The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Orange again

Jay stays at high risk of coronavirus spread, most of state is at severe

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review Jay County is orange

again.

Indiana State In Department of Health's update Wednesday, the county was rated 'orange" (high risk of the spread of coronavirus) for the second consecutive week.

the The bulk of Hoosier state was designated "red" (severe risk) in Wednesday's update, with 73 of 92 counties at that level. That list included Blackford and Wells counties.

The remaining 19, Adams, including Delaware and Randolph counties in addition to Jay, were orange. Randolph County was also flagged because of a "large number of the weekly cases being attributable to congrebeing gate settings."

The county metrics are based on two statistics — weekly cases per 100,000 and seven-day positivity rate.

Jay County's cases per 100,000 came in at 288 this week, up from 264 last week. It has been over 800 in November and early December before dropping to 190 two weeks ago.

The local positivity rate came in at 12.4%, which was also up from last week's 10.5%. It had been over 20% last month and had dropped to 9.5% two weeks ago.

Jay County initially made the move to red (severe) on the day before Thanksgiving.

weeks before dropping

this week. (County metrics are updated each Wednesday based on Sunday's statistics.)

New cases have been down locally over the last several weeks. They were in single digits 21 of the last 25 days after being in double digits for the bulk of November and the first half of December. (The singleday high was 44 on Nov.

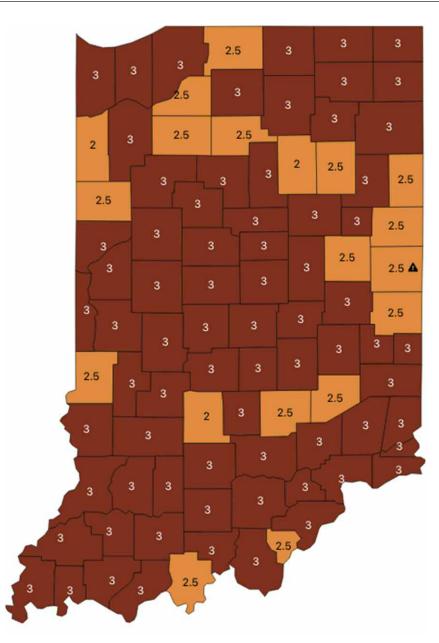
The county is averaging 7.3 new cases per day this month after being at 22.8 in November and 13.2 in December.

The hope from local and state health officials is that as vaccinations become available, the number of hospitalizations and deaths will also decline. As of Wednes-day's update, Indiana has totaled 574,119 cases of COVID-19 and 8,790 deaths.

Jay County Health Department's coronavirus vaccination clinic opened for the first time Tuesday, with 50 doses being given by the end of the day. The clinic is open again today.

Heath Butz, environ-mentalist and administrator with the health department, said he felt the opening day went

see it and they see those first steps to the light at the end of the tunnel," he said. "And especially for those high-risk populations. These are people that have been on lockdown since March, a lot It of them. They've been and older. Dr. Lindsay remained there for four trying to be safe. This



Indiana State Department of Health

While Jay County remained at "orange" in the Indiana State "I think a lot of people Department of Health's county metrics that were updated Wednesday, most of the state — 73 of 92 counties — was "red" (severe risk of the spread of coronavirus).

> ment of Health early Wednesday expanded appointments to those 70 Weaver, the department's

Indiana State Depart- had scheduled appointments at ourshot.in.gov or by calling the state's 2-1-1 telephone assistance service.

The current vaccina- Tuesday

•11:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

•8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Saturday

•11:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

11:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

back to orange and then a peace of mind, which is said that in the first five Jay County Health Jan. 21 yellow. But it quickly a great thing." hours of availability Department, 504 W. Arch •8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. returned to orange last Initially available only nearly 60,000 Indiana res-St., Portland, is as fol-See Orange page 2 week and remained there to Hoosiers 80 and older, idents between 70 and 79 lows:

Committee tables vote on funding By RILEY EUBANKS

The Commercial Review Another entity has balked on appropriating money toward a proposed million-dollar animal control facility.

The Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee met Wednesday and tabled a vote on contributing \$166,250 over the next two years,

citing funding uncertainty days after Jay County Commissioners rescinded their funding commit-

"Well, I see this as the county's problem," Portland Mayor John Boggs said at the meeting. "The county assembled a blue ribbon panel to come up with a blue ribbon solution ... now they want a blue collar price tag.'

Jay County Animal Control Task Force in 2018 to create a comprehensive plan for county-wide animal control. The task force returned with a recommendation for a new facility at an estimated cost between \$1.14 million and \$1.35.

Jay County Commissioners in approved. December approved paying for a

Commissioners assembled the quarter of such a facility, up to a maximum of \$275,000, but then rescinded that commitment Monday after two new commissioners took office. They said they're not against such a project, but that all of the governmental units involved should weigh in before funding is

See Tables page 2

Council gives raises

Corn and **Shepherd** will assume some duties of previous engineer

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

Former county engineer Dan Watson resigned at the end of 2020.

Jay County highway superintendent Donnie Corn has taken over Watson's former responsibilities, and road foreman David Shepherd is helping pick up the slack.

Both will be receiving raises after Jay County Council approved a recommendation from the personnel committee Wednesday. Council member Jeanne

Houchins said the personnel committee reviewed the new job responsibilities at a meeting Monday. The committee looked at surrounding counties without engineers and the wages for similar positions to those held by Corn and Shepherd. Blackford Countv's highway superintendent makes near \$58,000, and its road foreman makes about \$44,000, she said. (That is about \$4,500 less than Corn made and \$4,000 less than Shepherd made previously.) Blackford County also outsources to an engineering for items such as Community Crossing grants, Indiana Department of Transportation reports and vouchers and bridge work.

Corn will take over the engineer's job alongside his work, and Shepherd will take over some of Corn's superintendent duties. The personnel committee decided it would be best to give both employees incentive for taking on new job

"I believe in rewarding our employees," Houchins said.

Corn will receive about a \$7,500 raise and Shepherd about a \$4,000 raise (or \$2 more per hour).

"Are you looking at getting a county engineer in the future?" asked council member Ray Newton, who along with Matt Minnich, started his first term on council this month.

See Raises page 2

Trump impeached

House voted by 232-197 margin Wednesday

By LISA MASCARO, MARY CLARE JALONICK, **JONATHAN LEMIRE** and ALAN FRAM

Associated Press WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump was impeached by the U.S. House for a historic second time, charged with "incitement of insurrection" over the deadly mob siege of the U.S. Capitol in a swift and stunning collapse of his final days in office.

With the Capitol secured by armed National Guard troops inside and out, the House voted 232-197 on Wednesday to impeach Trump. The proceedings moved stunned and angered lawmakers,

ers voting just one week after violent pro-Trump loyalists stormed the Capitol, egged on by the president's calls for them to "fight like hell" against the election results.

Ten Republicans fled Trump, joining Democrats who said he needed to be held accountable and warned ominously of a "clear and present danger" if Congress should leave him unchecked before Democrat Joe Biden's inauguration Jan. 20.

Trump is the only U.S. president to be twice impeached.

The Capitol insurrection

at lightning speed, with lawmak- who were sent scrambling for safety as the mob descended, and it revealed the fragility of the nation's history of peaceful transfers of power. The riot also forced a reckoning among some Republicans, who have stood by Trump throughout his presidency and largely allowed him to spread false attacks against the integrity of the 2020 election.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi invoked Abraham Lincoln and the Bible, imploring lawmakers to uphold their oath to defend the Constitution from all enemies, foreign "and domestic."

