

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

2022 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Scores are up, state is still behind

Just over 30% of students passed ILEARN

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana students' passing rates on state standardized tests showed small improvements this year after dropping in 2021, results released Wednesday show.

But state officials said many students are not making academic rebounds fast enough to catch up from the class time they missed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The results of this year's spring tests for grades 3-8 showed that 30.2% of Hoosier students passed both the math and English sections of ILEARN.

While the results are an increase of 1.6 percentage points compared to 2021, passing scores trail up to 8 percentage points behind 2019's pre-pandemic pass rates.

The statewide percentage of students who met their grade-level expectations for math in the 2021-22 academic year rose to 39.4% from last year's 36.9%.

The state reported 41.2% of students passed the English exam. That's up from 40.5% a year ago.

Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner commended teachers and students for their progress made since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and for working to overcome disruptions to classrooms.

"Today we're seeing the positive collective impact we can have when educators, communities and families come together to support our students' learning," Jenner said in a statement. "At the same time, we must continue to aggressively pursue innovative solutions to best support all of our students, especially our students who are still overcoming the challenges posed by the pandemic, as well as students who were underperforming prior to the pandemic."

But State Board of Education member Scott Bess, the executive director of Purdue Polytechnic High School in Indianapolis, said during the board's meeting Wednesday that ongoing, "systematic" issues are prohibiting academic progress for Black and Hispanic students.

Black students reported the lowest 2022 pass rates at 19% in English and 14% in math.

Proficiency rates for Hispanic students and English language learners also remain "significantly below their grade level peers and their academic growth is not at the pace of other student populations," according to a National Center for Assessment study of ILEARN scores over the last two years.

See Scores page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

A wave and some watermelon

There were activities for all ages Wednesday at the Jay County Fair, from rides on the midway to watermelon from Jay County Republicans to Cincinnatus League recognition for lifetimes of community service (see story below).

Pictured above, 4-year-old Cambry Aquino of Portland waves while riding the carousel on the midway.

At left, Ava Willis, 5, and Maitlynn Castillo, 6, chomp into chunks of watermelon while sitting in the Farmers Building.

Honoring service

By LOUISE RONALD
The Commercial Review

Seven new members were inducted into the Cincinnatus League's Jay County Hall of Fame for a Lifetime of Service on Wednesday during a ceremony in the Farmers Building at the Jay County Fair.

"These are our friends and neighbors," said Rose Snow, chair of the organization's senior recognition committee. "They represent the best in Jay County. They rekindle our spirits and hope."

"They didn't see what they were doing as anything special," she added, but their community involvement and spirit of giving illustrate "the wonderful things that can be done by everyday people."

Cincinnatus recognizes 'the best in Jay County'

Manfred Beck moved to Portland from Germany in 1969. Once he learned English, he jumped into the community. As a member of the Lions Club, he sold more than a ton of oranges and grapefruit in the holiday fundraiser, served as president, vice president and treasurer, and helped start Portland's first Lioness Club. He was a 17-year member of the Jay County 4th of July

Committee. For the Moose Lodge, he organized drives to collect food and toys for Christmas for the Needy and bedding for the homeless shelter.

When Beck retired from FCC, he became involved with the Hoosier Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross, helping with emergency responses to fires and floods.

See Service page 5



The Commercial Review/Louise Ronald

Cincinnatus League senior recognition committee chair Rose Snow, left, and honoree Edith Dickey-Green share a laugh after the induction ceremony Wednesday in the Farmers Building during the Jay County Fair. Dickey-Green was among a group of seven who were inducted into the Cincinnatus League's Jay County Hall of Fame for a Lifetime of Service.

Deaths

John Goodrich, 76, rural Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 85 degrees Wednesday. There was a trace of rain. The low was 58.

Tonight's low will be 59. Expect mostly sunny skies with a high of 81 Friday and a 20% chance of showers in the afternoon.

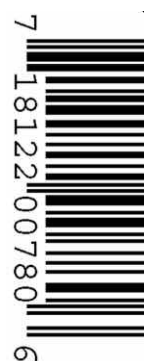
See page 2 for an extended outlook.

Coming up

Today
Noon — Indiana State Fair Queen appearance and speech in the Farmers Building
4 p.m. — A Touch of Mexico in the Farmers Building
5 p.m. — 4-H large animal supreme showmanship in the Show Arena
7 p.m. — Cain concert at the grandstand

Friday
10 a.m. — 4-H livestock auction in Schmit Exhibition Hall
4 p.m. — Greg Rhodes concert in the Farmers Building
7 p.m. — Cole Swindell concert at the grandstand

Saturday
1 p.m. — Senior bingo in the Farmers Building

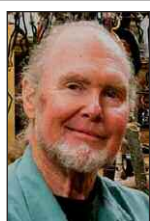


Obituaries

John Goodrich

Nov. 6, 1945-July 12, 2022
John B. Goodrich, age 76, of rural Portland passed away Tuesday morning July 12, 2022, at his residence.
John was born in Winchester on Nov. 6, 1945, the son of Perce Gordon and Francis Ann (Hawkins) Goodrich. He was married on March 24, 1972, to Sarona Mathews who survives.
He was owner and operator of J&P Custom Plating in Portland and had been a teacher at Bloomfield Elementary School.
He was a 1963 Portland High

School graduate and a 1968 Wabash College graduate.
He was the current president of Portland Rotary Club, is a Paul Harris Fellow and managed the Rotary Tree Project. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church, member of Presbyterian Foundation and had taught Sunday school to junior and senior classes. He served on the Jay School Board and board of directors of John Jay



Goodrich

Center, was president of Goodrich Family Foundation and served on the Jay Community Center board of directors. He was awarded Citizen of the Year from Jay County Chamber of Commerce and was founder of Goodrich Brewery. He received an award from Wabash College for being an alumni admissions fellow, helping many young men to attend Wabash College where he was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity. John was an avid Spider-Man enthusiast, enjoyed fishing, living in the woods, trees, working and his family.

