

**The Graphic Printing Company's**

**People's  
Choice  
2024**



**Your votes,  
your favorites**

*Nothing Says  
Fun Like*



**Thanks for your support of  
this year's fair, and for all of  
the great memories. We look  
forward to seeing you again!**



JAY COUNTY FAIR P.O. BOX 328 • PORTLAND, IN 47371 • 260-726-9616

# A new venture

**People's Choice will be back in 2024  
thanks to your overwhelming response**

Dear readers,

We knew after a successful first year that People's Choice would still need some changes in 2024. Little did we know how much change would occur.

With The Graphic Printing Company's purchase of The News-Gazette and The News Times in May, the concept of People's Choice grew.

Instead of just adding a couple of categories and tweaking the rules slightly, we decided to expand People's Choice to include all of our publication areas.

The idea remains relatively simple:

- You vote for your favorites
  - We tally the votes
  - We recognize the winners in various categories in the "People's Choice" special section
  - We highlight the "best overall" in that same special section
- That's exactly what we've done.

In this section, you'll find the winners in each category. The awards are split into sections for each of our publication areas. For The Commercial Review's readership area, you will also get a list of other top vote-getters — they are listed in random order in the categories that were part of this year's People's Choice balloting. For The News-Gazette and The News Times, only winners are listed. (We plan to add other top vote-getters as more votes come in from those communities in future years.)

As a result of People's Choice, we have created a badge that all of your winners can use in their advertising throughout the year.

We'd like to note that the businesses listed in this section came entirely by way of your votes. This was not a multiple choice ballot in which we selected businesses. Each category, instead, was open for voters to write in their favorites.

And, you'll find a feature on the "best overall" winners — Adams Physical Therapy and Carvantage.

When we put this idea together last year — it was not new, other papers had done it before — we weren't sure what the response would be. We received hundreds of votes.

In the second year, the novelty of this concept did not wear off. We had more than 700 ballots submitted online. For that, we are grateful.

We also noticed this year that some businesses were using their social media presence to push for votes. That's great! We see it as an excellent way to both participate in this section and to promote your business. (If your business didn't win or make the "other top vote-getters" list this year, asking for support during future contests is a great way to engage customers and improve your chances.)

The advertiser response to this section has been strong again as well. For the second year, the section is 32 pages, one of the largest we publish.

We thank you.

So, what is in store for the future?

We envision People's Choice to continue to be a fixture in late February. It may continue to see tweaks. We may add new categories. We may make some categories regional and some county specific, depending on the type of business involved. We may find new features to add.

Ultimately, we hope this publication calls some attention to local businesses, organizations, events and attractions that help to keep our community thriving.

And for you, our readers, we hope you might try the winners or other top vote-getters that you have not considered before. Maybe you'll find a new favorite clothing store, community event or pizza based on the suggestions of those who voted this year.

Thank you for your support in this new venture, and we look forward to People's Choice 2025.

Ray Cooney

President, editor and publisher  
The Graphic Printing Company



Additional top vote-getters  
Country Creek Primitives

Corner Store Vintage Redkey Junktion

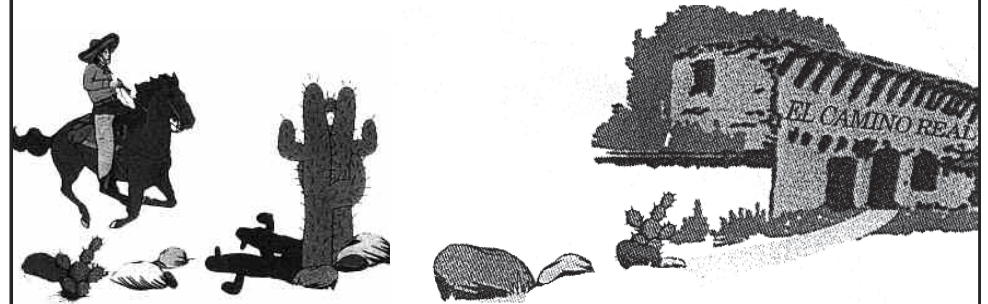


Additional top vote-getters  
Strohl Appliance and Electronics  
Liggett TV and Appliance