See **Impeached** page 2



Washington Post/Melina Mara

A week after the insurrection of the U.S. Capitol, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., presides over President Donald Trump's second impeachment Wednesday. Trump was impeached by a 232-197 vote.

Deaths

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 44 degrees Wednesday. The low was 33.

Rain and snow showers are expected tonight with a low of 34. Skies will be mostly cloudy Friday with a high of 38.

See page 2 for an extended forecast.

In review

Rhett Braun, who is assigned to Jay County, was announced Wednesday as 2020 District 4 Indiana Conservation Officer of the Year. He has been assigned to Jay County since 2015.

The honor makes him eligible for the Pitzer Award, which is presented to the top overall conservation officer in Indi-

Coming up

Friday — Results from tonight's JCHS wrestling match against Homestead.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay School Board meeting.



Rosa Sutter, 82, Portland Details on page 2.

Jay County Hospital and Indi-

ana University Health to trans-

fer about \$1.25 million in funds

set aside for capital improve-

ments to The Portland Founda-

tion. IU Health Jay board presi-

dent Dave Littler announced

during a commissioner's meet-

ing Dec. 28 that the board set-

tled on an estimated \$3.75 mil-

Raises

Continued from page 1 They take over the seats previously held by Cindy Newton. Ray's wife, and Gary Theurer.

Houchins asked commissioner Chad Aker, who was in attendance, if that position was eliminated. He said for now the county won't be filling the position and will instead be dividing its responsibilities between the two road officials.

Newton questioned what the council should do if the new agreement doesn't work out and the county needs to hire a new engineer.

County auditor Anna Culy suggested creating a "dormant" county engineer position with the job description unchanged, which would make it easier to shift back if the new arrangement does not work out. She said she would need to check to see if that's possible to do.

Houchins said both Corn and Shepherd will keep a log of their work and have an evaluation at a later date.

Council approved the pay raises unanimously. council

Also Monday, approved an amendment to the lion in capital improvement projects to be completed in 2021. (Commissioners approved the amendment as well.) In other business, council:

•Appropriated the following:

integration agreement between about \$10,450 for the Local Emergency Planning Committee; about \$8,000 for the Cornerstones location in Richland township; about \$3,570 for the Jay County Sheriff's Office for equipment; and about \$73,405 for a six-month Community Corrections grant.

•Approved nearly \$25,276 in encumbrances for a bioterrorhealth grant (about ism \$21,000), the health department and the Community Corrections grant.

•Appointed Liz Lawson to Jay County Public Library Board.

Obituaries

Rosa Sutter, Portland, March 8, 1938-Jan. 10, 2021. Services will be at 2 p.m. Monday at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland.

The Commercial Review publishes death notices for those with a connection to our coverage area free of charge. They include the name, city of residence, birth/death date and time/date/location of services.

There is a charge for obituaries, which are accepted only from funeral homes or mortuary services.

CR almanac

G10 0011110011000				
Friday 1/15	Saturday 1/16	Sunday 1/17	Monday 1/18	Tuesday 1/19
37/27	35/28	32/23	31/25	36/26
Cooler under mostly cloudy skies with a 40% chance of	Cooler with a 30% chance of snow in the morning turn-	Cloudy with a 30% chance of snow in the afternoon. At	Martin Luther King Jr. Day will be mostly cloudy with	Warmer under mos cloudy ski with no ra or snow c

or below freez-

ing all day and

4-19-23-25-49 Power Ball: 14 Power Play: 2 jackpot: Estimated

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$750 million

Hoosier

Midday Daily Three: 2-00-3 Daily Four: 3-00-5-5 Quick Draw: 9-10-12-

Evening Daily Three: 2-5-9 Daily Four: 6-8-2-2 Quick Draw: 1-7-10-12-13-14-15-20-21-32-40-44-4752-54-55-56-57-61-72 Cash 5: 17-24-26-31-44

tempera-tures below

freezing

with no rain

or snow cur

rently project-

25-33-40-46 Estimated

Midday Pick 3: 8-8-1 Pick 4: 9-2-6-3 Pick 5: 5-3-8-2-7 Evening Pick 3: 1-9-6 Pick 4: 1-8-8-2 Pick 5: 4-6-7-2-5 Rolling Cash: 5-19-21-24-28

Classic Lotto: 2-4-12-

Estimated \$3.2 million

Orange

Continued from page 1

Butz said Tuesday that the first day of the clinic allowed the health department to gauge the flow of patients. That will help, he said, as officials make plans for larger clinics as the vaccine becomes more widely available.

According to Weaver, the state will expand eligibility "as quickly as supplies and resources allow.

"Our goal is to reduce deaths and hospitalizations. And that makes this health commissioner Dr. Kristina

Box. "Our system is working and we are going to stick with it.'

Hoosiers ages 60-and-older are being prioritized because the age group accounts for the majority of hospitalizations and deaths attributed to COVID-19.

Coronavirus is mainly spread through respiratory droplets or small particles from an infected person coughing, sneezing, talking or breathing. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that the right approach," added state's it may be possible those particles and droplets remain suspended in the air

for an unknown period of time and travel beyond 6 feet, especially indoors.

CDC guidelines encourage wearing a mask and avoiding close contact when around others and frequent hand washing and surface cleaning as ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The virus causes a range of symptoms, which can appear two to 14 days after exposure. Older adults and those with pre-existing health problems are susceptible to more severe

Lotteries

ing into rain in

the afternoon

10 mph winds

Powerball

snow during the day. 15

mph wind

\$640 million

13-14-24-28-29-32-39-42-47-49-53-56-63-65-66-69-79

Hoosier Lotto: 14-17-

jackpot: \$3.8 million

Ohio

29-30-44

Kicker: 8-6-1-9-3-2 jackpot:

Markets

Fort Recovery	
Corn	5.18
Wheat	6.33

Cooper Farms

PULI DIOREIIIIII	g
Portland	_
Corn	.5.2
- 1	

Corn	5.26
Feb. corn	.5.29

The Andersons **Richland Township**

OOI 11	
Feb. corn	5.20
Beans	14.03
Feb. beans	14.07
Wheat	6.58
Feb. wheat	6.58

Central States Montpelier

Corn	5.12
Feb. corn	5.14
Beans	14.01
Feb. beans	14.01
Wheat	6.49
March wheat	6.51

Sunrise St. Anthony

Corn	4.98
Feb. corn	5.02
Beans	13.81
Feb. beans	13.91
Wheat	6.34
Feb. wheat	6.34

Today in history

On Jan. 14, 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and French General Charles de Gaulle opened a wartime conference in Casablan-

In 1784, the United Ukrainian States ratified the Treaty of Paris ending the Revolutionary War; Britain followed suit in April 1784.

In 1914, Ford Motor Co. greatly improved its assembly-line operation by employing an endless chain to pull each chassis along at its Highland Park, Michigan, plant.

In 1968, the Green Bay Packers of the NFL defeated the AFL's Oakland Raiders, 33-14, in the second AFL-NFL World Championship game (now referred to as Super Bowl II).

In 1970, Diana Ross and the Supremes per-

formed their last concert together, at the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas.

In 1994, President Bill Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed an accord to stop aiming missiles at any nation; the leaders joined President Leonid Kravchuk in signing an accord to dismantle the nuclear arsenal of Ukraine.

In 2006, freshman Cori Vormohr accounted for the Jay County High School swim team's only victories as she won the 100-yard butterfly and 200 individual medley at the Olympic Athletic Conference Championships.

In 2013, Lance Armstrong ended a decade of denial by confessing to Oprah Winfrey during a videotaped interview that he'd used performance-enhancing drugs to win the Tour de France. -AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday

Board executive session, General Shanks, 414 E. Floral Ave., Portland.