Surviving are his wife Sarona; two sons, J.B. Goodrich of Portland and William Goodrich of Portland; two daughters, Meranda Teeter (husband: Dave) of Portland and Emily Goodrich of Portland; two sisters, Elizabeth Orrill of Madison, Indiana, and Janice Gordon Goodrich Gerson of Lebanon, Indiana; and two grandsons, Connor Teeter and Jay Goodrich.
Private family funeral services will be held in the First Presbyterian Church in Portland with burial in the Fountain

Park Cemetery in Winchester. Visitation will be Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home.
Memorials can be made to the Goodrich Family Foundation. Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.
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The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge.
There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

Friday 7/15	Saturday 7/16	Sunday 7/17	Monday 7/18	Tuesday 7/19
81/64	87/67	80/67	84/68	89/70
Mostly sunny skies with a slight chance of rain and a cool southeastern breeze.	Another chance of rain Saturday under partly sunny skies. Thunderstorms possible.	There's a 60% chance of thunderstorms Sunday under mostly cloudy skies.	More rain is possible Monday. Partly sunny, with a high in the low to mid 80s.	Mostly sunny skies are in the forecast for Tuesday. Rain is possible, but not likely.

Lotteries

Powerball 22-23-36-47-63 Power Ball: 2 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$82 million	48-49-56-71-77-79 Cash 5: 2-13-23-30-31 Hoosier Lotto: 12-18-28-29-36-38 Estimated jackpot: \$15.4 million
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$480 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 7-2-6 Pick 4: 0-8-5-4 Pick 5: 2-7-1-0-4 Evening Pick 3: 4-6-6 Pick 4: 2-8-3-8 Pick 5: 7-5-8-7-3 Rolling Cash: 2-7-15-18-22 Classic Lotto: 6-26-30-32-34-46 Kicker: 6-9-6-0-3-5 Estimated jackpot: \$31.5 million
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 7-2-6 Daily Four: 9-9-6-4 Quick Draw: 3-6-7-13-20-22-29-42-43-45-46-47-48-49-53-55-56-69-71-72 Evening Daily Three: 3-8-5 Daily Four: 1-5-3-8 Quick Draw: 1-3-6-9-11-13-21-25-33-36-39-42-46-47	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.83 Aug. corn6.88 Wheat6.72	Wheat 7.80 July 2023 wheat 8.19
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.97 Aug. corn7.02 Oct. corn5.86	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.88 Late July corn6.68 Beans15.51 Late July beans.....15.46 Wheat7.86
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.89 Aug. corn6.89 Beans15.48 Aug. beans.....13.48	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.69 Aug. corn6.69 Beans14.95 Aug. beans.....14.95 Wheat7.75

Today in history

In 1789, a mob stormed the Bastille in Paris, a French prison, demanding the arms and ammunition stored there. When they were resisted, the crowd captured the prison.
In 1860, novelist Owen Wister was born in Germantown, Pennsylvania. He wrote the 1920 novel "The Virginian," which helped create the myth of the American cowboy.
In 1933, all parties other than the Nazi Party were banned in Germany.
In 1968, Hank Aaron hit his 500th career home run. He would go on to break Babe Ruth's record of 714 home runs, finishing his career with 775.
In 2007, the Jay County 4-H livestock auction moved into the 4-H Building for the first time, bringing in an unofficial total of \$95,905.
In 2016, a terrorist attack that involved a man driving a truck through a crowd celebrating Bastille Day in Nice, France, resulted in more than 80 deaths and hundreds of injuries.
In 2021, the Cincinnati League honored Dave Cramer, Cindy Denney, Nick Miller, Sharon Newman, Emilie Steveson, Jim Waechter and Mindy Weaver with its Lifetime of Service Award during a ceremony in the Farmers Building at the Jay County Fair.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St. 7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Council, village hall, 201 S.	Main St., Fort Recovery, Ohio. Wednesday 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North. 6 p.m. — Jay County Council, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
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Scores ...

Continued from page 1
Asian students had the highest ILEARN scores, with 57% passing the English exam, and 58% passing the math exam. White students had a 48% proficiency in English and 47% in math.
Bess added that he's "anxious" about the incoming cohort of third graders, who have spent their entire academic career in the pandemic.
"The number of students going into post secondary is dropping off," he said, referring to Indiana's dismal college-going rate for high school graduates. "If

we don't solve this in third grade, fourth grade, fifth grade — we have no shot at improving those numbers."
Officials at the Indiana Department of Education additionally indicated that some student groups — like English language learners — might continue to experience "significant gaps" compared to the general student population if there isn't more "meaningful intervention."
"Academic recovery will require multiple years of accelerated learning to make sure that every Indiana student has the opportunity to achieve success,

and every student will require different levels and types of support to get back on track," the department said in a statement Wednesday.
Bess called for increased spending on schools in the next state budget, which lawmakers will begin crafting during the 2023 legislative session. Addressing learning losses, he continued, needs to be a "priority."
Jenner maintained that the state will need to "triple down" on reading recovery programs. She noted that Indiana's education department is finalizing plans for

a "micro-grant" program for parents to access tutoring help for their kids, too.
Chief academic officer Charity Flores said the state education department also plans to launch a coaching program this summer that will see a wave of reading specialists placed in 70 Indiana schools.
State officials said Wednesday they plan to use the analysis of ILEARN scores to craft student-specific responses in an effort to boost academic progress and further mitigate learning loss brought on by the pandemic.

