The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Firm hired for new county position

Commissioners sign two-year contract with planning district

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

It's been about a year since Jay County's last director of community development resigned.

On Monday, Jay County Commissioners made a hire as they embark down a new path to handle those job duties.

Commissioners approved a two-year contract for nearly \$200,000, effective immediately, with East Central Indiana Regional Planning District.

Bill Waters, executive director of the regional planning district, explained the contract includes East Central Indiana Regional Planning District hiring a community coordinator to work out of Jay County. He said that individual will attend local meetings to learn about the county's needs as they relate to available grants.

The position is intended to replace the former Jay County Community Development role, which has been eliminated from Jay County Development Corporation.

See Hired page 2

Getting READI

AUGUST

- Steering Committee Meeting 2
- Regional Workshop 1
- Stakeholder Meetings
- Public Input Survey & Youth Survey
- **Build Consensus on Regional Priorities Develop Scoring Matrix for Projects**

OCTOBER

- Steering Committee Meetings 5 & 6
- Project Review and Prioritization
- Draft Regional Development Plan Draft READI 2.0 Application

DECEMBER

READI 2.0 Award

JULY

County Workshops

JUNE

Analyze Feedback from County Workshops

Steering Committee Meeting 1

- **Develop Public Input Surveys**
- Outline Regional Development Plan

SEPTEMBER

- Regional Workshop 2 Steering Committee Meetings 3 & 4
- Analyze Public Input Surveys
- Wrap Up Stakeholder Meetings
- Call for Projects

- ☐ Final Regional Development Plan
- Final READI 2.0 Application
- **IEDC Site Visit**

East Central Indiana Regional Partnership

East Central Indiana Regional Partnership held its first regional workshop for Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0. Attendees representing the eight-county region, including Jay County, discussed regional priorities. A public survey regarding regional needs and goals is available at surveymonkey.com/r/S7XVCLS.

First regional READI 2.0 meeting held Tuesday, public survey is open to assess community needs

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The region is getting ready for another round of READI.

Central Indiana Regional Partnership hosted the first of its Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0 regional workshops Tuesday evening at Ball State Universi-

A group of about 100 representatives from the eight counties in the East Central region met to discuss priorities for the region as it plans for the second iteration of the improve quality of life, quali-

READI. The program targets ty of place and quality of were identified as local prioristate investment — \$500 million was allocated for the first round with the same amount slated for READI 2.0 — to "promote strategic investments that will make Indiana a mag-

net for talent and economic growth." While complete details for READI 2.0 will not be avail-

able until Sept. 1, state officials have indicated that funding will be targeted toward capital improvement and infrastructure projects. The goal is to fund efforts that will

opportunity for Hoosiers.

Tuesday's regional meeting facilitated by HWC Engineering followed local meetings in each of the eight counties Jay, Randolph, Blackford, Grant, Henry, Wayne, Delaware and Favette — in June in the East Central region. Gathering the data from those meetings, housing, quality of life, child care/education, quality of opportunity and population growth were identified as priorities for the East Central region. (Other goals that didn't

make the top five regionally

ties, such as broadband access for Jay County.)

Those meetings also identified challenges to addressing those issues, with funding at the top of the list.

During Tuesday's meeting, those in attendance discussed those priorities from the local meetings, making suggestions regarding potential changes or additions and how best to address the issues. The results of those conversations will be used to guide steering committee meetings moving forward.

See **READI** page 2



Silverhorn stand

Shelly Silverhorn speaks with a visitor to Fort Recovery State Museum and the surrounding area Saturday. She and her husband, Talon Silverhorn, and other members of Native American tribes set up stands outside the museum along the walking path during the "Beyond the Battlefield: Interpreting St. Clair's Defeat through the Eyes of Tribal Citizens" interactive event.

IREAD scores stagnant

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

One in five Hoosier third graders continue to struggle with foundational reading skills, according to new standardized test results released Wednesday.

Data from the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) shows 81.9% out of the roughly 82,000 third graders at public and private schools in Indiana passed the 2023 Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination, also called the IREAD-3 test. were administered statewide this spring and summer.

The results are nearly stagnant from the last academic year, when 81.6% of students' scores indicated reading mastery. The state education department's goal is that 95% of students in third grade can read proficiently by 2027. As of this spring, 242 schools have reached that goal — an increase from 210 schools a year ago.

Latest results indicate Indiana's younger students also still lag behind pre-pandemic reading fluency.

Scores are 5.4% behind the results from the 2018-2019 school vear, which is the last data set available prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Indiana schools did not give standardized tests in 2019-2020 due to the pandemic.

Third grade reading test passage rate was about the same as previous year

drop from Indiana's high of 91.4% in 2012-13.

In total, about 13,000 Hoosier third grade students — more than 18% of those in the state will need additional support to build their reading skills to meet grade-level reading standards, according to state officials. A student who does not pass the IREAD-3 test typically must receive remediation, or risk being retained in third

The IREAD-3 scores roll in as the state shifts its literacy instruction to implement the science of reading as part of an effort to improve students' reading skills.

'We have to shoot high," Indiana Secretary of Education Katie Jenner told the Indiana Capital Chronicle on Wednesday. "We have a goal set — we know it's aggressive, and we are following that with some very Reading scores were on the aggressive tactics to support our decline even before the pandem- current and future teachers to IREAD-3 exam in 2023.

ic, however. The Hoosier literatry to engage our parents and cy rate has seen a significant families in getting kids to school.'

"It has to be everyone togeth-

er to make sure kids can read," she continued. Black and multiracial stu-

dents had the highest percentage gains, while Indiana's Hispanic students recorded declining pass rates from last year.

About 65.6% of Black students and 64% of English language learners passed the multiple-choice IREAD exam in 2023 slightly more than in 2022, but still nearly 10% fewer than

Hispanic students' pass rates dropped from 69.8% in 2022 to

68.9% in 2023. Reading proficiency additionally improved overall for third grade students receiving free or reduced-price meals by nearly a

percentage point. Special education students ha d the greatest progress boost an increase of 2.1% from 2022, for a total of 54.9% passing the

Deaths

Haley Williams, 27, Port-

Details on page 2.

Weather

The high temperature Tuesday in Portland was 70 degrees. The low was 63.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the mid 50s, a 60% chance of rain and winds gusting to 25 miles per hour. Skies will be sunny Friday with a high in the mid 70s.

See page 2 for an extended

outlook.

In review

Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council will hold a joint special meeting at 11 a.m. Monday in the auditorium at Jay County Courthouse. The agenda includes discussing avenues for funding capital improvement plan projects.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Coverage of the JCHS football team's season opener against Blackford.



Obituaries

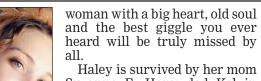
Haley Williams

April 15, 1996-Aug. 13, 2023 Haley Cheyenne Williams, 27, of Portland, Indiana, tragically passed away Sunday, Aug. 13, 2023, near a family residence in Portland, Indiana.

Haley was born in Naples, Florida, on April 15, 1996, to Suzanne Elizabeth (Williams) Hare. She formerly attended Jay County High School and was currently employed by Tyson Foods in Portland, Indiana.



nature, anytime she could be outdoors and cookouts with her family, and loved her job and her children dearly.



Suzanne E. Hare; dad Kelvin Gosa; daughter Iceiss Elizabeth her aunt, Caity Tilley. Clubs; son Zerick James Lee Williams; sisters, Shawna M. Williams and Jessica N. Arnold; grandfather David "Bear" Williams; grandmothers, Deb Lee Williams and Luttica L. Williams; six aunts and uncles, A beautiful, precious young Mindy Armstong (Matt), Bryan

Tilley (Amy Eisenhut), Mor-Joshua Williams; and several final expenses. nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by

p.m. at MJS Mortuaries -Ridgeville Chapel. Graveside services will follow at 2:30 p.m. in Reitenour Cemetery in Ridgeville, Indiana.