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

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recov-4 p.m. - Jay School ery Village Council, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

Tuesday

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

Tables

Continued from page 1 Boggs said the city is willing to contribute to building a new facility, even suggesting at one point during the meeting that Portland come up with its own solution to shelter animals if Jay County and its other municipalities choose not to contribute toward the county-wide initiative.

But without assurance of county money being put toward the project, committee members advised

against approving funding for the facility.

Committee member Janet Powers also had the concerns that the project has little prospect of developing the city's economy, which is the point of the committee, suggesting Portland should look to other funds to put money toward the proposal.

The price of the building proposal, half of which is expected to be paid for through fundraising and the other half to be paid for

by local governments, was also discussed at length, with task force members saying that the million-dollar figures represent the minimum requirements needed in an animal control facility to abide by guidelines recommended by the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, a non-profit organization.

Task force facilities chair Dean Jetter said he received two "pretty close" quotes on the cost from Fort Wayne's Grinsfelder Associates Architects Inc. and Muncie-based Taylor Architects Inc. The group also looked into overhauling an existing building in Portland, but that would still cost around \$1 million, task force members said.

In addition to the request for funds toward the building, Portland was asked to contribute \$33,000 annually toward operational costs, which the EDIT committee did not vote on.

Impeached

Continued from page 1 She said of Trump: "He must go, he is a clear and present danger to the nation that we all love."

Holed up at the White House, watching the proceedings on TV, Trump later released a video statement in which he made no mention at all of the impeachment but appealed to his supporters to refrain from any further violence or disruption of Biden's inauguration.

"Like all of you, I was shocked and eeply saddened by the calamity at the Capitol last week," he said, his first condemnation of the attack. He appealed for unity "to move forward" and said, "Mob violence goes against everything I believe in and everything our movement stands for. ... No true supporter of mine could ever disrespect law enforcement.'

Trump was first impeached by the House in 2019 over his dealings with Ukraine, but the Senate voted in 2020 acquit.

No president has been convicted by the Senate, but Republicans said Wednesday that could change in the rapidly shifting political environment as officeholders, donors, big business and others peel away from the defeated president.

Biden said in a statement after the vote that it was his hope the Senate leadership "will find a way to deal with their Constitutional responsibilities on impeachment while also working on the other urgent business of this nation."

The soonest Republican Senate leader Mitch McConnell would start an impeachment trial is Tuesday, the day before Trump is already set to leave the White House, McConnell's office said. The legislation is also intended to prevent Trump from ever running again. McConnell believes Trump com-

mitted impeachable offenses and considers the Democrats' impeachment drive an opportunity to reduce the divisive, chaotic president's hold on the GOP, a Republican strategist told The Associated Press on Wednesday. McConnell told major donors over

the weekend that he was through

with Trump, said the strategist, who demanded anonymity to describe McConnell's conversations. In a note to colleagues Wednesday, McConnell said he had "not made a

final decision on how I will vote" in a Senate impeachment trial. Trump ally Kevin McCarthy, the

House Republican leader, shifted his his office.

president bears responsibility for the horrifying day at the Capitol. In making a case for the "high

position and said Wednesday the

crimes and misdemeanors" demanded in the Constitution, the four-page impeachment resolution relies on Trump's own incendiary rhetoric and the falsehoods he spread about Biden's election victory, including at a rally near the White House on the day of the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol. Capitol Police officer died from

injuries suffered in the riot, and police shot and killed a woman during the siege. Three other people died in what authorities said were medical emergencies. The riot delayed the tally of Electoral College votes that was the last step in finalizing Biden's victory.

Republican Ten lawmakers, including third-ranking House GOP leader Liz Cheney of Wyoming, voted to impeach Trump, cleaving the

Republican leadership. Cheney, whose father is the former Republican vice president, said of Trump's actions summoning the mob that "there has never been a greater betrayal by a President" of

Sentence issued

HAMMOND, Ind. (AP) avoided A former Whiting mayor who pleaded guilty to charges that he spent about a quarter million dollars in campaign funds to gamble and pay personal bills

SERVICES

Today

Taylor, Penny: 5 p.m., Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St., Redkey.

Friday Klopfenstein, Garnet: I p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Theurer, Mike: 3 p.m.,

Williamson-Spencer and Penrod

Funeral Home, 208 N. Com-

merce St., Portland. Monday

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

Service listings provided by **PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS** 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201

progressiveofficeproducts.com

Wednesday when a federal judge ordered he be placed on two years pro-

bation and home deten-

tion for one year.

Joe Stahura was also ordered by U.S. District Judge James T. Moody to pay a \$7,500 fine.

But the judge decided against following the recommendation of federal prosecutors issued last month to sentence Stahura to 15 months in federal prison.

In September, Stahura, 64, pleaded guilty to wire fraud and filing a false return, felony charges that carry a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. He was forced out of public office at the time.

His wife, Diane Stahura, entered into a separate agreement in which she acknowledged that prosecutors had enough evidence to charge her with wire fraud, according to a statement.

At Wednesday's hearing Stahura apologized. "I've not only embarrassed my wife, my family, and the residents of Whiting, but everyone who believed in me," he said.

Sheriff's Department will be taking applications for the following positions

Full time Merit Deputy

Part time Dispatcher

Full & Part time Correction Offices

Will be accepting applications until 1/22/21



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2018 Chevrolet Equinox LT FWD, Remote Start, Bluetooth, Heated Front Seats 34,000 miles

\$17,300

2017 Buick Encore Preferred II AWD, Bluetooth, Remote Start, Back-up Camera, 35,000 miles 2013 Ford Edge LTD AWD

\$12,700

\$16,300

\$13,900

bluetooth, backup camera, sunroof, heated leather seats with 102,000 miles 2017 Buick Enclave

\$24,400 leather seats, front wheel drive, 31,300 miles, Bluetooth, remote start, back-up camera

2018 Chevrolet Cruze LT bluetooth, remote start, backup camera, heated seats, 19,900 miles

2018 Chrysler Pacifica Limited neated and cooled seats, sunroof, remote start, 30,500 miles

\$27,200

4-H looking for new members

Jay County Purdue Office's Extension employees are tying to get a pie thrown in their faces.

The office boasts that if 75 register for the local 4-H chapter by 4:30 p.m. Friday, they will be entered in recently that it will for a chance to throw a pie at office employees Allison Keen or Della Rockwell or Dru Mercer.

Those interested in joining can do so at v2.4honline.com or calling the office at (260) 726-4707 or visiting 126 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Helena offers

prises

Taking Note

award a \$1,000 Helena HomeGrown Scholar-

The scholarship is open to a 2020-21 high school senior who will pursue a degree in agriculture or science. The deadline to apply is Jan. 31, and winners will announced by the end of March.

For more informa-Helena Agri-Enter- tion, visit helenaannounced homegrown.com.

Mom upset son is into lady friend

DEAR ABBY: I'm a mom of three young adults, a daughter and two sons. The oldest recently married. My youngest is finishing his last two years of college out of state. Three months ago, he met a young lady.

I have tried constantly to be close with all my children, but the youngest has always kept me at bay. He expresses how different we are. Now that he has met this young lady, I think he's trying to push me further away and continue on with her and her mom. It makes me sad because no matter how hard I try to be a good mother and be present, it doesn't work. What do you suggest? — SAD MOM IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MOM: Your son is pursuing not only this young lady, but also his independence, which is normal for someone his age, and he may need to separate from you for a while. Back off for now and allow him some space. Whether this college romance will pan out is anyone's guess, so calm down. If possible, concentrate on things other than your empty nest. However, if you are unable to do that, ask your physician or your insurance company to refer you to a

Dear Abby



licensed psychotherapist to help you get through this.