Additional top vote-getters  
Advanced Auto AutoZone O'Reilly Auto Parts Williams Auto Parts

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Best One  
1 Call Away

**Additional top vote-getters**  
First Choice Auto  
Arm's Auto Body

Hopkins  
Rich's Auto Repair



Deer Park Boutique  
The Pink Barn

**Additional top vote-getters**  
Closet Update  
Abracadabra Salon

Beauty Bar  
Sunshine Boutique



Moser Motors

**Additional top vote-getters**  
Boelman Auto Sales

P&D Auto



#### Additional top vote-getters

Arts Place  
Hudson Family Park  
Jay County Civic Theatre  
Jay County Fair  
Rollin' J Lanes  
Valhalla Axe Hall



#### Additional top vote-getters

4th of July Celebration  
Tri-State Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show  
Arts in the Parks  
Cruisin' the Holijay Lights at the Fairgrounds  
Feel the Warmth of Christmas  
Haute Harvest High Fashion Show  
Arts Place  
Hope Fest  
Jay County Community Awards  
Pennville Pumpkin Festival  
Winterfest



#### Additional top vote-getters

Shear Inspirations  
Salon Karma  
Upperkut Salon and Spa  
The Loft on Meridian  
Hair Candy  
Wildfire Beauty Lounge

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BRAND  
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Expert



Additional top vote-getters  
Schmit Chiropractic



Additional top vote-getters  
Grounded Cafe      Hugs in Mugz      Scooter's



Additional top vote-getters  
AgBest CountryMark      Circle K  
Casey's      Village Pantry

# 'The chance to help'

**Adams  
Physical  
Therapy  
has served  
patients  
since 1999**



By **RAY COONEY**

The Graphic Printing Company

Roy Adams started his physical therapy practice with about 1,500 square feet in a building on the north side of Portland.

Over two and a half decades it has moved and grown.

Adams Physical Therapy, which won Best Overall in The Graphic Printing Company's People's Choice voting, now has locations in Portland and Winchester and continues to look for ways to expand its services.

"I didn't want people to feel like they had to leave town to get good care," said Adams, who opened his practice in 1999.

"That's one of the things that I've strived throughout to provide. And I think that we provide services that most of the larger communities don't do. ...

"I am passionate about small communities. ... I love my community. These are my friends. These are my neighbors. I feel a very strong connection and dedication to continuing this service."

Born and raised as a preacher's kid moving around south Georgia, Adams moved to Indiana for a job after college and found himself looking for

a new position in 1999 when changes in the medical industry led to cutting staff. He considered other options but felt he might be able to make a better go of it on his own, opening Adams Physical Therapy at 1509 N. Meridian St., Portland. (The site is now home to D'Real Western Wear.) It grew from a 1,500-square-foot space to take over the whole building and then moved to its current location at 111 W. North St. in the final days of 2006. In 2017, the business added a second location at 955 E. Washington St. (Indiana 32) in Winchester.

In addition to Adams, the practice includes Bridgette Welker, Lauren Schott and Lexi Waterman, all doctors of physical therapy, and physical therapist Swathi Iyer. There are also six physical therapy assistants and an athletic trainer on the staff. The newest addition to the team is Banner, the therapy dog.