Felony court news

Counterfeit
A Redkey woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty in Jay Superior Court to counterfeiting, a Level 6 felony.

Angela C. Dixon, 49, 11613 W. Indiana 28 Lot 32, was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 90 days suspended and given 18 days credit for time served. Dixon

was assessed \$185 in court costs and placed on probation for 275 days.
As part of her plea agreement, two counts of counterfeiting, both Level 6 felonies, were dismissed.

Felony arrests

Confinement
A La Porte man was arrested Wednesday for confinement and strangulation.
Jordan S. Anderson, 25, 118 Belden St., was prelimi-

narily charged with two Level 6 felonies, along with a Class A misdemeanor for domestic battery.
He's being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Deeds

Donna and Hiram Roberts to Hiram Roberts, quit claim deed — Part of Section 23, Madison Township, 4.31 acres
Carol E. and James B. Hedges to Carol E. Hedges, quit claim deed — Unit 125, Heritage Commons Portland
Laci B. Smitley to Indiana Michigan Power/American Electric Power, easement — Part of Section 9, Wayne Township, 1.622 acres
Samantha Bruggeman to Ruiz Rentals, warranty deed — Part of Outlot 14, Bakers Addition

Paul L. Miller (deceased), Paul G. Miller and Betty Sue Miller Life Estate to Paul G. Miller, deed affidavit — Section 26, Pike Township, 80 acres
Ida J. and Samuel R. Girod to David G., Ida J. and Samuel R. Girod, warranty deed — Part of Section 3, Bearcreek Township, 13.46 acres

Capsule Reports

Deer hit
A Portland man crashed his car into a deer along county road 400 West about 4:30 a.m. Wednesday.
Kaleb D. Toland, 25, was driving north on county road 400 West just north of county road 50 South when a deer ran in front of his 2007 Chevrolet Malibu. Toland wasn't able to avoid hitting the animal with his vehicle, causing between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in estimated damage.

SERVICES

Saturday
Klingel, Carol: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

July 23
McMillan, Evelyn: 1 p.m., Brockman-Boeckman Funeral Home, 308 S. Wayne St., Fort Recovery.

Service listings provided by
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Husband's lies imperil marriage

DEAR ABBY: I am married to a man from a different country, culture and religion. We have an amazing relationship, and he is my best friend. We do everything together — grocery shop, date nights, travel, etc. He is a wonderful husband. The only problem is he doesn't contribute financially. I have told him time and again that this is going to be a big problem for us.

Dear Abby



In his country, the people are poor, so he sends money to his family. His parents are wonderful, humble people and I love them dearly. He doesn't earn as much as I do, but I do not feel that should stop him from making some financial contribution to OUR LIFE. He makes a decent salary and could buy some groceries or pay for a dinner here or there, but he doesn't. I pay for everything.

We had agreed that after he paid off his debts, he would put a certain amount of money in the savings, which would still leave him \$1,000 for himself. A thousand dollars is half a year's salary in his country. For the last three months he has made no contributions, and when I asked about it, he said he doesn't know what he did with the money. He's obviously lying. I am so furious that I'm consid-

ering divorce. I have never told him not to help his family, and I have been very generous with them as well. But it worries me that he is only concerned with his family back home and not the well-being of the family we have built together. — MONEY'S THE ISSUE IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MONEY'S THE ISSUE: Your "wonderful" husband has reneged on his promise to put money in the savings account and lied to you about where the money is going. Could it have gone someplace other than to his parents? Marriage is more than a romantic adventure. It is also a partnership — and one in which your husband isn't contributing his agreed-upon share. You may be able to resolve this with the help of a licensed mediator or counselor, but if it doesn't solve the problem, talk to an attorney about protecting yourself financially.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



Best babies

The annual baby contests kicked off the Jay County Fair on Saturday morning. Winning the overall prize in the 6- to 12-month-old category was 8-month-old Hadley Huey. Pictured above, Hadley smiles at the judges during the competition with her mother, Morgan Huey of rural Pennville.

At right, 16-month-old Jalen Smith and mother Kaitlyn Hicks of Portland wave at the crowd. Smith took home the overall award for the 12-month-old and one day to 18-month old category.

Community Calendar

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

Reunions

JAY COUNTY HOSPITAL EMPLOYEES — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, in the Community Room at Jay County Public Library. Attendees should bring their own table service and are invited to bring a dish to share and a white elephant gift as a prize for bingo. Reservations are not required. For more information, call Sharon Taylor at (765) 578-0357.

Thursday

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — 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 information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

PIKE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS — Will meet at 5 p.m. July 14 at Pizza Hut, 1502 N Meridian St., Portland.

A BETTER LIFE – BRI-

ANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY HEALTH JAY HOSPITAL OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 6 p.m. the second Thursday of each month in Indiana University Health Jay Hospital Conference Room B. The group is for ostomy and intestinal diversion patients and their friends and family to offer mutual support and learn about the latest products and information.