DEAR ABBY: I lost my schnauzer to diabetes five months ago. He was my best and, really, only friend. I can't get over the guilt for having to euthanize him. I hate myself. I have cried every day since because I feel like I let him down. I have never had to go through this before. It was so traumatic I just can't get over it. Why is this so hard? — BEYOND GRIEF IN

DEAR BEYOND GRIEF: You have my sympathy. If your dog was suffering and your veterinarian told you the time had come for him to go, you did the right thing. Our beloved pets should run and play rather than suffer. This is so

painful because you loved your cherished family member and feel you should have saved him, which, of course, was beyond your power.

Every pet owner faces what you are experiencing when they leave their pet at the Rainbow Bridge. In time, your pain should lessen. But if it persists to the point that it interferes with the rest of your life, consult your veterinarian about joining a grief support

DEAR ABBY: My boss has been making passes at me for the last five months, even though I have told him it makes me uncomfortable. We went out to dinner once, and he is insisting that we do it again. How do I say no to this married man and still keep my job? — UNCOMFORTABLE IN THE SOUTH

DEAR UNCOMFORTABLE: Ask your employer if he is satisfied with your job performance. Tell him a social relationship with a married man is not what you signed on for and, if he becomes punitive, document it and point out that what he is doing could be considered sexual harassment.

Uncertainty clouds market future for seeds

By ADRIAN HIGGINS
The Washington Post

Times of economic and political turmoil have the predictable effect of turning people to the garden plot, principally to generate food but also to remain grounded in uncer-

tain periods.

This response was seen during both world wars, the Depression and in the immediate aftermath of the Great Recession of the late 2000s. A figure that sticks with me is that during World War II, as much as 40% of the nation's produce came from victory gardens.

Another great crisis is upon us, and in March, the coronavirus pandemic induced a tsunami of demand for vegetable seeds. It was something the seed catalogues could not worked hard to get seeds to consumers, even if the selection of varieties was limited. At the time, Renee Shepherd of

the normal volume of orders while also trying to figure out how to keep her employees safe.

It was fortuitous that the pandemic occurred at the threshold of spring and the growing season, you might think. But in a normal year, March is at the tail end of seed-buying season. Typically, home gardeners are knocking on seed companies' doors now, having spent the holidays salivating over seed catalogues, a surprising number of which are still printed and

Another aspect of preparing for spring and beyond is putting your garden together over the next two months, as much as you can in winter, so everything is ready when seeds need to germinate and get growing.

I suspect some of last year's coming, though they new gardeners will walk away from their pandemic hobby, now knowing that a needy cucumber vine is not like a piece of knitting that you can Renee's Garden told me she was put down and get back to at logue I contacted, Kitchen Gar-

dealing with about six times your convenience. But some will stick with it, and others will join our cult, for all the good reasons to do so.

The impetus for March's seed rush was the fear of food shortages - for millions of Americans, that became a reality but the value of gardening unfolded in additional ways. New and old gardeners alike cherished the way the backyard or community garden offered a place of mental and physical refuge. Refuge, one hoped, from the virus and from the political angst.

The current seed season also seems abnormally busy, with companies telling customers to expect some delays in seed shipments. There are already instances of seed packets being either out of stock or backordered.

The first seed company I tried, Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, had stopped taking orders temporarily, so it could catch up, though another cata-



The Washington Post/Adrian Higgins

The pandemic led to a shortage of seeds last spring. This year, gardeners are advised to stock up early.

den Seeds, had what I needed. cherry tomato named Orange The point is, this is going to be another big year for seed sales, and prudence suggests you order early.

The uncertainties can force varietal stick-in-the-muds such as myself to try new things. I'm

Pixie; it has large fruit for a cherry type, but it's a small, three-foot plant whose tomatoes ripen in one go rather than sequentially. This suits my practice of yanking tomatoes in August to make room for the

RESULTS

that they want.

Call us today about this

great package deal!

Community Calendar

space is available. To suban item, news@thecr.com.

Today

CELEBRATE RECOV-ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

À BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for

3

4

1

2

8

Notices will appear in all kinds of addictions, will the latest products and each Thursday at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Kevin Culy at (260) 251-2843.

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

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

Friday

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at Swiss Village in Berne. For more information, call (260) 589-3173.

Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. upstairs at True Value Hardware, Meridian Street, Portland. For more information, call (260) 729-2532.

MUSEUM OF THE SOL-DIER — Is open from noon to 5 p.m. the first and third Saturday and Sunday of the month. It is located at 510 E. Arch St., Portland. The website is museumofthesoldier.com.

Monday

5

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JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALI-TION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the third Monday of each month in room 106 at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

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

PORTLAND BREAK-FAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.

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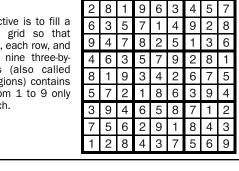
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The objective is to fill a nine-by nine grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine three-bythree boxes (also called blocks or regions) contains the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.



Deniers would overrule Constitution

To the editor:

Commercial Review.

The author defends U.S. Rep. Jim Banks for joining the amicus brief for the election lawsuit filed by Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton. I challenge the author on multiple counts.

First, he states the Constitution only allows state legislatures to write state election laws. I agree that if there are concerns state election laws were circumvented in an unconstitutional manner, they need to be investigated. But, as Republican Rep. Rand Paul said in an interview with Fox News on Jan. 6: "Conservatives should know that the Electoral College is something we support because it supports states' rights to run the elections. When there is a problem, it

I am responding to a Jan. 5 letter to the editor in The Letters to the Editor

is going to have to be fixed by the states. The fix isn't up here (in Washington)." Let each state handle its business. That was essentially the reply of the Supreme Court to Paxton.

Next, many of the election laws Paxton challenged were passed weeks and months before the election. Why didn't Paxton and Banks file lawsuits then? If Banks signed onto this lawsuit to protect Indiana voters, why didn't he file it before the election? Why was he so late in his "effort" to protect us? Ask yourself this question and honest when

answer: Would this lawsuit they deny the election ever seen." have been filed if President Donald Trump had won the states in question?

If your concern is protecting the Constitution, how do you defend Trump's insistence that the vice president can overturn the election during the Electoral College certification process? Mike Pence said, "It is my considered judgment that my oath to support and defend the Constitution constrains me from claiming unilateral authority to determine which electoral votes should be counted and which should not." This view is supported by the vast majority of legal, constitutional and election experts.

Last, the courts have spoken. Donald Trump and his supporters state that they uphold law and order and the Constitution. How can results? Our constitutional system of law and order has upheld the election results multiple times.

Republican Sen. Roy Blunt of Missouri says, "More than 50 courts rejected all of the information they were given. At some point, you have to realize the election is over. Democracy has to be honored."

So honor it if you are who you say you are. Otherwise, admit that you are just someone who believes that Trump should be president even if our system of democracy, elections and law and order say otherwise. If that is the case, you support a man who Republican Sen. Ted Cruz in 2016 described as "utt amoral," "a bully," "utterly pathological liar" and "a narcissist" at a level "I don't think the country has

Courts are part of our law and order system. If you believe in law and order, then support the court systems. But maybe you agree with Trump's tweet after the Supreme Court ruled Texas lacked the legal right to litigate how other states conduct their elections: Supreme Court really let us Wisdom, No down. No Courage."