In lieu of flowers, the family homes or mortuary services.

requests donations be made to tisha Fuller, Natasha Hansma MJS Mortuaries, P.O. Box 25, (Andrew), Rayma Whitman and Redkey, IN 47373, to help with

The Commercial Review pub-

lishes death notices for those with Visitation will be held Satur- a connection to our coverage area day, Aug. 19, 2023, from noon to 2 free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date time/date/location of services.

> There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted from funeral

CR almanac

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Friday 8/18			Monday 8/21	Tuesday 8/22	
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76/53	82/61	90/66	92/62	87/65	
Sunny skies are expected Fri- day with a high of 76 degrees. Mostly clear at night.	Saturday's forecast is sunny with a high of 25 degrees. Most- ly clear late.	Another day of sunny skies is expected Sun- day, when the high will be 90.	Sunny skies are expected Monday with a high in the low 90s.	Tuesday's forecast shows mostly sunny skies and a high of 87 degrees.	

Lotteries

Powerball

Estimated jackpot: \$236 million

Mega Millions

18-39-42-57-63 Mega Ball: 7 Megaplier: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$20

Hoosier

Tuesday Midday Daily Three: 5-4-0 Daily Four: 6-3-4-6 Quick Draw: 9-11-15-24-26-27-28-30-34-41-46-50-59-60-62-64-68-69-71-79

Evening Daily Three: 2-1-2 Daily Four: 7-1-3-8 Quick Draw: 3-5-8-18-22-24-29-30-32-36-40-43-48-50-67-68-71-72-75-80

Ohio

Tuesday Midday Pick 3: 9-0-6 Pick 4: 1-2-1-7 Pick 5: 4-7-2-5-7 Evening Pick 3: 1-2-3 Pick 4: 8-2-1-5 Pick 5: 0-4-3-1-5 Rolling Cash: 19-23-25-

Markets

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Wheat	5.45

Today in history

Congregation of Newport, Rhode Island, presented a congratulatory address to President George Washington during his visit to the city. According to the Library of Congress, Washington's response was the "first presidential affirmation of the free and equal status of Jewish-American citizens."

In 1807, Clermont, the first practical steamboat, had its maiden voyage.

In 1933, Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees played his 1,308th consecutive game. His record for consecutive games played stood for more than 60 years.

In 1943, actor Robert De Niro was born in New York City. De Niro's first film was Brian De Palma's "The Wedding Dirksen, and the doubles Party" and he went on to team of brothers Gavin star in movies including and Sam Myers. "The Godfather, Part II,

6 p.m. — Redkey Town

6 p.m. — Jay County

Appeals, Community

Resource Center, 118 S.

Meridian St., Portland.

of

Council, park cabin, 200

In 1790, the Hebrew "Taxi Driver," "Goodfellas" and "Raging Bull," for which he won the Academy Award for best actor.

> In 1945, Indonesia declared its independence from the Netherlands. Sukarno, who made the declaration, became the country's first president in 1949.

> In 2008, American Michael Phelps was part of the winning U.S. 4x100meter medley relay team in Beijing, becoming the first athlete to win eighth medals in a single Olympics.

> In 2021, the Jay County High School boys tennis team won its home opener 4-1 over Alexandria-Monroe. Picking up wins were singles players Crosby Heniser, Abraham Dirksen and Simon

Continued from page 1

One of the next steps in the process of preparing for READI 2.0 is a public survey, which is available at surveymonkey.com/r/S7XVCLS. Additional information about the program is available online at forgeeci.com/readi-2-0.

A second regional workshop is scheduled for Sept. 28. Steering committee meetings will continue in September and October, with the final regional development plan and READI 2.0 application to be completed by the end of the year.

In the first round of READI, the East Central region was awarded \$15,000. (The largest award amount to a region was \$50 million.) Funding for projects required an 80% local

match, with a portion to come from Schoolhouse in Jay County, the private investment and another por-

The result was more than \$155 million in investment in the eight-county regional, including \$74.6 million private matching funds and \$58.4 million in public matching funds. Projects awarded funding in the region included renovations to the Salmonia

tion from government entities.

Vision Corner Learning Center in Union City and fairgrounds renovation in Randolph County and broadband expansion in Blackford County. Projects funded in Delaware County included Albany's commercial park development, downtown redevelopment in Yorktown and accessibility improvements in Selma.

Hired

Continued from page 1 According to the contract, the organization will provide administrative support and services related to economic development projects, identify and work with consulting firms, assist commissioners in vetting and identifying projects, work with local officials, and be available for meetings as needed.

Commissioners Brian McGalliard and Aker praised the organization for its efforts in the last year with Jay County. McGalliard noted there is a termination clause with a two-month notice if needed in the future.

Commissioners updated the strategic investment plan created through the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program (HELP), an Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs process to help communities plan how to use their federal American Rescue Plan Act allocations. They amended the plan to highlight the \$1.1 million purchase in February of 68 acres located on the western edge of Portland along Indiana 67, saying it counts as Jay County's required match for an additional \$1 million through HELP. (The program requires participants to allocate at least a third of

the plan. Plans have been discussed to use the land to create infrastructure for more housing, a multifaceted public safety building or a new building for Jay County Solid Waste Management District.)

Regional survey is available at

surveymonkey.com/r/S7XVCLS

Commissioners opted into enhanced state funding for Jay County Health Department in 2024. Health department environmentalist and administrator Heath Butz explained in July that the county will receive at least \$222,698 next year and a minimum of \$445,396 in 2025 with the enhanced funding. The enhanced funding will dou- is working on.

their funds toward items in ble Jay County Health Department's budget by 2025. Butz has suggested hiring a new position, such as a full-time school health liaison or a health educator. In other business, com-

missioners: Appointed McGalliard

as the commissioner representative for the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (READI) 2.0 grant process.

 Tabled a \$50,000 request from Firefly Children and Family Alliance, expressing interest to have the organization visit a meeting and share more information about the project it

Felony arrests

Failed to appear

A Lapel woman was arrested Tuesday for failing to appear in court.

Lyndsay M. Krise, 29, 3124 Mrytle Drive, is charged in Jay Superior infraction for operating a vehicle Jail on a \$3,000 bond.

Class C misdemeanor for possession ing. of paraphernalia and a Class C

Court with a Level 6 felony for without a valid driver's license. She unlawful possession of a syringe, a failed to appear July 24 for a hear-

Krise is being held in Jay County

Capsule Reports

Lost control

Five people were hospitalized after an Ohio woman lost control of the vehicle she was driving on Indiana 26, causing them to drive off the road about 2:20 a.m. Monday.

Brianna F. Mason, 22, Sidney, was driving a 2016 Hyundai Veloster east on the highway near the intersection with Indiana 67. According to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report, Mason was driving too fast and drove off Indiana 26 the road curves south near the intersection — and the vehicle rolled off the east side of the road, entering a ditch and a cemetery. The vehicle continued onto Indiana 67, rolling across the highway and into a ditch on the south side of the road.

Four passengers — 23year-old Mercedes A. Ryan of Anderson, 20-year-old Taylor L. Lemaster of Berne, 22-year-old Araia L. Mullins of Chesterfield, and 21-year-old Steven Butts of Šidney were ejected from the vehicle. Mason was trapped inside the car.

Lemaster and Ryan were found unconscious, with Lemaster being airlifted to Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne for a head injury and Ryan flown to Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio for entire body injuries. Butts and Mullins were both transported to IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie for a head injury and complaint of neck pain, respectively.

Mason sustained injuries all over her body and was taken to IU Health Jay. She had a 0.086% blood alcohol content level on a portable breath test. She was cited with a felony for operating

a vehicle while intoxicated. Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. The vehicle was towed.

Turning accident

Three people injured after a Portland teen turned in front of oncoming traffic on Indiana 67 from Jay County High School about 7:48 a.m. Tuesday.