Adams Physical Ther-

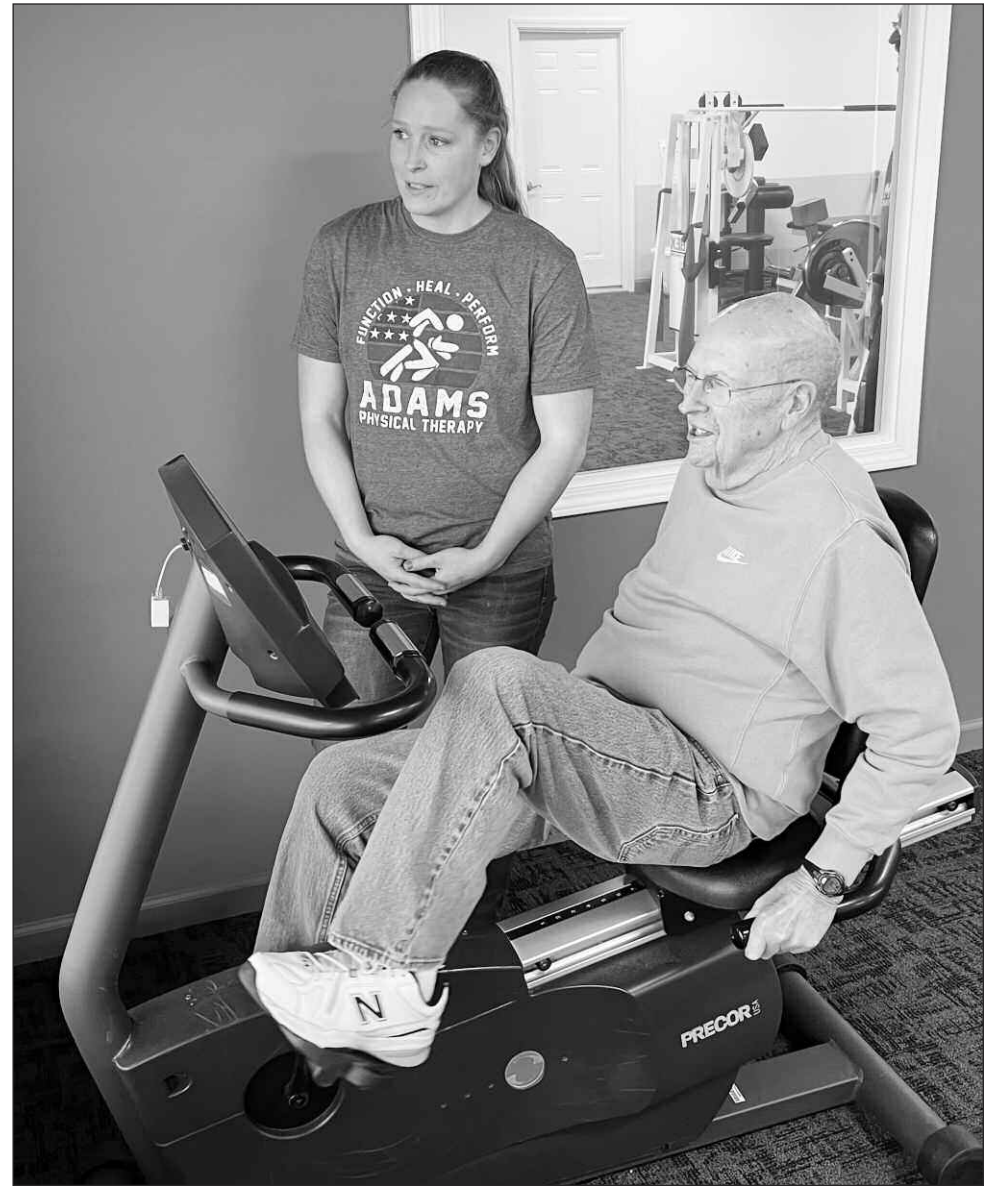
apy's services include treatment of a variety of pain and sports injuries, as well as rehabilitation from surgery and accidents.

"It's truly getting people back finding their way after they're lost with serious illness or injury," said Adams. "That's the exciting thing. ...

"It's just the challenge, the chance to help ... That's the thing that I really get the most out of."

Shoulder and back pain are two of the most frequent issues the practice sees. (Adams has his own proprietary shoulder rehabilitation program and back rehabilitation protocols, which focus more on core stability and an overall neurophysiological outlook rather than just strength building.) Falls are also high on the list.