Again, the U.S. Supreme Court is part of the law and order system that he "supports." Conservative presidents appointed six of those justices; Trump himself appointed three of them. If they lack wisdom and courage, what does that say about his decision making process? Those appointments were three of the biggest decisions he will ever make. He messed up -

or those justices made the right ruling. Maybe it is iust convenient to support court rulings when they benefit you. "Snowflake" much, anyone?

Those of you who are denying the election results and legal rulings that uphold them — are you qualified to make that judgment? Are you qualified to be a federal judge, a state or supreme court justice? If not, how can you insist that the courts are wrong?

Your opinions are interesting, but not very. You can't overrule these courts. Our constitutional system of law and order doesn't allow it. You support the Constitution and law and order, or you don't.

"Stop the Steal?" No. "Stop the Stupid." Much obliged,

Craig Ragland Portland

Here are ideas to start healing

By JENNIFER RUBIN

The Washington Post The furniture the seditionists smashed in the Capitol has not yet been repaired. The trauma inflicted on those who experienced the event will not vanish for months or years. The mourning for those killed on Jan. 6 has barely begun. And neither President Donald Trump nor a single Republican lawmaker who held aloft the sedition banner in Congress by objecting to electoral votes has apologized. Nevertheless, Republicans are calling for unity and demanding healing, which entails "moving on" and forgetting about impeachment. This will replace the definition of chutzpah (previously illustrated by the child who kills his parents and then throws himself on the mercy of the court because he is an orphan).

Sorry, it does not work that way. Healing requires accountability and remorse from those who attacked our democracy, stormed the Capitol (or incited, funded or supported the mob) and set out to overthrow our democracy. The culprits do not get to set the timeline for reconciliation before they can be held responsible for their participation in an attempted coup.

Lots of things would be unifying or provide healing. Let's start with these:

•The House and Senate could unanimously affirm there was no irregularity or fraud in the election that would have changed the outcome of the presidential vote one iota.

•The House could impeach Trump, and the Senate could come back in session to hold a trial and remove him swiftly.

•House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., who pulled his caucus over the cliff in the desperate hope to maintain the Big Lie and cater to Trump, could resign.

and all Republicans who voted to certify the electoral college results in the House and Senate could expel or censure members who objected to certification. As my colleague Michael Scherer writes, "The central question now hovering over America's political landscape is whether one of its two major parties will allow itself to function as an extension of QAnon and other online conspiracy theory movements that have taken hold with a vocal segment of the GOP, or if it can emerge from the Trump era as a potential governing coalition built around ideas and some shared agreement on facts." This action would help settle that question.

Jennifer Rubin



·Corporate donors could permanently cut off support for anyone who objected to the electoral votes, an attack on our democracy.

•Facebook, Twitter and other social media platforms could volunteer to make entirely transparent how they "curate content" and how their "algorithms decide what speech to amplify," as Yaël Eisenstat, a former Facebook executive, suggests. We should find out how they "nudge users towards the content that will keep them engaged ... [and] connect users to hate groups, who recommend conspiracy theorists." The companies could also agree to follow the guidelines recommended by the Stop Hate for Profit campaign headed by the Anti-Defamation League and major corporate advertisers.

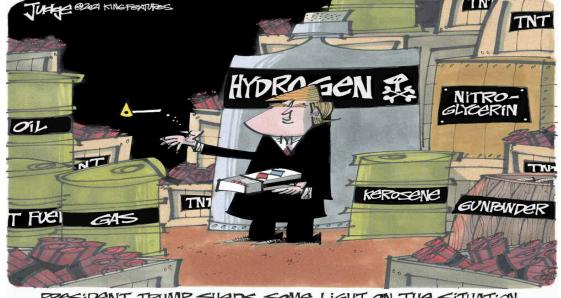
•A nonpartisan commission could determine the extent to which state and federal law enforcement has been infiltrated by adherents of violent extremist groups. (The Post reports, "At least two U.S. Capitol Police officers have been suspended and more than a dozen others are under investigation for suspected involvement with or inappropriate support for the Wednesday demonstration that turned into a deadly riot at the Capitol, according to two congressional officials briefed on the developments.")

•Right-wing media outlets, pundits, talk-show personalities and TV hosts who perpetrated the lie that there was widespread election fraud could retract their •A combination of Democrats statements and affirm there is no factual basis for these asser-

> •The voters in the 18 states whose attorneys general filed a brief to throw out other states' electoral votes could recall or vote out these officials.

That should be enough to get us started. Beyond that, there are many good ideas for enhancing civics education, media literacy and access to voting on a permanent basis (e.g., pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act; make available universal, secure voting by mail). You can never have too much heal-

Rubin writes reported opinion for The Washington Post.



PRESIDENT TRUMP SHEDS SOME LIGHT ON THE SITUATION.

GOP should rise to occasion

CNHI senior vice president of news President Donald Trump is his own woeful enemy.

Throughout his presidency he's claimed persecution by the news media, Democrats and anyone unfaithful to his cultish style of leadership.

Trump's oppressive mindset was at its worse after he lost the Nov. 3 presidential election. He could not accept being a one-term president, insisting ad nauseam that he won by 'nunareas oi thousands of votes" in states that voted for him in 2016 but flipped to Democrat Joe Biden in 2020.

Sadly, his delusion inflamed his loyalists, including many Republicans in Congress. They believed his unproven claim that a rigged election was supported by facts when it wasn't.

Local, state and national election officials steadfastly rejected Trump's assertions, which were based on made-up tales and conspiracy theories. So did GOP Attorney General William Barr, the nation's top election security official, 90 state and federal judges, several of which were Trump appointees. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to consider the president's grievances. Twice. To wit: No widespread irregularities, no massive vote dumps, no thousands of dead people voting, no voting machine trickery, no violation of state election laws, no thousands of undocumented immigrants casting ballots, and on and on.

Trump's jihad ended in violence Jan. 6 at the seat of our democratic republic, the national Capitol. Incited by the president at a rally of his faithful thousands assembled nearby, many stormed the seat of government, violently bent on forcing Congress to decertify Biden's election as the next president and declare Trump the victor.

Ketter

Bill



history fell victim to a mob aroused by the president's rheto-

He had beckoned them to Washington tor the very purpose of intimidating Congress to overturn the country's bedrock right of the people to select their president. Five people died.

"We're going to the Capitol," bellowed Trump at the end of an hour-long harangue. "We're going to try and give our Republicans ... the kind of pride and boldness they need to take back our country."

Trump did not lead the mob to the Capitol as promised at the rally. Instead he returned to the White House and watched the lawlessness unfold — until his aids persuaded him to call off the

The president's lame response astounded.

"These are the things and events that happen when a sacred landslide election victory is so unceremoniously & viciously stripped away from great patriots who have been badly & unfairly treated for so long," Trump tweeted to the mob. "Go home with love & peace. Remember this day forever!"

The tweet was later deleted. Twitter, Facebook and Instagram promptly blocked his social media accounts. Three White House officials resigned. Talk stirred of invoking the 25th Amendment to remove Trump from office. As did another impeachment effort.

Congress took shelter in an The world watched in horror as unknown hideaway, returning the most admired democracy in several hours later to conclude its

business of certifying Biden as the nation's 46th president. Before doing do, members listened to a small band of rebellious Republicans object to the Electoral College vote from a halfdozen states. Several others who planned to object got so upset with the riot they dropped their challenges.

The renegades got their kicks by prolonging the final outcome, voted overwhelmingly by House and Senate members at 4 a.m. Thursday.

Their absurd reason for objections: 39% of voters told pollsters they agree with Trump's claim of an illegitimate election. Thus a special bipartisan commission should in 10 days audit the outcome in those crucial states that Trump lost.