Sydia M. Castillo, 17, told police she was turning from the high school parking lot onto Indiana 67 in a 2005 Ford Escape. She didn't notice a southbound 2008 Ford Edge, driven by 20-year-old Jessica L. Hernandez of Portland, before turning. Hernandez's vehicle crashed into the car Castillo was driving, causing them both to go into a ditch on the east side of the road.

Castillo complained of pain all over her body, and Hernandez had a lower body injury. Ana Ismay Morales, 22, a passenger in Hernandez's car, also suffered a lower body injury.

Hernandez was cited for

driving without a license and without financial responsibility on her vehi-

Damage is estimated between \$10,000

Grain spilled

A Portland woman lost control of her car after the tractor in front of her spilled its contents on Indiana 26 about 10:35 a.m. Fri-

Alixandra G. Bonvillian, 19, Portland, was driving her 2009 Ford Fusion west on the highway near the intersection with county road 350 East when the tractor — it was driven by Larry Hile of Hartford City in front of her started spilling grain, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. Bonvillian told police she lost control of her car after it drove across the grain, causing her to leave the road and hit a concrete culvert.

Damage is estimated \$10,000 between \$25,000. Her vehicle was towed.

Hit sign

Cristian

A Texas truck driver's vehicle hit a railroad sign and went off the county road 1250 West about 2 a.m. Sunday.

A.

Romero

Saavedra, 27, Bayton, Texas, was driving a 2023 Freightliner Cascadia northeast on Indiana 67 nearing the intersection with county road 1250 West. He attempted to turn onto county road 1250 West when he hit a railroad crossing sign on the south side of the road. His trailer wasn't able to make the turn and it went into the ditch, causing part of it to get caught on railroad tracks in the road and damage the trailer and tracks. The sign was also bent in the wrong direction.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000. The vehicle — it's registered to Schneider National Leasing of Gary — was towed.

SERVICES

Thursday

Hall, Mildred: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday Williams, Haley: MJS Mor-

tuaries, 109 N. Walnut St., Ridgeville.

Service listings provided by

PROGRESSIVE DEL TORO OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201

progressiveofficeproducts.com

Customer Service/ Outside Sale Position

Customer Service/Outside Sale Position Knowledge of Quick Books & M/S Office a plus. Sales experience a plus. Must be customer driven and

have a valid drivers license. Start immediately. Hours Mon-Fri. 8-4 Apply at:



Monday

Thursday

S. Mooney St.

Board

5 p.m. — Jay School Board, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.

Citizen's calendar

Zoning

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.

Wednesday

6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.

Mother threatens to ruin wedding

By JANN BLACKSTONE

Tribune News Service Q. My second husband, Miguel, and I are divorced, and I am getting married again. Although we never had kids together, he is the only father figure my son from my first marriage has known, and he is also good friends with my fiancé. My son and my fiancé would both like Miguel to attend the wedding. I'm OK with it, but my mother will never forgive how he treated me (he cheated), and she has threatened to make a

guest list is up to you, especially if your son and hurt as you navigated

scene if he attends. What's

good ex-etiquette?



this man, who continues to act as a father figure to your son.

Plus, it appears your fiancé has cultivated such a good friendship with him that he genuinely wants to invite him to his wedding. That's quite a statement.

Your mother is reacting A. As the bride, the final from a place of pain. She loves you. She saw your

divorce. Because she has grudge is that stress pointnot forgiven the pain he caused you, she is holding

a grudge in your name. Noble response, Mom, but that energy could be put to better use.

Good ex-etiquette rule is, " "Don't hold grudges.

The reason: Grudges don't really serve a purpose. They don't make us feel better, heal our hurt or affect the other person at all. It's a private anger only you feel.

day, all we end up with when we hold a grudge is the all-consuming negativity it holds over us.

We all know the impact

ed inward.

It may help if you point out a few things to your mother in a tactful and loving way.

She should know that it could be detrimental to your son if she interferes that relationship. When a bonus parent and child become close, denying contact could increase the difficulty the child has dealing with the split.

Unfortunately, In fact, at the end of the mom may not take the relationship as seriously as it is and not understand the importance of them remaining close.

Just because this man is stress can have on our not your son's biological fiancé are asking to invite through the pain of your body and mental state. A father doesn't mean your have moved on.

son doesn't feel like he is. You've even said. Miguel is the only father your son has ever known.

If your fiancé feels comfortable that Miguel attends, his presence can only add to your son's feelings of security. He now has two adult male role models.

Finally, it sounds like your mom is a very supportive parent. She must find a way to be a very supportive grandparent as well.

As kindly as possible, remind her that what you really need right now is her acknowledgment of your effort to make a go of it, not a public reprimand of an ex from whom you

Let her know she is stuck in the hurt, but you are not, and if she really wants to be there for you, she will enthusiastically embrace your effort to start a new life.

If she is still looking for revenge after that little lecture, remind her that the sweetest revenge is to successfully move on and that is what you have done. With a hug, invite her to do the same. That's good ex-etiquette.

Jann Blackstone is the author of "Ex-etiquette for Parents: Good Behavior After Divorce or Separation," and the founder of Bonus Families, bonusfamilies.com. Email her at dr.jann@exetiquette.com.

Goddaughter's wedding could be healing

DEAR ABBY: I have a lovely goddaughter I'm estranged from. Although I had promised her she would be maid of honor at my wedding in 2015 (my second marriage), I didn't do it. My fiance was diagnosed with Huntington's disease, so we decided instead to have a commitment ceremony. I felt bad but didn't contact her right away to explain I wouldn't have any attendants after all. It's a blur now, but I think I emailed her or asked her mother (my dear friend) to tell her. My friend denies that her daughter is angry, but my goddaughter hasn't spoken to me since 2015. She is now engaged. I'd like to write her a letter, but I don't know what to say. I was thinking of mailing it without telling my friend because, as I said, she still denies anything is wrong. I found the address on the internet. What do you think? I'm heartbroken knowing I cannot celebrate her upcoming wedding. SADDENED IN MASSACHU-SETTS

DEAR SADDENED: If you feel the need to write your goddaughter a letter explaining the legitimate reason you and

Dear Abby



your husband decided to forgo a formal wedding with attendants, do it. Your reason for changing your plans was a valid one.

Although I'm sure things were hectic at the time you made that decision, it would have been better had you explained directly to her the reason for your abrupt change plans. Because this is weighing on your mind, apologize for the delay in contacting her, tell her you were delighted when you heard about her forthcoming wedding and you would love to celebrate it with her. Then cross your fingers because the ball is in her court.

above me. I moved into my apartment a month ago because it seemed so quiet in the complex. Before signing the lease, I asked my landlord if the tenant above me is quiet because when you live on the first floor, you can sometimes hear everything going on above you. The landlord assured me that it was pretty quiet. A couple of weeks went by, and it was quiet until one Friday I heard this stomping noise above me. I thought it would go away.

Little did I know, the lady upstairs watches her two grandsons and another boy. Abby, this stomping around goes on all weekend, and it drives me crazy. I was tapping the ceiling to let her know it was getting too loud. She called our landlord and complained! My landlady is also a client of my daughter's, who is a hairstylist, so I caught heck from my daughter, too. Must I just grin and bear it, or should I say something to the lady upstairs? — CAN'T LIVE LIKE THIS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR CAN'T LIVE LIKE DEAR ABBY: I am having an THIS: When your landlady

issue with the lady who lives told you the renters upstairs called asking for my husband were quiet, she lied and misled you. What you need to do now is get out of that lease. The quickest way to do that would be to consult a real estate attorney. You do not have to live like this, and your daughter should not be blaming you and siding with the person who is causing the problem.

> DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have some money in a mutual fund. Our new, very young financial adviser, "Alec," seems sexist. He has phoned us four times asking to speak with my husband, and each time my husband refuses to speak to him. Since my name is also on our account, my husband said that I should speak to him. I have told Alec twice that my husband has hearing aids and it's difficult for him to hear people on the phone, which is why he wants me to be the contact. But Alec continues to ask for my husband.