JAY COUNTY TRAILS CLUB — Will meet at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY — 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 information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260)

251-8792.

EN AVANT CLUB — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library. The public is welcome.

A BETTER LIFE – BIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or

Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday 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.

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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

Find Local Businesses & Services

Fortkamp Foam
3226 Wabash Road
Ft. Recovery, OH
419-852-1390
Fortkampfoam.com

Hopkins Repair, LLC
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260-251-0459

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Pennville, IN
260-731-3221

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1413 W. Votaw St.,
Portland
260-726-7822

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630 E. Votaw St.
Portland, IN
260-726-4535

All Circuit Electrical, LLC
5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN
260-997-8336
www.allcircuitelectrical.com

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition

100 N. Meridian St.,
Portland, IN 47371
260-251-3259
Email:
jcdpccontact@gmail.com

Dunn Family Dental Care
110 W. North St.
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Manufacturing is the clear leader

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Before we delve into gross domestic product (GDP) at the county level, please understand federal statistical agencies prevent us from knowing about \$13.6 billion or 3.6% of Indiana's GDP.

This "disclosure policy" is intended to protect the privacy of business firms. However, it makes it impossible to give a reasonably complete picture of the economy in most counties.

In Fayette County, 60% of GDP was undisclosed in 2019. Marion and St. Joseph counties each had 12.8% of their county GDP undisclosed.

Given that caveat, we proceed to consider most of the 21 sectors in our study of 2019 GDP.

Agriculture was not the lead-

Eye on the Pie



ing sector in any Hoosier county. Only in Jay County did it exceed 10% of GDP. But this sector was subject to the disclosure rule in 20 counties, places as dissimilar as Vanderburgh and Warren counties.

Utilities accounted for 66% of GDP in Pike County and 40% in Spencer County. They were No. 1 in seven counties, but undisclosed in 18 counties.

In Daviess County, construction led all other sectors with 16% of county GDP. In just two other counties, Orange (14%) and Adams (10%), was construction higher than 10% of the county GDP.

Durable goods manufacturing was the leading sector in 48 of Indiana's 92 counties. In Whitley, Bartholomew and Kosciusko counties, this sector was 50% of the county's GDP. In another nine counties, this sector hit 40% or more of GDP. In dollar value, Elkhart County led the state at \$7.6 billion, 48% of county GDP, but in Marion County this sector, with \$4.1 billion, was only 4.2% of county GDP.

Non-durable goods manufacturing was the leading sector in

13 counties, led by Posey County at 74% of county GDP. This sector was number one in counties as diverse as Marion and Lake as well as Blackford and Cass.

Wholesale trade, undisclosed in 25 counties and not No. 1 in any county, did register 10% or more in Pulaski, Hancock and Hendricks counties, topped by Henry County at 14.5%.

Retail trade was no better than third place in any county and over 10% in only Hendricks (11.4%) and Washington (10.3%) counties. Despite over \$3.3 billion in retail trade, the sector was just 3.4% of Marion County's GDP. The sector topped \$1 billion also in Lake, Allen and Hamilton counties while in the

6% range of those counties' GDP.

Transportation and warehousing was only 3.5% and ranked 11th of our 21 sectors statewide. Only Hendricks County, adjacent to the Indianapolis airport, can boast that this sector was its No. 1 component of county GDP.

Health care and social assistance in Wayne, Floyd and Warrick counties exceeded 16% of their counties' GDP. In the first two counties, this sector was number one among all sectors.

Space constraints make this our last sector this week.

Marcus is an economist. Email him at mortonjmarcus@yahoo.com.

Debt crisis could spread worldwide

The Washington Post

In its recent history, Sri Lanka has withstood civil war, a devastating 2004 tsunami and 2019 terrorist attacks that killed 269 people in Colombo, the capital. Now the nation of 21.8 million, just off the southern tip of India, finds itself tested by a profound economic collapse that could spawn a humanitarian crisis and political upheaval.

The disaster's short-term cause lies in the coronavirus pandemic, which dried up Sri Lanka's flow of tourist earnings. The government compounded the damage by banning fertilizer imports to save foreign currency in 2021; the perverse result was crop failure and a need for more food imports. Burdened with \$51 billion in foreign debt, Sri Lanka is essentially bankrupt and cannot afford imported food or fuel. Citizens must wait days for rations and street protests flare regularly. President Gotabaya Rajapaksa is negotiating for an International Monetary Fund bailout — but also pleading with Russian President Vladimir Putin for emergency fuel shipments.

The prospect that Putin could use Sri Lanka's pain to expand Russian influence over the Indo-Pacific region is one reason — apart from the human tragedy — for the United States to pay attention. Another is the prospect of similar desperation in other heavily indebted nations. Rising interest rates, coupled with oil and food supply shocks emanating from the war in Ukraine, are exacerbating the debtor nations' difficulties. Of 73 countries the Group of 20 declared eligible for a special pandemic-related Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) in 2020, 41 are at high risk of debt distress, or already in it, according to a recent International Monetary Fund report. Ethiopia and Zambia have requested some relief under the DSSI and 20 other countries show signs of needing it this year, according to the IMF.