To help those who experience falls or otherwise have balance issues, the rehabilitation area is equipped with a rail system that was installed eight years ago. It



The Graphic Printing Company/Ray Cooney

Athletic trainer Carly Hess works with Portland resident Bob Vance last week at Adams Physical Therapy in Portland. Hess runs the practice's Health-track program, which is one of the various services it provides.

works with a harness to prevent patients from falling to the floor.

"This gives our patients with walking difficulties confidence when they're working on things and it also protects our therapists," said Adams. "So we can challenge them."

Other services include neurostimulation, balance testing, orthotics, a high-

intensity deep tissue laser, a machine that serves as work simulation and a virtual reality system for those who are dealing with dizziness issues. Adams and Iyer have started doing dry needling, with both are working on a fellowship in the practice that involves using a needle to stimulate tissues for the man-

agement of pain and other issues.

The practice has also gotten heavily involved with diagnostics — Adams hopes to receive the highest level of board certification in that area this summer — using tools such as an ultrasound to determine the cause of a patient's pain.

See 'Help' page 11

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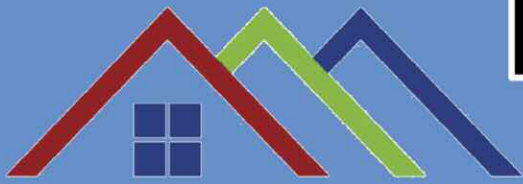
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*of newspaper roll ends*

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Additional top vote-getters  
Praises  
and Pathways

Melissa's Half  
Pint Daycare

Vicki's  
Playhouse



Additional top vote-getters  
Vormohr Family  
Dentistry

Cascio family  
Dental Care

Dunn Family  
Dental



Additional top vote-getters

Jay County Family Practice

Family First Healthcare

# ‘Help’ ...

Continued from page 7

The practice’s Health-track program serves as an additional option for patients. Trainer Carly Hess works with patients to increase muscle and improve function while also providing information on nutritional needs. The cash program is often one used after a patient is discharged from rehabilitation for maintenance or continued improvement.

“Some of our people are utilizing the Health Track to help maintain their function and activity or increase it to be able to do more,” said Adams. “And also to lose weight. ... I think that that’s a special program.”

He added that he feels older folks tend to just deal with pain, assuming it’s inevitable with age.

“That’s not the case,” Adams said. “It’s amazing, the body’s ability, even as we age ...

“We want to help them get their lives back. We want to help them get their independence back.”

While there are no plans to add a third office to the practice, there may be other options for expansion. The practice is considering getting a van to offer mobile services.

There are also plans to ex-



The Graphic Printing Company/Ray Cooney

The diagnostics room at Adams Physical Therapy in Portland utilizes tools such as an ultrasound to determine what is causing a patient’s pain. The practice offers a variety of services to help patients eliminate or manage pain as well as to recover from injuries.

pand in the area of women’s health services.

In his mid-60s, Adams has no plans to slow down. And even when that time occurs, he’s hopeful the practice have staying power.

“I get up and I’m ready to go,” he said. “I look forward. I like seeing the patients. I like seeing them improving. ...

“It’s a little different now because it used to be just me. But it’s also looking and

watching and helping to guide and grow our staff to continue to meet these needs too. I know one day I’m not going to be here, but I hope Adams Physical Therapy in some form will continue.”

Adams Physical Therapy’s Portland location is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. weekdays. Hours at the Winchester office are from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

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Additional top vote-getters

Additional top vote-getters

- AgBest Country Mark
- Casey's
- Circle K
- Pak-a-Sak
- Village Pantry

Patriot Fitness

- Jay County Barbell Club
- JC Tumbling and Gymnastics
- Jay Community Center
- Jeneration Fitness

Additional top vote-getters

- Fort Recovery Industries
- Joyce Dayton
- MSSL Wiring
- Pioneer Packaging
- Tyson Foods

2024

# BEST OVERALL

## Adams Physical Therapy



### Thank You!

Physical Therapy - Musculoskeletal Ultrasound -  
Electro Diagnostics - Dry Needling - Medical Laser  
Orthotics - Neuromuscular Stimulation