I've told him that I feel he's being sexist, but he denies it. He said he tries very hard not to be, tact her at DearAbby.com or P.O. and he's sorry if I feel he is. Alec Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

again today. We let it go to voicemail. Now I'm wondering if I should return his call and complain again, write him a letter or complain to his superiors. Should I continue to let his calls go to voicemail? Should I complain in writing to him? We don't want to move money around or change our investments in any way. which he has been told already by me, but then, I'm not a MAN! – BEYOND FRUSTRATED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR BEYOND FRUSTRAT-ED: You have suffered enough. Don't bother writing that kid a letter. Contact his supervisor, explain what has been going on, and make it clear that you want someone more serviceoriented on your account. If you are contacted by the supervisor, explain in detail your reason. This financial adviser needs more training.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Con-

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Community Calendar as GROUP — New Begin- — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 space is available. To sub- nings, a support group for p.m. on the third Thursnews@thecr.com.

Wednesday

Will meet at 8 a.m. in mation, call (260) 726-8229. the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. devotional time.

PING PONG — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the (765) 369-2085. cafe at John Jav Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian **Thursday** St., Portland.

AL-ANON FAMILY TER an item, email friends and families of day of each month at Jay alcoholics, will meet at Community Center. Show 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran WEDNESDAY MORN- Church, 218 E. High St., ING BREAKFAST CLUB Portland. For more infor-

A BETTER LIFE - BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for Includes activities and all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at

STITCH AND CHAT-

and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

CÉLEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more 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.

MISSISSINEWA CHAP-TER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLU-AMERICAN TION — Will meet Thursday, Aug. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Jay County Historical Society. Kathy Selman will provide the meeting program. To ask questions, please call Regent Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Susan Sommers at (260) 726-2678.

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.

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.

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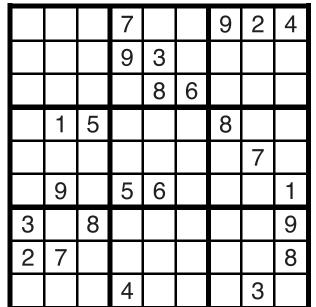
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Sudoku



Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

The objective is to nine-by nine grid so each column, each rov each of the nine thr three boxes (also blocks or regions) co the digits from 1 to one time each.

o fill a that w, and ree-by- called ntains 9 only	8	7	4	9	6	3	2	1	5
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Take a walk down memory lane

By MORTON J. MARCUS

Come with me now to those exciting days of yesteryear, in 2012, when the average weekly wage in the United States was \$1,000. It was thrilling as we emerged slowly from the financial bubble of 2008.

Our national rate of increase in wages was 4.7% compared to a year earlier and it didn't bother us that only 14 of the 50 states enjoyed that stratospheric level above \$1,000. Only three states were \$200 above \$1,000, and nine states \$200 under \$1,000.

Income disparity, we are told, is a condition of nature. Mississippi, Idaho and South Dakota just didn't have the natural resources of New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Eye on the Pie



The bottom three are physically separated and very different from each other. The top three are close both geographically and in character. Perhaps low wages suit the lifestyles of the people who earn them. Is it Chardonnay versus Kool-Aid?

Where was Indiana back in that golden year of 2012? Our average weekly wage was \$816 39th in the nation. That figure was the lowest in the Great Lakes nois and Wisconsin remain at a was a brave break from tradition. region, but, by the grace of a benevolent Heaven, \$15 above that of Kentucky.

Let us now fast forward to 2022, last year for those who have forgotten where we are in Pope Gregory's calendar.

Without adjusting for inflation, all 50 states, except Mississippi, are now above \$1,000 in average weekly wages. Connecticut has been replaced by California in the top three states. Indiana still ranks 39th.

Where average weekly wages for Hoosiers were 18.4% below the national level in 2012, we were ... wait for it ... 18.4% below the national level in 2022.

Sadly, the other four Great Lake states (Ohio, Michigan, Illihigher level than Indiana. But we are redeemed by the persistence of Kentucky below us.)

That's been the Hoosier way: Keep the engine running, but make no progress in the race.

However, after compiling this record of stability, Indiana is stepping out on the track with a new concept to gain ground.

The much vaunted Indiana **Economic Development Corpora**tion, lovingly known as the IEDC. has revealed a new strategy. As they did in Boone County, so will they do elsewhere. Unkindly identified as the Boone Boondoggle, IEDC secretly bought farm property north of Lebanon along Interstate 65 for the benefit of Eli Lilly and Purdue University. This

Previously, the private sector identified where to locate and the state happily accommodated with infrastructure, training grants and tax forgiveness. Or was it new? Who sat in the

meetings that chose Boone County? Who was there when it was decided to move huge quantities of water from the Wabash River to this less soggy site?

The IEDC is unconstrained by rules of transparency. And now two of its former leaders may be vying for the governorship.

Ain't the Deity good to INdian-

•••••

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

Rural closures are a national problem

St. Louis Post-Dispatch Tribune News Service

Fully a third of Missouri's rural hospitals are in danger of closing in the next few years, leaving large swaths of the state without access to emergency services, obstetrics or even the most basic health care.

It's part of a national trend that qualifies as a looming crisis — one that might be addressed with a fundamental change in how the private insurance industry pays hospitals on behalf of insured patients.

A study released last month by the national Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform found that 19 of Missouri's 57 rural hospitals are in danger of closing their doors in the next two to seven years because they aren't taking in enough revenue from payments to cover their

Here and around the country, rural hospitals' long-term financial slide was alleviated by federal pandemic aid programs for the past three years but now has resumed with the end of those programs.

The numbers are daunting. One rural Missouri hospital administrator in Hermann told the Missouri Independent that after being kept afloat since 2020 by federal COVID-relief losing over \$1 million this losses for rural hospitals

Those financial issues are likely exacerbated in Missouri by the widely reported difficulty in getting doctors to come here a situation that cannot have been improved by last year's enactment of a draconian state abortion ban that threatens doctors with 15 years in prison for violations.

Indeed, as struggling Missouri rural hospitals cut back on services, obstetrics is in danger of becoming a prime target. As the Independent reports, for instance, Cox Monett Hospital in southwest Missouri is shuttering its inpatient obstetrics unit this summer due in part to difficulty recruiting doctors. For local residents, it will mean traveling close to an hour for services.

But the main culprit in the crisis, CHQPR maintains, is the private insurance industry, with its onesize-fits-all approach to pay-

ing hospitals. That approach doesn't take into account the fact that it's inherently more expensive for smaller hospitals to provide care than it is for larger, busier ones, based on economy of scale. tals back home.

Guest **Editorial**

... hospitals' long-term financial slide was alleviated by federal pandemic aid programs for the past three years but now has resumed with the end of those programs.

For example, all hospitals with emergency rooms must maintain staff 24/7, but in small rural areas. those ERs often stand empty.

Nationally, **CHQPR** reports, more than 600 rural hospitals, or about 30% of the U.S. total, are in danger of closing in the next few years.

organization's The report notes the "mistaken belief" that most financial are due to Medicaid patients or the uninsured. In fact, it says, about half of rural hospital patients are under private insurance plans — and those plans, for the most part, "are paying them less than what it costs to deliver services to patients.'

The solution, CHQPR says, is to require that private insurers pay enough to prevent closures of endangered rural hospitals. The organization also calls for restructuring the way payments are made so that they cover not just the cost of services rendered but also "standby capacity" the fixed costs of keeping hospital units open and staff on hand when there are no paying patients being served.

The organization claims these reforms would cost \$4 billion annually. Large as that sounds, it's actually just one-tenth of 1% of America's total health care spending.

Whether these are the right solutions is a broader conversation — but it's one that Missouri's political leaders in Washington should be having, on behalf of their struggling hospi-



We need a path to healthy conflict

By SOLOMON D. STEVENS Tribune News Service

Spencer Cox, the new chairman of the National Governors Association, is promoting the idea of

"healthy conflict." The Utah governor has become concerned about the growing problem of toxic arguments in society. As the Washington Post reports, Cox wants people to learn how to

'disagree better." We should all try to think of ways we can join him in his quest because this is not just a political issue; it is a problem that permeates our society. Almost any disagreement these days escalates into an angry confrontation. We are better than that. Our disagreements are genuine, but the way we disagree can change.