The parallels with the debt crisis of the '70s and '80s are striking. One factor complicating today's situation relative to past debt crises is that the most deeply indebted countries owe money not just to Western governments and banks, but to private bondholders and, crucially, to China. Some 18% of their borrowing is from Beijing, which — unlike democrat-

Guest Editorial

One factor complicating today's situation relative to past debt crises is that the most deeply indebted countries owe money not just to Western governments and banks, but to private bondholders and, crucially, to China.

ic counterparts — generally does not offer "soft" credit. Sri Lanka is a good example: China and Japan each hold about 10% of its foreign debt, but the latter's money came at much lower interest rates and longer maturities, according to Nikkei Asia. China also operates separate from the Western-backed Paris Club of official creditors, which makes transparency about the loans it has extended elusive.

The upshot is that the United States should use its power as the IMF's largest shareholder to help countries restructure their debts, but this will be much harder to do with a multiplicity of private bondholders involved and with China engaged in the equivalent of international predatory lending. Sri Lanka presents an opportunity for the Biden administration to fashion a rescue in conjunction with other members of the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue — India, Japan and Australia. That could both mitigate suffering and show the entire Indo-Pacific that it pays to deal with the United States rather than China or Russia.



As a citizen, be engaged

By LEO MORRIS

Indiana Policy Review

Make it so.

Thus commands Jean-Luc Picard, captain of the starship Enterprise, whenever an emergency arises for which there are only weak options in response. He selects the one that, in his view, offers the best hope of success and orders his crew to get it done.

No debate is invited, no questions to be asked. Don't bother him with the details. Just, "Make it so." More often than not, this being cinematic fiction, it ends well and they all speed off to the next crisis at warp speed.

That's what we want in our all-too-real lives these days, isn't it, a commanding leader to study the options for us, make up our minds and give us our orders?

Those who have studied past democratic efforts, especially those who have read Plato's "Republic," might say we yearn to be ruled by a wise, kind, all-powerful philosopher king. But philosopher kings being in short supply, and the study of history a suspect endeavor, the most we can hope for is a wise, kind, all-powerful captain who will steer us to a safe landing.

But as loyal Star Trek fans know, occasionally another captain will show up, drunk on authority and/or as crazy as an outhouse rat, whose "make it so" will lead to unmitigated disaster while the hapless crew members blindly go about their assigned tasks. Only if the crew comes to its senses and rebels can catastrophe be avoided.

That's the thing about letting power accumulate in one place — you might get someone wise and kind, and you might get a raving lunatic.

Why don't more people understand that about the Supreme Court?

For better or worse, and for a lot of reasons, the court has become the one unfettered member of our system of checks and balances — its edicts to "make it so" subject to no debate, questions not appreciated.

And adherents of the political left for years — decades, really — not only liked such focused power but encouraged it, because at the court they got all the things they wanted but could

Leo Morris



not get through the legislative process. But now, when conservatives have finally succeeded in getting a court majority, they view the court as a profound danger to our whole way of life.

Listen to Marc Ash, former executive editor of Truthout, who demands that Americans "must join hands and challenge the legitimacy of this rogue court. The corruption of the Supreme Court ultimately means the downfall of the rule of law in America."

To which the rational response is, "Hey, pal, you asked for it, you got it. You created a monster, and it turned on you."

To be fair, conservatives were just as distrustful of the court when they weren't getting what they sought and the other side's rogues were bringing about the ruin of the rule of law. People want what they want when they want it, never mind the sovereignty they abdicate in the process and where that power settles and accumulates.

And that is such a dangerous frame of mind for a supposedly free, self-governing people.

Alexander Hamilton in Federalist No. 9 talked of the "sensations of horror and disgust" at the distractions with which the early republics of Greece and Italy were continually agitated "and at the rapid succession of revolutions by which they were kept in a state of perpetual vibration between the extremes of anarchy and tyranny."

It was chiefly because those republics did not benefit from advancements in the science of politics: "The regular distribution of power into distinct departments; the introduction of legislative balances and checks; the institution of courts composed of judges holding their offices during good behavior; the representation of the people in the legis-

lature by deputies of their own election ... They are the means, and powerful means, by which the excellence of republican government may be retained and its imperfections lessened or avoided."

Furthermore, state governments would be "constituent parts of the national sovereignty," allowed to retain "certain exclusive and very important portions of sovereign power." Not only would power be fragmented within the federal governments but further diffused by sharing it with states. Nobody could get what they wanted when they wanted it just because they wanted it.

If that Hamilton isn't convincing enough, try another one, Democratic U.S. Rep. Lee Hamilton of Indiana, who went off on Col. Oliver North back during the Iran-Contra scandal, for not having faith in America's democratic traditions.

He did not question North's patriotism in participating in the clandestine arms-for-hostages deal but noted that our government is not devoted to a particular objective "but is a form of government which specifies means and methods of achieving objectives."

A few, he said, "do not know what is better for Americans than Americans know themselves."

And what exactly has the Supreme Court done in the waning days of this controversial term? Whether you admired or abhorred its specific decisions, you should acknowledge that it has done the best we can hope for from an institution with unchecked power: Diffuse power by spreading it around.

In the abortion case, it gave up its own power, sending decision-making back to the states and their voters. In the EPA case, it took power away from a body of unelected bureaucrats and told Congress to do its job. In the gun case, it said everyone in authority had to operate within limits set by the Constitution.

You are more than the crew on this spaceship of state. You are ultimately in charge, and whether it warps into disaster or victory is up to you. You don't even have to rebel. All you have to do is be an engaged citizen.

Make it so.