In other words, complaints by Trump voters, influenced by his constant resistance, should get the final word on who is the next president.

That's not only a threat to democracy, it is a crazy idea.

Much like Trump's failed plan to nullify the election he lost. He could not even bring himself to concede that in a tepid attempt at conciliatory remarks the day after the Capitol riot.

"Even though I totally disagree with the outcome of the election, and the facts bear me out, nevertheless there will be an orderly transition on Jan. 20th," Trump said in a statement posted to Twitter by his social media direc-

tor.
"While this represents the end of the greatest first term in presidential history, it's only the beginning of our fight to Make America Great Again!"

Trump's self-absorbed "greatness" belies the current judgment of at least 81.2 million Americans who tossed him from the White House. And if history is any guide, he will surely rank among the most disruptive of U.S. presi-

The Commercial Review

HUGH N. RONALD (1911-1983), Publisher Emeritus



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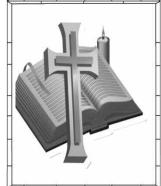
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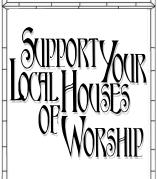
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Area churches are listed Faith Community with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday, unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist

204 E. Arch St., Portland Joe Boggs (260) 726-8464 Services: 8:30 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

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. bryantwesleyanchurch.com

Calvary United Methodist

301 N. Main St., Dunkirk Susan Durovey-Antrim (765) 499-0368 Services: 10 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 Full Gospel

Church of Jesus Christ

of Latter-Day Saints 1865 S. Indiana 167, Andrew Stevens (765) 768-6969

Dunkirk

Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God (Miracle Missions)

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

Church of God

of Prophecy 797 N. Creagor Ave., Portland

Nanette Weesner (260) 766-9334 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.

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

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

Church of the Living God

Street, Broad South Dunkirk Rev. Theodore Wagoner Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m.

Collett Nazarene 450 South, 1 mile west of Billy Stanton

(260) 251-2403 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. **Cornerstone Baptist** 211 E. Main St., Portland

Wayne Ward (260) 726-7714 Services: 10 a.m.

Dunkirk Nazarene 226 E. Center St., Dunkirk

Tom Fett (765) 768-6199 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

Evangelical Methodist 930 W. Main St., Portland

Steve Arnold (260) 251-0970 Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Fairview United Methodist/Jay County

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

9560 200 South, of Christians 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., 7:30 p.m. Wednesday thefamilyworshipcenter.org

Fellowship Baptist

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

First American Baptist

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

First Church of Christ

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

First Community Baptist

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

First Free Will Baptist 12369 W. 600 South,

Dunkirk Marion Donathan 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 Rev. Ron Reynolds (419) 375-4680 Services: 10:30 a.m. frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery

United Methodist 309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recovery Rev. Allan Brown (419) 678-2071

Services: 9 a.m.

Lighthouse Tabernacle 468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk Robert Thomas (765) 348-4620 Services: 9:30 a.m., 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 Brenda Haddix (260) 346-2172 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m. Sunday school: 9 a.m. Prayer meeting: 7 p.m. Wednesday

Gilead Church County road 650 North, one-quarter mile east of Bal-

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 Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturdav churchofthemostholytrinitv.com

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 (260) 726-7055 Services: 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Kingsley Full Gospel 4030 S. 700 East, Dunkirk

Stuart Phillips Services: 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

Mary Help

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

Mount Tabor United Methodist

W. Pleasant St., 216Dunkirk John Retter (765) 768-7273

Mount Zion

Services: 9 a.m.

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 Tim Wallace (765) 499-7838 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Noble Congregational Christian

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

Oak Grove **United Methodist** 829 S. Indiana 1

Tricia Williams

(765) 730-3770 Services: 10:30 a.m. **Pennville Friends** Maple Street and Indiana

Dee Hartman Services: 10:30 a.m.

1, Pennville

Pennville United Methodist 190 W. Main St., Pennville Gary Newton (765) 669-1070

Pleasant Hill

Services: 10:30 a.m.

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

mypleasanthillchurch.org **Portland First**

Church of Nazarene 920 S. Shank St., Portland Stephen Hundley (260) 726-8040 Services: 10:45 a.m.

Portland Friends

226 E. Main St., Portland Herb Hummel (260) 729-7393 Services: 10 a.m. Sunday school: 9:15 a.m. friendscare4others.net

Praise Chapel

Church of God 4527 E. 1000 North (Jay-Randolph county line) Rev. David Parry (765) 584-7045

Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Malin and Elm streets, Bryant Martin Bornhoeft

(260) 997-6787 Services: 9 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, Redkey Jeff Hammers

(765) 468-6172 Services: 10:30 a.m. Sunday school: 9:30 a.m. Redkey United Methodist

122 W. Main St., Redkey

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

Lori McIntosh

of the Nazarene 801 W. High St. Robert Farris (765) 369-2676 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 mail.com 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 Services: 9 and 11 a.m. matt@therockjc.org

Salamonia

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

Second Chance at Life Ministries

228 S. Meridian St., Port-Dave Keen (260) 251-8792 Mike Eads (260) 703-0733 Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. James Lutheran

County road 600 East, south of county road 400 South

Robin Owen Services: 10:30 a.m. pastorrobino@gmail.com

St. Joseph Catholic 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery

Rev. Ned Brown Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday St. Mary's Catholic 346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk

Services: 5 p.m. Saturday,

5:30 p.m. Thursday

Rev. Kevin Hurley

St. Paul Catholic 517 Meiring Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Ned Brown Services: 8:30 a.m. Sun-

St. Peter Catholic

1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Ned Brown Services: 10 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene County roads 400 North and 550 West

Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park)

Rev. Dan Sickels

(260) 731-4733

Sugar Grove United Methodist County roads 600 South and 1150 West, Dunkirk Scott McClain

Services: 9 a.m. **Temple Baptist**

Indiana 167, between Dunkirk and Albany (765) 768-7708 Services: 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday

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 United**

Darrell Weaver

Services: 10:30 a.m.

(260) 726-8391

Methodist 323 S. Meridian St., Portland

Sunday school: 9 a.m. portlandtrinity.com

Union Chapel 6200 N. 375 West, Bryant Rev. Michael Morgan (352) 425-5914

Services: 10:20 a.m., 6 p.m.

Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene

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

Walnut Corner County roads 200 North and 500 West

Steve Rogers (260) 251-1113 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. Westchester **United Methodist**

(260) 726-6311 Services: 10:35 a.m. **West Walnut**

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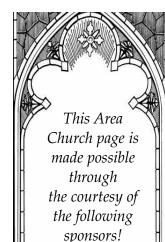
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204 W. Walnut St., Portland Gil Alicea (260) 726-4691 Services: 10 a.m. westwalnutchurchofchrist.org

Zion Evangelical **Lutheran Church** Darrell Borders

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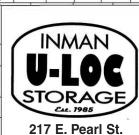
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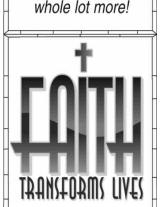
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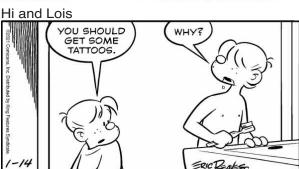


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Sports/Classifieds

Intensity of rivalry expected to remain strong

By MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

Purdue guard Sasha Stefanovic enjoys hearing the boos every time he plays at Assembly Hall.

The only sound Stefanovic appreciates more is the silence of 17,000 screaming Indiana fans as he celebrates another victory.

While everyone understands Thursday night's empty arena will not provide the traditional raucous atmosphere of this highly anticipated game, Stefanovic knows one thing won't change the intensity of this rivalry.