We have to start somewhere. I recommend that we begin by banishing all ad hominem arguments. What are these? Ad hominem is a Latin phrase that means "to the person." I'm sure you have seen this kind of arguing. It is all around us. What it describes is an argument where instead of actually addressing what someone has said, we insult the person. We call that person's character into question. It is classified as one of the most basic logical fallacies.

Consider these examples. First, a liberal defends the use of a book in schools. Rather than offer a critique of the book, the person disagreeing with them says, "Only a pedophile would defend a book like that." This is an ad hominem attack.

You can see where this goes. The liberal is offended and feels that they have to answer the charge of pedophilia. The real issue of the book is left behind as tempers flare. What started as a legitimate disSolomon D. **Stevens**

ING FEATURES SUNDICATE!



ate in the schools has become a back-and-forth personal brawl.

Alternatively, a conservative attacks the use of a book in schools, and the person disagreeing says, 'Only a fascist would attack a book like that." An ad hominem insult from the opposite direction. Again, a personal attack. The question of the book is left in the dust as the person responds, "I am not a fascist."

And so it goes.

Or reflect on the way in which too many people respond to judicial decisions. Liberals often complain about decisions on gun control by condemning the judges who made the decision. "What can you expect from a right-wing judge?" Or, "This judge has been secretly bought by right-wing billionaires.

On the other hand, we see the same ad hominem attacks come from conservatives. "This judge made a liberal decision on gun control because he's an Obama appointee." Or, "This judge has been secretly bought by left-wing billionaires.

When ad hominem attacks take place, everyone loses. We forget the real issues, which are worth exploring. Because the issues are made intensely personal when these attacks happen, they promote anger, not understanding. They increase suspicions and divisions between people. Most important, we fail to learn from one another, to expand agreement about what is appropriour appreciation of the nuances lenges to Peace in the Middle East."

present in complex issues. Our disagreements today are serious enough without adding personal attacks to the equation.

How can we avoid ad hominem arguments? When we hear things with which we disagree, instead of descending into the personal, we need to explore the problem. If there is a dispute about whether a book should be taught in schools, then ask: What does the book actually say? That would involve reading the book. And once you learn what it says, explore why that is either good or bad for young people. If you find the book disturbing. explain why. If you think the book is good, explain why. The same would be true for judicial decisions. Do vou actually know what the judge in the case said? Have you actually read the decision? And if you have, why is that either good or bad?

We need to learn how to explore the why rather than the who.

Joining Gov. Cox's campaign for healthy disagreement is not naive. He is not asking everyone to join hands and sing Kumbaya. Our country is deeply divided, and he is not suggesting that we all agree with one another. But instead of resorting to personal attacks, we can all benefit by focusing on the argument itself.

The only problem with this is that we might open ourselves up to the possibility that we are all wrong sometimes. We all have to learn from those with whom we disagree. But do we have the strength to risk being wrong? That is the question.

••••• Stevens is the author of "Religion, Politics, and the Law" (co-authored with Peter Schotten) and "Chal-

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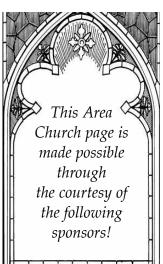
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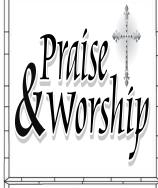
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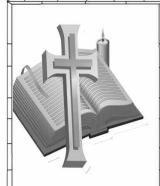
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Asbury United Methodist

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

Banner Christian Assembly of God 1217 W. Votaw St., Port-

Michael Burk (260) 726-4282 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefountain United Methodist 440 S. 600 East

Gordon Jackson Services: 9 a.m.

Bethel United Methodist

Indiana 167, 4 miles north of Dunkirk Scott McClain Services: 10:45 a.m.

Bluff Point Friends

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

Boundary St. Paul Corner of Treaty Line

Road and county road 300 Ava Gannon (260) 726-2373 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Bryant Wesleyan

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

Calvary United Methodist

301 N. Main St., Dunkirk Susan Durovey-Antrim (765) 499-0368 Services: 10:30 a.m. susan.duroveyantrim@in umc.org

Christ Chapel

105 S. Elm St., Fort Recov-

Quentin Elsea (419) 733-1469 christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside)

1209 S. Shank St., Portland Bob Graham (260) 726-7777 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6:30

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)

8472 S. 800 East, Union Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of God of Prophecy

797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland Nanette Weesner (260) 766-9334 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. nanybell@yahoo.com

Church of the Brethren

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

Church of the Living God South

Broad Street, Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

Collett Nazarene

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

Cornerstone Baptist

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

Cornerstone Church of Pennville

190 W. Main St., Pennville Gary Newton (765) 669-1070 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene

226 E. Center St., Dunkirk Tom Fett (765) 768-6199 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6

Evangelical Methodist

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

Methodist/Jay County

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

Faith Community 200 South, 9560 W.

Dunkirk Joe Schmit (260) 251-5254 Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center 200 E. Elder St., Portland

Ronald Willis (260) 726-4844 Services: 11 a.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist

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

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

First Church of Christ

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

5 p.m.

First Community Baptist

341 S. Meridian St., Red-Everett Bilbrey Jr. Services: 10:30 a.m., 6

bryantwesleyanchurch.com First Free Will Baptist

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

p.m., 6 p.m. Wednesday

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

Fort Recovery Church of the Nazarene

401 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Brad and Kate Revs. Ratliff (419) 375-4680

Services: 10:30 a.m. frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist

309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Rev. David Porath (419) 678-2071 Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel **Lighthouse Tabernacle**

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

Geneva First United Methodist

100 W. Line St., Geneva Barry McCune (260) 368-7655 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Geneva Nazarene

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

Gilead Church

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

Hickory Grove Church of the **Brethren**

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

High Street United Methodist 435 High St., Geneva

Rev. Joseph Hampton (260) 368-7233 Services: 9 a.m. **Holy Trinity Catholic**

7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant Fr. Peter Logsdon

Fr. Martin Sandhage Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday **Hopewell of**

Life Ministries County road 200 South, 2 miles east of Indiana 1

Rev. Ruth Funk (260) 251-8581 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Immaculate Conception Catholic

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

Kingsley Full Gospel

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

Mary Help of Christians

403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Alexander Witt (419) 375-4153 Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m.

Mount Tabor **United Methodist**

216 W. Pleasant St., Dunkirk John Retter (765) 768-7273 Services: 9 a.m.

Mount Zion United Methodist

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

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine

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

New Covenant Fellowship

1238 W. 450 South Chuck Myers (260) 251-0063 Services: 10:30 a.m.

New Life Ministries

415 S. Helen St., Portland Dr. Kay Fairchild (260) 755-6354 Services: 4 p.m. drkayfairchild.com

New Mt. Pleasant **United Methodist**

5905 S. Como Road Neil Butcher (765) 499-7838 Services: 9 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian

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

Oak Grove United Methodist 829 S. Indiana 1 Neil Butcher

Services: 10:45 a.m. **Pleasant Hill**

(765) 760-9085

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

Portland First Church of Nazarene

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

Portland Friends

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

Praise Chapel Church of God

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

Redeemer Lutheran Malin and Elm streets, Bryant

Father Dan Layden (260) 997-6787 Services: 9:30 a.m.