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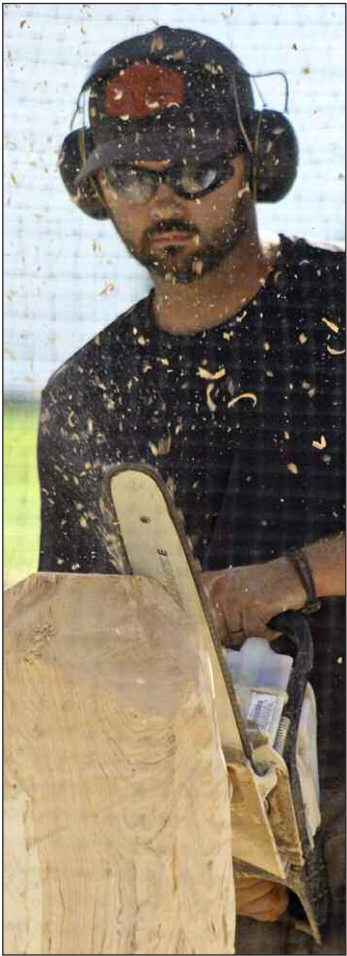
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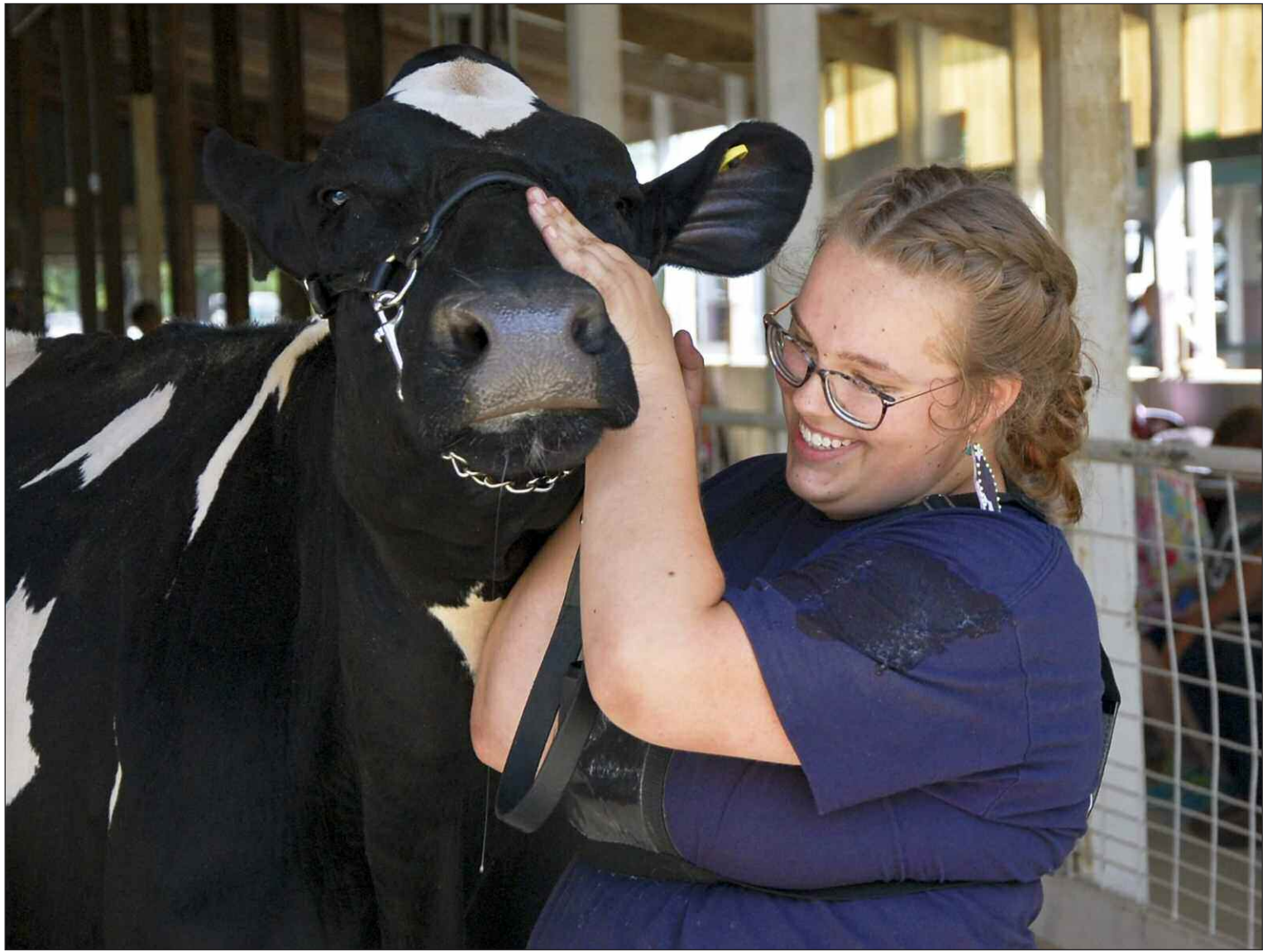
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2022 Jay County Fair



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline



The Commercial Review/Amy Schwartz



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Wednesday at the Jay County Fair included the 4-H dairy and sheep shows, plenty of rides on the midway and wood-carving in the Classics area.

Pictured, clockwise from above:

Kelsey Frantz laughs in the ring at the Show Arena as she guides her cow during the morning's dairy show, in which she won supreme grand champion.

Ava Raines, 15, falls off a mechanical bull ride Wednesday evening on the midway.

Ayden Spradlin works hard to keep ahold of his unruly sheep during the afternoon sheep show in the Show Arena.