"You're supposed to dislike each other," he said Wednesday. "That's just how it is and that's how it always will be. Fans or no fans, it doesn't matter. Both teams really want to get a win, we both need that win. We're both physithe rivalry is still there."

Stefanovic understands why so many people around the state of Indiana are invested in these games.

He grew up in Crown Point, a small city in northeastern Indiana. Purdue was his dream school though he often found himself playing alongside future Hoosiers like high school teammate Grant Gelon and 2018 Indiana All-Stars Damezi Anderson, Romeo Langford and Rob Phinisee. Only Phinisee, who grew up in the shadow of Purdue's campus in West Lafayette, is still on the Hoosiers roster.

But it's not just in-state guys, like Stefanovic, who get it. Out-

cal, both tough, we're both going siders learn the nuances of one nine Big Ten teams already have said. "We haven't played a ton of to get after you. So fans or no fans, of college basketball's fiercest been ranked in The Associated home games, but I think it will be rivalries, too.

> "It's Indiana," said Trevion Williams, Purdue's all-conference forward who came from Chicago. "It's a game we've got to win, it's a game we've got to be ready for. It will probably be one of the most physical games we'll play all sea-

> Nationally, the Indiana-Purdue matchup may look like its lost some luster.

> Things have changed mightily since the must-see television days of the 1980s and 1990s, when the Boilermakers, Hoosiers and their vociferous, iconic coaches routinely battled for Big Ten titles and in-state recruits.

In a season where as many as

Press' weekly poll, neither the Boilermakers (8-5, 3-3) nor the Hoosiers (8-5, 3-3) have cracked the Top 25.

Still, writing them off with more than half of the conference schedule still to play would be a mistake. Purdue and Indiana trail No. 9 Wisconsin by one game, No. 14 Illinois by 1 1/2 games and No. 5 Iowa by two games. That means Thursday's winner will have the momentum to make a move up the standings. And in Indiana, this is never

just another game. agree playing at home (without fans) is a huge disadvantage,"

home games, but I think it will be disappointing we won't have fans for one. In this type of game, I think both teams are focused on themselves and you have to be ready to roll."

For Miller, the Purdue games have been filled with consterna-

He's lost all six matchups since taking the Hoosiers job in 2017 though Indiana's struggles predate his arrival. Indiana has lost 10 of the last 11 to Purdue and the seven-game losing streak is its longest in the series since 1968-72.

Indiana guard Armaan "I think all coaches would Franklin could miss his third straight game with a sprained ankle, too. Miller called it a game-Hoosiers coach Archie Miller time decision.



Crosby Heniser, a Jay County High School junior, heaves a 3-pointer during the first half against the Adams Central Jets Saturday at JCHS. Heniser finished with three points in the Patriots' 58-50 victory.

Heniser

heaves

Paths

Continued from page 8

what she was doing at the beginning ... she really didn't have a clue," Chowning said. "She was just trying to get through it. She didn't really have the concept of putting wrestling together. She's worked a lot with Lita in practice, which has changed a lot of what's going on.

"She's understanding she's got to be in good position. She's obtained that and has been able to use that. She's taking her shots she understands moves." with more confidence and the

Hines came on even later than Ison. The first two matches of her career were at regional. Although they were both losses, she still qualified for state because of a small weight class. The top four in each weight class advance to state, and Hines' 182-pound bracket only had three competitors.

"It's just going to take mat time for her to get there," Chowning said. "She's just really green. A lot to learn. She was in both of those matches. If she had more mat time and understood what to do it would have been a different outcome."

Dollar's opening match pits her against eighthranked Eryka Pillion of

Frankfort. Potential semifi-"The difference between nal opponents are No. 4 Kylie Smith-Foster of Greenfield and seventhranked Angelina Clay of Central Noble.

An opening-round win guarantees a top-four finish, and all eight wrestlers in each weight class earn state medals.

Chowning meets fifthranked Jasmine Hermosillo of Decatur Central in the quarterfinal, with Crystal Bunch of Maconaquah and top-ranked Catie Campbell of North Montgomery as potential semifinal opponents.

Ison meets No. 8 Jazzman Barnett of North Knox in her first match of the day. Awaiting in the semifinal will be either second-ranked Mercedes Tellechea of Northview or No. 5 Kaitlin Gay of New Prairie.

Hines, who is ranked sixth — there are only seven wrestlers in her weight class — meets No. 2 Hannah Stapleton of Cen-Third-ranked terville. Kelsey Temple of Delta and No 4 Grace Ann Merchant of Lebanon are potential semifinal opponents.

"I look for a lot of positive from all for of the girls Friday," Chowning said. "It's going to be a tough go. All four of them have tough first-round matches.'

Fraded

Continued from page 8 best for the group for him not to come

to practice," first-year coach Stephen Silas said. About two hours later, ESPN and The Athletic first reported that Harden was being moved.

The disgruntled superstar, who was unable to get the Rockets past the Western Conference finals, had remained quiet through months of reports that he was unhappy in Houston. Silas called the drama surrounding Harden an "all-around messed up situation."

The Nets were ready to swoop in, after a shaky defense during the early season proved their best chance to beat teams might be to outscore

They can certainly do that now. "We felt it was best for James and Durant is averaging 29.4 points in his first season back from surgery to repair a ruptured Achilles tendon, and Irving was scoring 27.1 per game before leaving the team last week. Harden, who appears to be out of shape after joining the Rockets after training camp began, is averaging 24.8 points this season after three straight seasons above 30, culminating in MVP honors in 2018.

The Rockets are 3-6 and only Minnesota has a worse record in the Western Conference. The team is clearly in disarray, and new arrival John Wall called the situation

Harden won each of the last three scoring titles by notable margins —

2.3 points over Anthony Davis in 2017-18, 8.1 points over Paul George in 2018-19 and 3.8 points over Bradley Beal last season. His average so far this season ranked 18th in the NBA, well off his usual pace.

It could pick back up again in Brooklyn, where Nash's assistant running the offense is Mike D'Antoni, Harden's coach during his best seasons in Houston.

D'Antoni didn't return after last season and it quickly became clear Harden wanted out, too. He was a noshow when camp opened and was later fined \$50,000 for conduct detrimental to the league after attending an indoor event without a mask in violation of the NBA's health and safety protocols.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today Jay County — Wrestling vs. Home-stead – 6:30 p.m.; Junior high girls bas-ketball vs. Heritage – 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Heritage – 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at Marion Local – 5:30 p.m.; Swimming at Van Wert – 5:30 p.m.; Eighth grade girls basketball at St. Marys Memorial – 6:15

FridayJay County — Girls wrestling state final at Hamilton Heights – 4 p.m.; Girls basketball ACAC tournament semifinal vs. Bluffton at Bluffton – 7 p.m. Fort Recovery — Boy Marion Local – 5:30 p.m. Boys basketball vs.

Saturday Jay County — Wrestling in Coldwater Invitational – 9 a.m.; Boys basketball ACAC tournament final at South Adams -3 p.m.; Girls basketball ACAC tournament

at South Adams - 7 p.m.; Junior varsity wrestling at Tri Invitational - 9 a.m.; Junior

high wrestling at Bellmont Quad - 9:30

Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Crestview – noon; Boys basketball at Wapakoneta – 6 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball vs. Celina - 10 a.m.