Redkey Faith **Ministries**

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

Redkey First Christian

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

Redkey United Methodist 122 W. Main St. Lori McIntosh

(765) 369-2085 Services: 10:30 a.m. **Redkey Church** of the Nazarene

801 W. High St. Chuck Hollandbeck (765) 369-2676 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

River of Life

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

1605 N. Meridian St., Portland Matt Ransom (260) 726-7474

Salamonia **Church of Christ**

Services: 10 a.m.

matt@therockjc.org

3900 S. 600 East **Bruce Phillips** $(260)\ 335-2017$ Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance at Life Ministries 228 S. Meridian St., Port-

land Dave Keen (260) 251-8792 Mike Eads (260) 703-0733

Services: 10:30 a.m. St. Joseph Catholic 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort

Rev. Ålexander Witt Services: 7:30 a.m. Sun-

St. Mary's Catholic

346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk Rev. Kevin Hurley Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

St. Paul Catholic 517 Meiring Road, Fort Rev. Alexander Witt

Services: 11 a.m. Sunday

St. Peter Catholic 1477 Philothea Road, Fort

Rev. Alexander Witt

Sugar Grove Nazarene

Services: 9 a.m. Sunday

County roads 400 North and 550 West Rev. Mike Heckman (260) 731-4733Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park from June through September)

Sugar Grove United Methodist County roads 600 South

and 1150 West, Dunkirk Scott McClain Services: 9 a.m. Temple Baptist

17920 Indiana 167, Dunkirk John Elam (765) 768-7708 Sunday school: 10 a.m. Services: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

7pillarsdirector@gmail.com

templebaptistin.com

at Westchester 4487 E. 400 North (260) 726-6311 Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. Services: 10:35 a.m.

churchatwestchester.org

Trinity Lutheran 301 N. Wayne St., Fort Recovery Robin Owen (419) 375-4498 Services: 9 a.m. (contemporary service, fourth Sun-

pastorrobino@gmail.com Trinity ArchBridge

Church 323 S. Meridian St., Portland (260) 726-8391 Services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday school: 10:30 a.m. portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel

6200 N. 375 West, Bryant Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene County road 900 North

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

Walnut Corner County roads 200 North

West Walnut

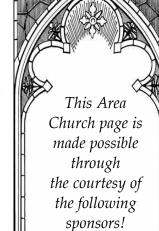
and 500 West Steve Rogers (260) 251-1113 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m.

Church of Christ 204 W. Walnut St., Portland

Gil Alicea (260) 726-4691 Services: 10 a.m. westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical **Lutheran Church** Robin Owen

218 E. High St., Portland (260) 726-8832 zionlutheranportland@g mail.com Services: 10:30 a.m.



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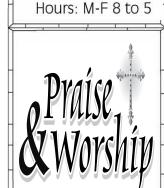
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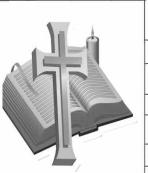
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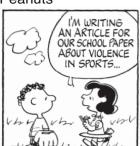


SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly Well, There Goes MY UNREAD SUMMER READING LIST, FLYING SOUTH FOR THE WINTER,

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane 8-17

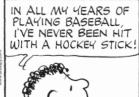
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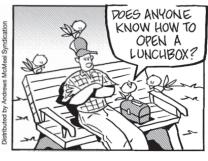


Rose is Rose









Agnes





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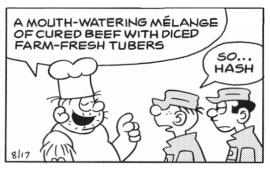


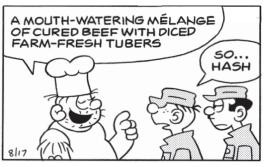
Snuffy Smith









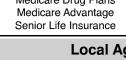




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Contract 🌧 Bridge 🏖 By Steve Becker

cede the heart queen to the ace and

then use dummy's eight of dia-

monds as an entry to take two club

another club at once, hoping that if

the opposing clubs were not divided

3-3, he could ruff his fourth club in

dummy without being overruffed

hearts and hope it was ducked by the defender with the ace.

3. He could lead the queen of

Eventually, declarer decided that

his best shot for the contract was to

lead the heart queen at trick two. In addition to the possibility that the

queen might be ducked, this also allowed him to keep in reserve a

anowed init to keep in reserve a follow-up plan that virtually guaranteed making the contract.

East took the queen of hearts with the ace and returned the ten of

clubs at trick three. South won with

the ace and thereupon led the five

to lose — had the desired effect. East took the six with the ten and

returned the nine of clubs, but he was fighting a losing battle. South

won with the king, led the seven of

trump to dummy's eight and dis-

carded the 6-5 of clubs on the K-J of hearts to finish with 11 tricks.

of diamonds to dummy's six! This unusual move — deliberately losing a trump trick he did not have

2. He could play the A-K and

Hidden asset

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable. \$9854 ♥KJ76

Bridge

♦86 ♣732 WEST ♠ A K O 10 2 **♦** J 7 6 3 ♥ A 9 4 3 2

▼ 10 4 ♣ 10 9

SOUTH **♣**QJ84 ♦ Å K Q 19752

The bidding: **♣**A K 6 5 Pass Opening lead - king of spades.

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention, and certainly anyone who has played bridge long enough realizes that there are times when a player must improvise to be successful.

Take this case where South ruffed the opening spade lead and could see three potential losers — a heart and two clubs. Declarer had a choice of several lines of play to try to make the contract:

1. If the diamond ten fell on the first round of trump, he could con-

8-17

rock

Tomorrow: Two double-dummy problems. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc **CRYPTOOUIP**

LGP'S IEOXR GVV VZIC TCRP DRGDMR QSSRBDS SG EQSEC

SCRB TZSC XGL QPL XRRM.

SCQS QPYRXI QPYMRXI. Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN THE CHURCH OFFICIAL CAME TO AMELIORATE THE DESPERATE SITUATION, HE WAS A DEACON OF HOPE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

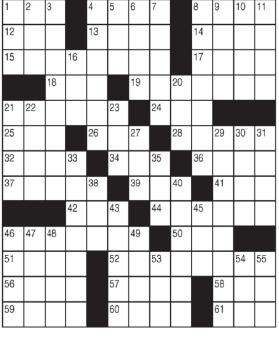
ACROSS 20 Weep **41** The **61** Director 1 Lass 21 Jon of Magic, Craven 4 Cheeky on score-"Mad DOWN back talk boards Men" 8 Genesis 42 Like aspi-1 Solidify 22 Multitude 23 Many brother 2 I love rin, briefly 44 Of the millennia **12** Punk (Lat.) flesh 3 Inferior 27 Even so offshoot **46** Stressful 4 Excellent 29 Swing 13 Cosmetspot **5** Hearty Era hit 50 Small ics chain brew by Benny barrel 6 Dance Goodman

14 Bar mitzvah, 51 Flightless 30 "move 7 "Sexy" Breckinbirds e.g. Beatles 15 Reduced 52 Jobridge" velocity related girl 31 Informal 17 Israel's 8 Floor sequence pronoun

Abba of tasks covering 33 Traversed 18 "Gosh!" **56** Wee 9 Shirt 35 Rainbow **19** "Guerparasite protectors shape 38 Holy Fr. **10** LAX 57 Coastal nica' quesses painter eagle woman 58 Scrap 40 Talked on 21 Zim-11 Fallon 59 Poker prede-

babwe's and on Made capita cessor 24 Mess up 60 Conked 16 Salty crow 25 Football's out noises 45 Game Solution time: 24 mins.

Parseghian caller **26** Lad 46 Shortens **28** "Delia skirt, MIYISITIEIRIIIEIS cious!" say 32 Roman 47 Skip WIMPLARGE 2600 48 Ballet W I N E R I E S N A L A A S E S A T O N V E T **34** PBS wear 49 Sped supporter **36** Maja 53 Genetic painter letters BREWERIES 37 Mike of 54 Raw rock F| | | F | | | "Shrek" 55 Scale 39 Sample amts. Yesterday's answer 8-17



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Sports/Classifieds

Starter

Minshew remains chief among that support group.

The 27-year-old has 24 career starts and was open and generous with his accumulated knowledge throughout the competition.

He admitted it was tough to get the news he'll be a backup for the third straight season, but Minshew understands why the move was made.