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Additional top vote-getters  
Valentine Feed and Supply Tractor Supply



Additional top vote-getters  
Bollenbacher and Associates Drew Houck of Edward Jones Scott Benter of Edward Jones



Additional top vote-getters  
First Bank of Berne First Financial Bank  
First Merchants Bank Farmers State Bank

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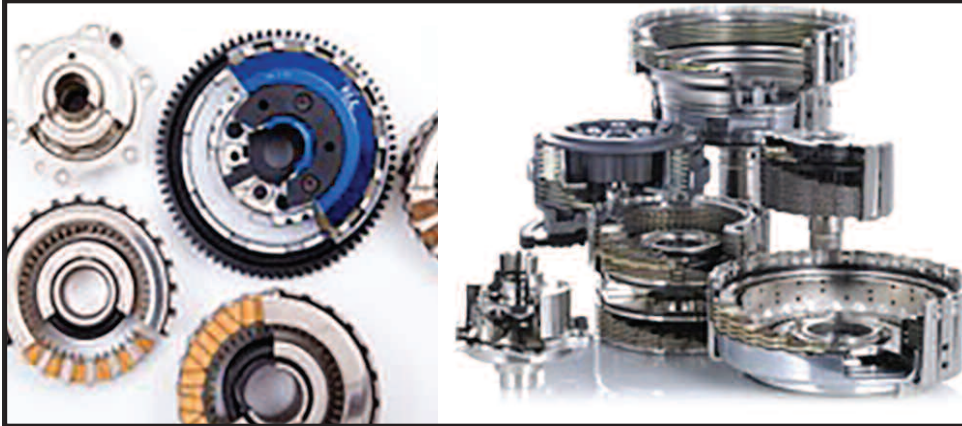
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Additional top vote-getters  
Reni's  
Heaven Scent

Bricker's Flowers  
and More

Be You  
Floral



Additional top vote-getters  
MJS  
Mortuaries

Baird-Freeman  
Funeral Home

Brockman and Boeckman  
Funeral Home



Additional top vote-getters

Clauser Furniture

TLS by Design



People's Choice  
*Greenhouse*

Wagner's

Additional top vote-getters

Bricker's Flowers  
and More

Cook's  
Nursery

M&W  
Greenhouse



People's Choice  
*Hardware store*

True  
Value

Additional top vote-getters

Wangler ACE Hardware

Citadel Supply

Hometown Hardware



People's Choice  
*Home improvement*

Mustard  
Seed  
Remodeling

Additional top vote-getters

Ace of Trades  
True Value

Citadel Supply  
Home Idea Center

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## **Motorsports**

Wednesday, March 27 - UNIV\*

## **Blackford spring sports**

Wednesday, March 27 - NT\*

## **Randolph Co. spring sports**

Thursday, March 30 - N-G\*

## **JCHS spring sports**

Wednesday, April 3 - CR/NS\*

\*UNIV = appears in all Graphic Printing Newspapers, CR = The Commercial Review,  
NG = The News-Gazette, NT = The News Times, NS = The News and Sun



**Additional top vote-getters**

Barnum and Brown Insurance      Bixler Insurance  
Farm Bureau Insurance      Inman Insurance      Master's Insurance



**Additional top vote-getters**

Cook's Nursery      Brian and Sons  
Jutte's Landscaping      Miles Mowing      Nature's Green



**Additional top vote-getters**

Hinkle, Racster  
and Schemenaur

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Bluffton, Indiana • (260) 846-6788



**Additional top vote-getters**

- Dick's Pizza Palace
- Pizza King
- Pizza Hut
- Payless Pizza and More
- Ryzone's
- IN-OH's

**Additional top vote-getters**

- Enario Studio
- Caryssa Lyons
- Devon Jones
- Amy Sprunger
- Rebecca Wendel
- Todd Skirvin

**Additional top vote-getters**

- The Loft on Meridian
- Salon Karma
- Wildflower Beauty Lounge
- Upperkut Salon and Spa
- West Side Beauty Bar
- Coven Nails

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People's Choice  
*New business*