Myles Nasby, owner of Nasby Chainsaw Art, carves a log into a wooden owl statue.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Service ...

Continued from page 1
He met former Vice President Mike Pence when the then Indiana governor visited a Red Cross shelter at the high school following a flood.

"I shook his hand," Beck told the crowd of about 75 gathered at the ceremony. "I haven't washed it since."

Jay County native Edith Dickey-Green was one of the original members of the Jay County Hospital Auxiliary, with more than 50 years of service. She has more than 60 years with Beta Sigma Phi sorority and 40 years with Jay County Cancer Society. Other memberships include the Cincinnatus League and Altrusa. She has volunteered with the Tri-State Gas Engine & Tractor Museum, Red Cross blood drives and the chamber of commerce.

Dickey-Green helped a neighbor organize the Plant, Hoe & Hope Garden Club.

Tom Johnson of Dunkirk said his father taught him to always give 110% to whatever he did. It was a lesson he took to heart, much to the benefit of his home town, which he served as mayor and city council member for 22 years. But Johnson, who currently serves on city council, didn't limit his service to meetings. He was a hands-on helper at the city pool and in the parks.

"You name it, I done it," he said.

Retired from the glass industry and a two-time cancer survivor, Johnson now spends most of his



The Commercial Review/Louise Ronald

Inductees to the Cincinnatus Leagues's Jay County Hall of Fame for a Lifetime of Service on Wednesday during the Jay County Fair were, from left, Manfred Beck, Edith Dickey-Green, Tom Johnson, Bonnie Maitlen, Dr. Jim Wasson, Barbara Twigg and Reda Theurer-Miller.

time taking care of himself and his home. He's modest about his years of community service.

"It's just the way I was raised," he said.

Bonnie Maitlen grew up in a suburb of Cleveland, Ohio, and hoped to become a speech writer in Washington, D.C., but her decision to attend Ball State University ended up changing those plans when a young man from Portland convinced her to marry him and stay in Indiana. For three years, she said, she kept some bags packed so the family could move at a moment's notice.

"You'd have to drag me away now," she said.

Maitlen's work takes her to New York and around the world, but she's glad to have Jay County as her home base. She has served on the board of directors of First National Bank and advisory board of First Merchants Bank, and done strategic planning with the City of Portland, Jay County Public Library, Jay County Civic Theatre and John Jay Center for Learning. She is past president of Arts Place, 100th anniversary chair of Portland Rotary Club and lay director of East Indiana Emmaus Community. Other memberships include Jay County Mentoring,

Altrusa and Asbury United Methodist Church.

When Reda Theurer-Miller retired from Youth Service Bureau in 2019, she didn't know what would come next.

"Volunteering came to me later in life," she said.

It came in the form of chairing Portland Main Street Connect, which supports businesses and has worked to improve the appearance of downtown with planters, benches, refurbished trash receptacles and new Christmas decorations, as well as the Brick Alley project.

Theurer-Miller serves on Portland Redevelopment Commission and

assisted with the inaugural drive-thru Christmas lights event at the fairgrounds. She is on the committee for this year's 150th celebration of the Jay County Fair.

Barbara Twigg came to Portland from Kentucky. She still has close ties there, but that hasn't stopped her from making a commitment locally. She was a mentor for Kid's Hope for nine years and volunteers with the annual Jay County Cancer Society's WALK Against Cancer. Twigg is an active member of Asbury United Methodist, where she helps with the Monday night community meal. Through Asbury, she

became involved with LifeStream Services' Senior Safety Net Food Distribution, which takes place at the church parking lot.

"I think we're really fortunate to have (LifeStream Services) programs in our community," she said.

Dr. Jim Wasson grew up one of five sons on a farm in Randolph County. When he was 17, a high school guidance counselor asked him what he planned to do with his future. He said he wanted to farm with his dad. The counselor pointed out that the farm might not be able to support him and all of his brothers. Perhaps he should consider going to Purdue University and becoming a teacher for other future farmers.

He followed her advice, eventually becoming a veterinarian as well. When Wasson heard of the counselor's death, he established a memorial scholarship in her honor.

"Fifteen minutes with that woman changed my life," he said.

Wasson went on to serve in the Army from 1968 to 1996, reaching the rank of lieutenant colonel. He now lives in rural Jay County and works at Redkey Veterinary Clinic. He is a member of the Jay County Board of Health and Kiwanis, for which he was recently president. A former Little League coach, Wasson assisted in the renovation of the Rockets' Runkle-Miller Field. He also serves as a lay minister at 12 different churches when needed.

Community Support **Means More Than Ever**

The Jay County Fair Board members would like to thank Jay County for its support.

100s OF EVENTS TO ATTEND

4-H, 4-H Auction, Business Exhibits, Women's Building, Classic Tent, Farmers' Building AND MORE!

GRANDSTAND LINE-UP

Thursday, July 14th

**7 PM — Cain with Amber Gill and Tommy Michaels
DEMOCRAT DAY**

Friday, July 15th

**7 PM — Cole Swindell with Tyler Rich and Ashley Cooke
4-H DAY**

Saturday, July 16th

**7 PM — Demolition derby w/Dwayne Spaw performance
HUGE FIREWORKS SHOW FOLLOWING DERBY
COMMUNITY DAY**



PrimeTime Carnival!