"Super excited for Anthony and the opportunity he has," Minshew said. "This is his franchise. That's the reason they picked him where he is, and, man, he's gonna be really special. So I'm excited to work, continue to get better and figure out how to win some games around here.'

Richardson was 7-of-12 for 67 yards and rushed twice for 7 yards while playing the first quarter of the 23-19 loss against the Bills.

He forced a throw early that sailed over the head of slot receiver Isaiah McKenzie and was intercepted by Buffalo defensive back Dane Jackson. He bounced back with two drives into Bills' territory and threw a 34-yard pass to Alec Pierce

that would have been a touchdown, movements in the pocket and in the but the wide receiver could not complete the process of the catch.

Richardson also had a scramble to the 5-yard line called back because of a penalty against tight end Pharaoh Brown.

with a 28-yard missed field goal attempt by kicker Matt Gay.

But it's not only the numbers that made the decision to name Richardson the starter.

"It's not too big for him," assistant general manager Ed Dodds said Monday, before Steichen's move was made public. "He's comfortable in there and even — we saw this in college, and it was one of the things that I got excited about him, his poise and his feet in the pocket and how he kind of feels pressure and moves. That's that natural instinct that he has that some others don't.

"These offensive linemen see it when they're watching tape of practice, and they know they don't have to be perfect all the time. Obviously, he's big — he's real big, and he's real fast. I'm not talking about the running, but just the subtle

huddle, calling out the play — that sort of thing. I've heard comments from some of those (linemen) like, 'Hey, he's doing a good job with that.'

Richardson won over the locker The 14-play, 77-yard drive ended room early with his humble approach and ferocious work ethic, and his desire to keep improving despite the promotion was evident throughout Tuesday's one-hour

He was 9-of-12 in 11-on-11 work with a 20-yard touchdown pass to

On Sept. 10, he'll become the seventh different Week 1 starter for the Colts in as many seasons

And he certainly sounds like a man determined to end that streak.

"I talked about it before. I want to be great," Richardson said. "I want to be remembered. I don't want to just be one of those guys like, 'OK, he was in the league.' I want my legacy to be forever, and I'm work-

ing.

"Just trying to work forever and wingships here build those championships here with this team and this organiza-

For the

shoots a penalty shot during the

Patriots' 5-2 loss to

Muncie Central in

the season opener

on Tuesday. Collins

scored the first goal

for Jay County on the

penalty shot at the

30:44 mark in the

second half.

senior

Collins

score

JCHS

Brayden



Review preview



Jay County Patriots

Portland, 0-0

Coach: Grant Zgunda, third year (26th overall) Conference: Allen County

Last season: Jay County finished 2-8, dropping its final seven games after a 2-1 start. The Patriots scored 41 points in both of their wins against Blackford and Southern Wells. Despite the record, they improved scoring margins by scoring two or more times in four more games while only being shut out against Western in the sectional opener.

Returning leaders: Passing — Sean Bailey – 79of-152 for 1,058 yards, 10 touchdowns and nine interceptions. Rushing — Sean Bailey – 43 carries for 109 yards and three touchdowns. Receiving — Bryce Wenk – nine catches for 80 yards. Defense Lucas Strait – 72 tackles.

VS.

Blackford Bruins

Hartford City, 0-0

Coach: Randy Sehy, eighth year (19th overall) Conference: Central Indiana

Last season: The Bruins' only victory last season came by a 13-6 score over Elwood. They only scored 10 touchdowns on the year, with all but one belonging to players who graduated. They were held scoreless five times.

Returning leaders: Passing — Donovan Soto – 1of-7 for 8 yards, zero touchdowns and zero interceptions. Rushing — Nicholas Ely – 22 carries for 133 yards and zero touchdowns. Receiving — Carter Clouse – one catch for 81 yards. Defense — Daniel Ludwig – 57 tackles, 6.5 tackles for loss.

Last meeting: The Patriots scored on the opening kickoff against Blackford. They proceeded to score six times in the first 17 minutes before going heavily to their bench. They tallied 277 yards to Blackford's 56, including 97 for Bailey through the air and on the ground.

Game notes: This is the 49th meeting all time between Jay County and Blackford. The Patriots hold a 34-14 advantage in the series, including victories in each of the last 12 meetings. Blackford's last win against Jay County came by a 46-41 score in 2008 ... The Patriots have set a goal of reaching the .500 mark, a target they have not achieved since going 6-4 in 2016 ... CalPreps.com predicts Jay County to win, 38-13.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Sports on tap

Local schedule

well - 5 p.m.; Girls soccer at Heritage -

6 p.m.; Volleyball vs. Delta - 6 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boys golf vs. Versailles - 4:30 p.m.; Girls golf at Versailles at Stillwater Valley Golf Course - 4:30 p.m.; Middle School foot-

ball scrimmage vs. Versailles- 5 p.m

Friday

Jay County - Football vs. Blackford -

Fort Recovery — Football at Wavne Trace - 7 p.m.

TV sports

ague World Series

7:15 p.m. — MLB: Detroit Tigers at Cleveland Guardians (FOX)

7:30 p.m. — NFL: Cleveland Browns at Philadelphia Eagles (CBS)
9 p.m. — Camping World SRX Series:

Lucas Oil Speedway (ESPN)

Friday
— Premier League: 2:45 Sheffield United at Nottingham Forest

6 p.m. - High School Football: Carrollton at. Langston Hughes (ESPN2)

7 p.m. — WNBA: Washington Mystics at Indiana Fever (ION)

New York Giants (FOX)

9 p.m. — PFL: Heavyweights & Women's Featherweights (ESPN)

10 p.m. — WNBA: Minnesota Lynx at Seattle Storm (ION)

Local notes Adams Memorial Hospital 5K

The Worthman Fitness Center and the Diabetes Education Team of Adams Memorial Hospital will host the "Catch Your Breath ... while you Dash for Diabetes 5K Run/Walk" on Sept. 9 in coop eration with Adams County Parks and Recreation. Pre-registration is open for \$20

7 p.m. — NFL: Carolina Panthers at through Friday, Sept 1 at which point the entry fee will be raised to \$25. Participants may also sign up at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 9 at the Adams Memorial

Hospital under the Cancer Institute ter-For more visit adamscounty5kchal-

nge.com or contact Macy Jauregui at (206) 724-2145 ext. 11036.

Hunt applications

Beginning Aug. 20, hunters can apply for a variety of reserved hunts by visiting on.IN.gov/reservedhunt. Applications for the following hunts

can only be applied for online. They include waterfowl and deer hunts in fish and wildlife areas, deer hunts on state park property. November game bird area hunts, Indiana private land access hunts, and December game bird area hunts

Applications are due Sept. 24 by 11:59 p.m.

JC season tickets Season tickets are available for the

2023-24 Jay County high school season. Tickets may be purchased during the school's office hours from 7:30 a.m. to 3

Patriots Passes and Senior Patriot

Passes that provide admission to all high school and junior high events will be available. They cost \$105 and \$60 respectively. Also available are super tickets. High

school adult super tickets cost \$80, jur ior high super tickets come out to \$60 and senior super tickets are \$45. A pre-paid sports pass that is good

for 12 regular season events may be pur chased for \$50 as well. Boys basketball and football season

passes will cost \$50 and \$25 respec tively.

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

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Clerk of the Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause 38C01-2305-MF-000014, wherein CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC was Plaintiff, and Cameron Lee Bullock a/k/a Cameron L. Bullock and Finance System of Richmond were Defendants, required me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 21 day of September, 2023 at the hour of 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as is possible at Jay County Courthouse/3rd Floor at 120 N. Court Street, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in

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Plaintiff Attorney

FEIWELL & HANNOY, P.C.