**Scoop  
Station**

**Additional top vote-getters**

Paws and Claws Pet Care  
1 Call Away

Grounded Cafe

Coop's Creations  
Bulldog Books



People's Choice  
*Non-profit  
organization*

**Arts  
Place**

**Additional top vote-getters**

Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition  
Midwest Pet Refuge

Jayland Partners

Jay County Humane Society  
Jay County Fair Board



People's Choice  
*Park*

**Hudson  
Family  
Park**

**Additional top vote-getters**

Haynes Park

Redkey Morgan Park

Dunkirk City Park



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Rates do not apply to special sections  
Ads must run in March



**Additional top vote-getters**

Bricker's Auction  
Pete Shawver Auctioneer

Jack Houck Real Estate  
Jarod Clark (Century 21)



**Additional top vote-getters**

Wings and Rings  
IDC Restaurant

The Greazy Pickle

Cuervos Tacos  
Ginny's Cafe



*thank you*

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*- Jennay & The Loft Team*



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People's Choice  
Veterinary and  
pet services

Portland  
Veterinary  
Clinic

Additional top vote-getters

Redkey Veterinary Clinic

Fort Recovery Veterinary Clinic



People's Choice  
Other

Prospect Home  
Inspections

Additional top vote-getters

Resprout Therapy

Dynamic Business Solutions

Fisher Meats

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Deadline for ads is Wednesday March 13th

**GRAPHIC PRINTING NEWSPAPERS**

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*Thank you*

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-Matthew 17:20



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# The News-Gazette










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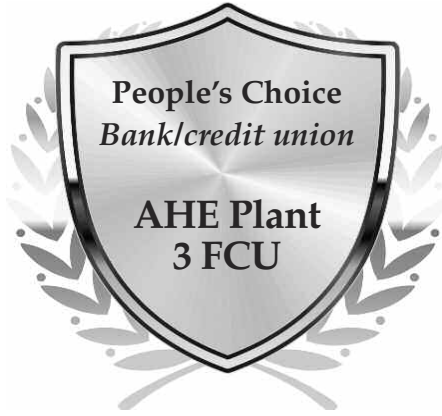
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# The News-Gazette










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WE ARE SO GRATEFUL AND BLESSED TO BE ABLE TO SERVE EACH AND EVERY CUSTOMER WHO HAS COME IN TO SUPPORT US. WE WOULD LIKE TO OFFER EVERYONE WHO BRINGS IN THIS AD **10% OFF** THEIR PURCHASE AS A SMALL TOKEN OF OUR GRATITUDE FOR VOTING HOPPY'S PUB & GRILL #1 NEW BUSINESS.

*Karly P. Photography*

SPREADING HIS LOVE

My heart is so full hearing that out of all of the amazing photographers that surround me, my work stood out to my community. As the people within this community voted for me as the best photographer, I would vote repeatedly for the members as the best support system. I would not be where I am today without the support from my community.

Whether it's booking a photo shoot, sharing my work, or complimenting a photo, it all goes a long way. Through the years, I have never lost sight of my mission and the people I want to serve with my gift from God. I appreciate that my community has not lost sight of me and sees the work I have done. Thank you to everyone. This truly means so much to be recognized. I cannot wait to continue to meet new people and photograph such special moments. With so much gratitude, Karly Puckett.

The News-Gazette

# ‘It’s about the people’

## Carvantage has expanded business in Winchester

By RAY COONEY

The Graphic Printing Company

Carvantage has truly become a one-stop shop for vehicles.

The business sells cars and services them.

Its partner business, Conn’s Collision Center, will take care of things after an accident. It also has a small U-Save rental outlet to fill the gaps.

Carvantage was selected as the “best overall” People’s Choice winner for The News-Gazette’s readership area as it won the votes for both auto service and repair and car dealership.

“We try to be customer-centric,” said managing partner Casey Dyer. “It’s about the people, man. It’s about the customers. Anybody can sell somebody a car one time. But does that person come back? Or do they tell people to come here when they’re shopping? Customer care is super important. It’s a big deal to us.”