Jay County super, season tickets will go on sale Monday

Get all of your local sports information online by visiting thecr.com

Sports

Rockets stumble in FW

FORT WAYNE — Northwest Kekionga snagged the lead of a back-and-forth affair with a three-run bottom of the eighth.

A Rocket rally fell short in the ninth.

The Portland Rockets left the game-tying run on second base in the top of the ninth inning Wednesday as they fell 8-7 to host Northwest Kekionga.

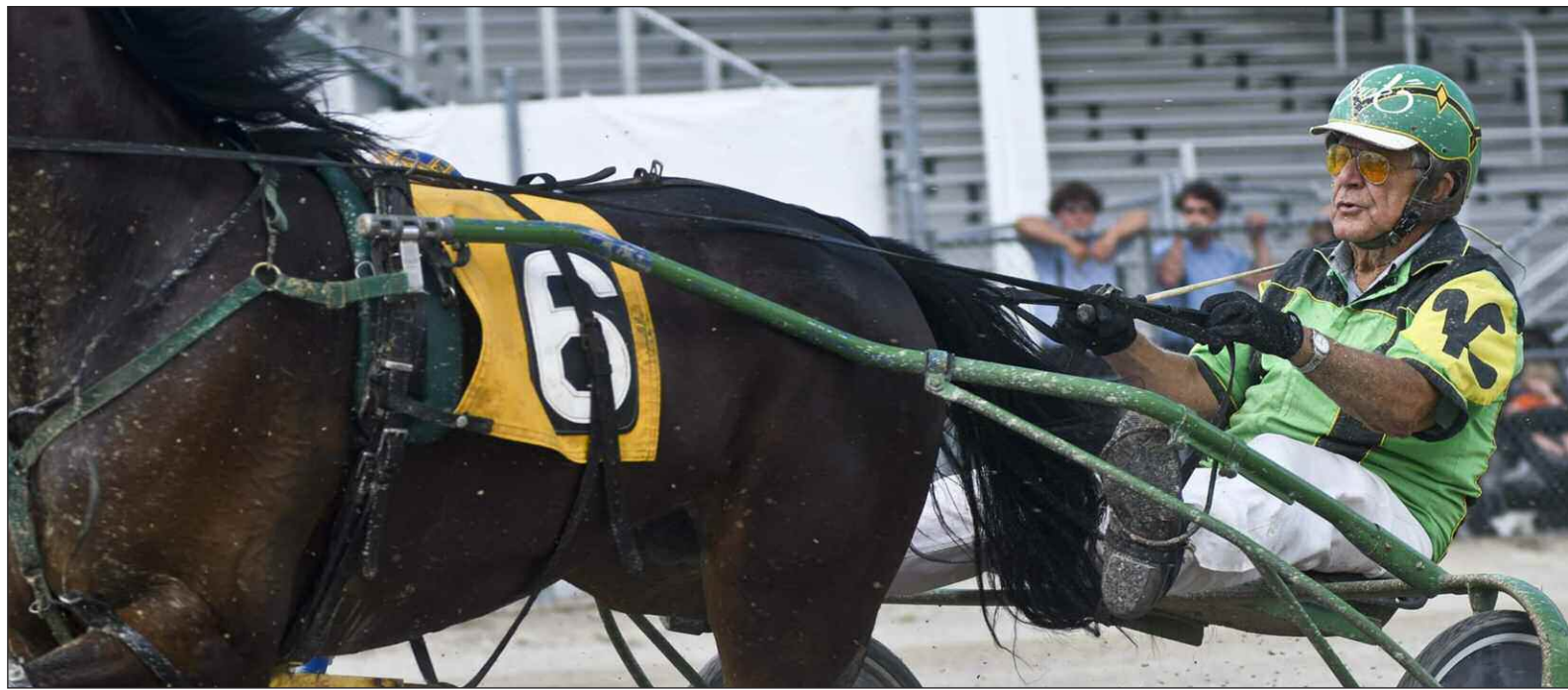
In a back-and-forth game, Northwest Kekionga had a three-run lead and a two-run lead, with Portland (14-13) tying the score each time and then taking a 6-5 advantage in the top of the eighth inning. The home team, aided by three walks and an error, scored three times in the bottom of the eighth to pull ahead again.

Noah Collins' one-out walk in the ninth inning followed by a Zach Orn single gave the Rockets a chance. Peyton Smith hit a grounder that scored Collins and pushed Orn to second base, but Joel Kennedy struck out to end the game.

Trever Sheets took the loss in relief as he gave up three runs — two earned — on one hit and three walks.

Will Butts paced the Portland offense with two hits, a walk and two RBIs. Orn had two hits and an RBI and Collins walked three times and scored twice.

Also adding hits for the Rockets were 2021 Jay County High School graduate Blake Caldwell, Hunter Kauser, Nick Bailey, Dakota Durick and Kennedy.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney



On track

Harness racing took to the track in front of the grandstand Wednesday afternoon and evening during the Jay County Fair.

Pictured above, John Kieninger Jr. drives Virgne's Aprillady during the third race, a 2-year-old filly trot with a \$3,500 purse.

At left, Doug Rideout and If Not For You (1) battle against Carrie Hollman and Indiancreekcountry in the second race.

Wednesday's action at the fair featured 19 races.

Calling all sports fans

The Commercial Review is looking for part-time **SPORTS STRINGERS**

to assist with coverage of local high school athletics.

If you love sports, enjoy attending games and events in-person and have strong writing skills, this is an excellent opportunity for you.

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Email letters of interest to r.cooney@thecr.com