8415 Allison Pointe Blvd.,

Suite 400 Indianapolis, IN 46250 Larry R. Newton, Jr. Jay County Sheriff CR 8-17.24.31-2023-HSPAXLP

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Public Notice

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL

ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES: NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of the Superior Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38D01-2304-MF-000010 wherein NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing was Plaintiff, and Zachary Parrish was the Defendant, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and costs, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 7th day of September, 2023, at the hour of 10:00 AM or as soon thereafter as is possible at the Jay County Sheriffs Department 120 North Court Street; 3rd Floor Courthouse; Portland, IN 47371 in Jay County, Indiana, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indi-

Real Estate located in Dunkirk, Jay County, Indiana and described as follow, towit: Lot numbered Thirty (30) in Westview Addition, an addition to the City of Dunkirk, Indiana.

ana.

More commonly known as 603 Layne Dr, Dunkirk, IN 47336 Parcel No. 38-09-08-304-052.000-014

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Phillip A. Norman #13734-64 Benjamin J Pliskie #30407-45 PHILLIP A. NORMAN P.C. The Sheriffs Department does not warrant the accuracy of the street address published herein.

CR 8-3,10,17-2023 - HSPAXLP

READ THE CR **THEN** RECYCLE

The Commercial Review Page 8 www.thecr.com

Jay falls n opener

By ANDREW BALKO
The Commercial Review

MUNCIE — Josh Dowlen graduated from Jay County High School in June.

The Patriots are learning just how much they will miss him.

The Muncie Central Bearcats took control early against the Jay County High School boys soccer team, allowing them to cruise to a 5-2 victory over the Patriots on Tuesday.

The Bearcats had a big first half, scoring four of the team's five goals.

"They are taller, bigger and faster than us," JCHS coach Bobby Ruiz said. "I expected something like that, but not that

"They are good on the through balls (plays where the ball gets poked past the midfield). We got killed by the through balls because by the time we tried to adjust, they had a couple of plays where they put us down right away.'

The first time Muncie Central got a through ball was off of a Jay County corner kick.

Off of the kick, one of the Bearcats' defenders controlled the ball and passed it up to Finn Gruver who was leaking out. From there, Gruver was able to maneuver his way past the two Patriot defenders who came up to contest, to get a good look at the goal. Gruver sent the ball to the back of the net to make it a 1-0 game only 7:13 seconds into the

The Bearcats thrived in transition, creating one-on-one situations where their strikers only had to beat one defender to get a clean shot on the goal.

more," said Muncie Central rebound in for the goal.

coach Shea Hill, who earned his 100th win at his alma mater. "You saw it sit in our defensive third and we were happy to invite them out to create space for ourselves to pass into.

"It was clinical passing. A lot of those one-v-ones came from a nice progression up the field and then we're just looking for that killer pass.

Ten minutes later, Muncie Central was able to create another one-on-one situation.

The Patriots were drawn onto the other side of the field with most of the defenders hanging out just in front of the line at mid-field. Gruver was given the ball with only senior Brayden Collins between him and the goalie. The senior Bearcat pushed upfield to take on Collins and got the better of him before putting the ball into the left half of the net at 23:14.

"It's pretty difficult when not everyone can keep up," Collins said. "It wasn't necessarily that I couldn't keep up, but he was good. My foot got tangled in the back of his when he was in stride and just ate the ground."

Muncie Central got one final transition goal in the first half at the 15:42 mark as Angel Rueda finished it off.

The only other score of the first half came with 13 minutes left. The head referee blew his whistle for the first time in the match, signaling a free kick. Muncie Central's Josh Sexton took the free kick, but goalie Kaleb Coppock recorded one of his 11 saves of the game. The ball rebounded off of Coppock's chest to a spot where Ollie Beane "You saw us hold the ball a lot was able to swoop in and put the



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

JCHS and Muncie Central seniors Brayden Collins and Finn Gruver run down a ball during Tuesday's season opener. The Patriots fell to the Bearcats 5-2 in the contest. Gruver netted two goals while Collins scored one on a penalty kick.

two things to his team — staying back to not allow one-on-ones and communication.

"In the first half, we didn't talk much," Ruiz said. "I think we came in nervous. So halftime, we talked about communication."

In the second half, the Patriots started to turn things around, allowing only one goal by Sex-

let stand.

The Patriots also controlled the ball better in the second half. Their first scoring opportunity came on a penalty kick when Mason Nichols fouled Levi Muhlenkamp in the penalty box. Collins took the penalty kick, and converted it for the first goal for the Patriots.

As Miller emptied his bench, ton, which the referees consid- Jay County found another oppor-

At the half, Ruiz emphasized ered calling back for offsides but tunity to score. Collins threw the ball from the slide line into traffic. Muhlenkamp came out of the group with the ball and kicked it just past the contesting Isaiah Voss to find the right side of the net to make the score 5-2 at 2:56.

> "It's a live-and-learn lesson for us," Ruiz said. "It's a wake up call. It's important to see our deficiencies and opportunities. I think that's the more important part of this game."

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JC sweeps Argylls

FAIRMOUNT — The Patriots lost some of their best attackers from **Local** last season.

from their season opener. County School's volleyball team pulled off a three-set sweep of the Madison-Grant Argylls during the season opener Tuesday night.

The Patriots easily took the first two sets, winning 25-18, 25-16.

Madison-Grant did all they could to force a fourth set, earning 24 points against the Patriots, but couldn't follow through, dropping the set 26-24.

Bella Denton led the Patriots with 11 kills in the match. Maggie Dillon and Mya Kunkler followed with six kills, Kunkler also adding three blocks.

Brenna Haines racked up 15 digs to lead the Patriots' defensive effort. Sophie Saxman fin- and bogeyed No. 3 and 4.

You wouldn't know it **roundup**

ished the match with 26 assists for Jay County.

Knapke shoots low

ANARCUM, Ohio — The Fort Recovery girls golf team is still looking for their first victory after falling to Anarcum 214-230 on Tuesday morning at

Beechwood Golf Course. For the fourth time this season, Olivia Knapke shot the team-low. A par on the fourth hole and bogeys on the sixth and eighth helped her to a 54.

Anarcum's No. 2 golfer, Emma Rogers, shot three pars and three bogeys to earn the match medalist and a score of 46.

Emma Will was only one stroke above Knapke with 55. Will parred hole No. 8

Also with two bogeys was Eva Kahlig, leading to 60

Marrisa Schoen rounded out the team score with 61 strokes recording bogeys on the sixth and eighth.

Ella Westgerdes shot a 67 and Georgia Wenning a 69, not impacting the team

JV tops Argylls

FAIRMOUNT — The Jay County JV volleyball team took their match against Madison-Grant two sets to one on Tuesday.

The Patriots won the first set 25-17 before dropping the second 23-25. They took the final 15-8 to win the match.

Maria Hemmelgarn's six kills led the Patriots offensively.

Brenna Schmiesing and Kendal Rowles each had

one block in the match. A team-high 11 digs came from Kayla Jetmore to lead

the defensive charge. Setting up her teammates was Ella Rigby with

seven assists in the match.

Richardson to

Rookie coach decides on rookie QB to lead the Colts

By GEORGE BREMER

The Herald Bulletin (Anderson) Tribune News Service

WESTFIELD — Shane Steichen has seen enough.

The Indianapolis Colts head coach announced following Tuesday's practice rookie Anthony Richardson will be the starting quarterback this season.

It's the culmination of a summer long competition with veteran Gardner Minshew and was clinched when the

No. 4 overall pick displayed poise and

command during Saturday's preseason opener against the Buffalo Bills.

"After the game, going back and watching the poise he played with, you got the early interception and you bounce back and he made some really good plays, some really good throws and the way he used his legs, it defi-nitely helps us," Steichen said. Richardson got the news at the start

of a two-hour meeting with Steichen on Monday night. The quarterback said the vast majority of the conversation had nothing to do with football as the two men begin to connect on a more personal level.

It's the realization of a life-long dream for the 21-year-old, but he was quick to note it's just the start of his journey, not the final destination.

"Honestly, I was shocked," Richardson said. "I'm a guy who put in work just to get the title, but it's not really all about the title. I'm just trying to make something great for the team. Despite being labeled as QB1, I've still got other guys in the room helping me get to that standard."

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