Getting into the car business wasn’t really a plan for Dyer, a 2008 New Castle High School graduate. But he was offered a job at Sandifar Auto Group by a friend of a friend shortly after high school.

“It’s the only thing I’ve ever done,” said Dyer. “I started cleaning cars and transporting cars out of high school and I just never left. ...

“He taught me a ton, taught me the business,” he added of Steve Sandifar. “I think I learned a lot.”

He progressed through sales, financing and management before buying Sandifar’s location in Win-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Carvantage has grown from selling about 100 vehicles in 2018 to selling almost 500 last year. The business typically has about 30 vehicles on its lot at 395 Symmes Center Drive in Winchester.

chester — at that point sales and service were both downtown — along with his in-laws in 2017 and rebranded it as Carvantage.

Conn’s was added to the mix a few years ago after Gary Conn had expressed an interest in retiring for several years.

“I was finally like, man, if I don’t throw my name in the hat, somebody’s going to,” said Dyer. “And it’s gonna go because it’s

just always been there. You’d really have to mess something up to not make it go. ...

“I probably wasn’t ready to really do it at the time,” he added, “but I think the fear of regretting not doing it for me was big enough to say, ‘Yeah, let’s do it.’”

The car dealership moved to Symmes Center Drive just north of Conn’s about the same time. See **Carvantage** page 31



**PEOPLE'S  
CHOICE**



# CAR VANTAGE

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Tuesday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Wednesday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Thursday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
Saturday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Sunday Closed

**395 Symmes Center Dr.  
Winchester, IN 47394  
(765) 595-8284**

**[www.thecarvantage.com](http://www.thecarvantage.com)**

**SERVICE HOURS**

Monday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Tuesday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Wednesday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Thursday 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday Closed  
Saturday Closed  
Sunday Closed



Visit Carvantage today and experience the difference of exceptional service, top-quality vehicles, and a team dedicated to helping you find the perfect car to elevate your driving experience.

# The News-Gazette



THANK YOU for all of your love & support in voting us People's Choice Salon! We are humbled & honored!



**Shine Salon**  
Jenn Sandifar & Annie Anderson

114 E Washington St,  
Winchester, IN 47394  
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The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

# Carvantage ...

Continued from page 28  
Carvantage has grown from selling about 100 cars in 2018 to nearly 500 this year. On average, there are about 30 cars on the lot, Dyer said. Inventory as of Saturday ranged from a 2014 Chevrolet Malibu priced at \$9,595 to a 2022 GMC Yukon XL at \$50,000.

The service center handles items including oil changes, alignments, battery testing/replacement, brakes and tires. (Quotes are available online at the carvantage.com.)

Conn's takes care of auto body and collision repair, including unibody repairs and painting.

The U-Save rental service currently has about 10 to 15 cars available.

"It's pretty small for now," said Dyer. "But I see a lot of potential for growth in that."

Another area of potential growth for the business is its service center. It has gotten significantly busier over the last couple of years, Dyer said, in part because the dealership is cycling through more vehicles. He said he's unsure how that growth might come — by adding service bays to the downtown location or building a new service center adjacent to the sales center and Conn's.

"I would love to be all under one roof," said Dyer, who now spends most of his time sourcing cars off the street and via auctions. His staff in-

cludes Doug Jefferis as the service manager, his son Chase Jefferis who manages the dealership when Dyer is away and Kevin Johnson leading Conn's. "I think for team camaraderie ... I think it's a great place to work. I think it would be even better if we were all together."

Carvantage is open for car sales at 395 Symmes Center Drive in Winchester from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Conn's, which is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, is at 401 Symmes Center Drive. Service hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday at 400 N. Main St. downtown.

# The News Times

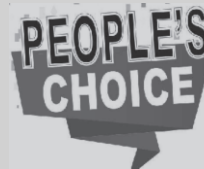


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1/2-page color – **\$475**

1/2-page B&W – **\$300**

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Deadline for ads is Jan. 31

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