury News  
Tribune News Service

SAN FRANCISCO — After a two-year playoff absence, the Warriors are back in the NBA Finals.

This marks Golden State's sixth trip to the title series in eight years, making the Warriors one of four NBA teams to accomplish such a feat and the first franchise to do it since the Michael Jordan-led Bulls in the 90s.

A 4-1 series victory over the Dallas Mavericks capped off by a 120-110 win on Thursday at the Chase Center came after many had written the team off.

Following Klay Thompson's career-altering injury and Kevin Durant's departure after a 2019 NBA Finals loss to the Toronto Raptors, Golden State finished with the worst record in the league in 2020. The next season, an injury to Stephen Curry compelled the Warriors to shift their focus to the future, developing the

next generation of players in hopes to squeeze out another championship run with this core.

Still, there were persistent doubts the Warriors would ever make it back to this stage.

The Warriors exceeded expectations.

Thompson erupted for 32 points, making eight 3-pointers after being quiet for most of this series. And in the fourth quarter with about two minutes left, Curry hit a corner 3-pointer that brought the home crowd to its feet. He had 15 points and nine assists.

Draymond Green finished with 17 points on 6-of-7 shooting and delivered nine assists. And Kevon Looney and Andrew Wiggins posted double-doubles. Looney had 10 points and a game-high 18 rebounds and Wiggins had 18 and 10.

The Warriors led by 17 points at the half and held on from there, despite a late third quarter run from Dallas.

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