TV schedule

Today5 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:
Pepperdine at Gonzaga (ESPN2)
7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Miami

Heat at Philadelphia 76ers (TNT) 9 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:

Arizona State at Oregon (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers at Portland Trail Blazers (FSIN): Golden State Warriors at Denver Nuggets

Friday7 p.m. — Men's College Basketball:
Duquesne at St. Bonaventure (ESPN2) 7:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Dallas Mavericks at Milwaukee Bucks (ESPN) 10 p.m. - NBA Basketball: New Orleans Pelicans at Los Angeles Lakers (ESPN)

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trump trick for sure, and if he failed

to take the heart finesse in the right

direction, he would also lose a heart

But South can assure the slam if

he goes about the play in the proper manner. There is no need for him to

have to guess where the queen of hearts is located. If he plays his cards

correctly, he can force the opponents

He wins the diamond lead with

the ace and takes his first step in the

right direction by ruffing a diamond He then leads a club to the ace and trumps a club.

The effect of these plays is that all

the diamonds and clubs are elimi-nated from the North-South hands.

Regardless of which opponent

wins the ace, South has the rest of the tricks. In the actual case, East wins

and is forced to make a losing return.
If he leads a heart, he eliminates the

guess for the queen, while if he leads

a minor suit, declarer can ruff in his

hand and discard a heart from

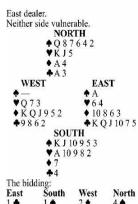
dummy. Note that the outcome would

Declarer now leads a trump.

to solve the problem for him

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Opening lead — king of diamonds.

Some of the so-called advanced plays in bridge are not really very difficult to execute. For example, take the elimination play, illustrated by this deal.

Without the aid of an elimination play - also often referred to as an

endplay — South might easily go be exactly the down at six spades. He would lose a ace of spades. be exactly the same if West had the Tomorrow: Bidding quiz, ©2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

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Page 8 www.thecr.com The Commercial Review

Harden traded to Nets, Oladipo sent to Rockets

By BRIAN MAHONEY and KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer James Harden is heading to Brooklyn, joining teammate Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving to give the Nets a potent trio featuring some of the

NBA's highest scorers. three-time scoring champion from the Houston Rockets in a deal that became official on Thursday, a move Harden has sought for weeks.

Harden is the centerpiece of a deal that also involved Cleveland and grew to a fourth team when Indiana made a separate deal with Houston.

The Nets will be able to trot out a lineup of three players capable of scoring 25 or more points on any night in a collection of firepower to rival any Big Three in recent years.

"It's an amazing move for Brooklyn. Obviously, they got better — way better," said two-time MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee.

sent Caris LeVert and Rodions Kurucs to Houston, along with 2022, 2024 and 2026 first-round picks and the right to swap firstround picks in 2021, 2023, 202 and 2027.

ter Jarrett Allen and forward Taurean Prince to Cleveland.

The Rockets also are trading LeVert to Indiana for Oladipo, a person with knowledge of the situation said.

The Nets are loading up for a title run with three of the highest-paid players in the league. All are under contract through 2022-23, with Harden and lyn, having teamed with Durant both set to earn Durant in Oklahoma City more than \$40 million in when they were younger each of the next two seasons.

In the meantime, the Nets were short-handed for their game against the New York Knicks on Wednesday at Madison Square Garden, where coach Steve Nash declined to discuss Harden but did confirm that the players the Nets were trading were not in the building during their 116-109 victo-

rookie season as coach, now the former point guard and two-time NBA MVP will have to mold an offense that keeps the ball moving with three players worthy of having it in their hands.

"It's a simple game but The Nets acquired the it becomes complicated when you put different personalities and players on the floor," Nash said. "Our group's done a really good job being unselfish this year and trying to move the ball and work together, so I've been proud of that.

The blockbuster deal provides a needed boost amid a period of drama for both franchises. It was struck less than 24 hours after Harden seemed to deliver a farewell address of sorts following the Rockets' loss to the Los Angeles Lakers on Tuesday night, and just before Irving was set to miss a fifth straight game during a personal absence from the Nets.

Harden, who has cycled But they paid a massive through Chris Paul and price to do it. The Nets Russell Westbrook as teammates in recent seasons, didn't think much of the roster the Rockets had around him this season.

"We're just not good enough. ... I love this city. I literally have done The Nets also sent cen- everything that I can," Harden said Tuesday night. "I mean, this situation is crazy. It's something that I don't think can be fixed."

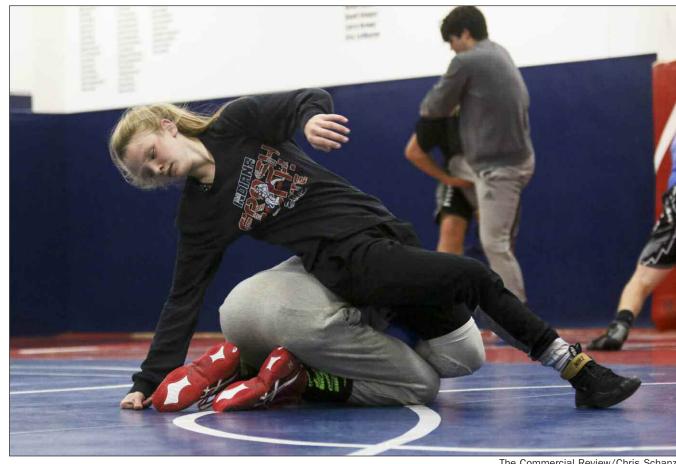
> It couldn't, and now he's gone.

Brooklyn expects Harden to leave all that behind him and that his transition to the Nets will be smooth. He should be much happier in Brook-

and remaining close still. said of their time together, declining to say much more with the trade still not completed.

It was obvious the end for Harden in Houston was nearing Wednesday, when the Rockets told him they didn't want him at practice after his inflammatory comments about the team.

See Traded page 7



In this Nov. 17, photo, Jay County High School junior Lizzie Dollar tries to free her leg from the grasp of Daniel Moore during practice at JCHS. Dollar is among four Patriot girl wrestlers who will compete in the Indiana High School Girls Wrestling state finals on Friday at Hamilton Heights.

Differing paths, same destination: state

The Commercial Review

One has been wrestling since middle school. Two just started this

The Patriots have their largest number of girls in the wrestling program.

Friday, they'll be sending their biggest group to the state finals.

They've been up here since day one," said Jay County High School wrestling coach Eric Myers. "They work right with our team. They work just as hard as everyone else up here.

"They work hard and they really deserve it."

Lita Chowning, a senior, juniors Lizzie Dollar and Tricia Ison and freshman Mollie Hines will all compete in the fifth iteration of the quickly got into a girls-only nation-Wrestling state tournament at 4 "It was fun," Durant p.m. Friday at Hamilton Heights in

Arcadia. "They've all come a different way to get there," said Chad Chowning, Lita's father and coach of the girls

Indeed they have. Lita, who is the school's first female four-time state qualifier, started wrestling in middle school alongside 2020 graduate Mason Winner and his sister, Mallory, who is currently an eighth grad-

Lita, ranked eighth at 126 pounds,

2021 Indiana High School Girls Wrestling state final

As the girls wrestling program continues to grow at Jay County High School, the Patriots are sending their largest contingent of girls to the state finals. Below is a look at the 2021 state qualifiers and their first-round opponents. Action begins at 4 p.m. Friday at Hamilton Heights.

Weight JC wrestler Opponent 98 pounds No. 2 Lizzie Dollar No. 8 Eryka Pillion Frankfort 126 pounds No. 8 Lita Chowning No. 5 Jasmine Hermosillo senior **Decatur Central**

No. 3 Tricia Ison

iunior

No. 6 Mollie Hines

freshman

on wrestling mats. She was eighth and seventh at state each of the last

two years at 113 pounds and was

170 pounds

182 pounds

third as a 98-pound freshman. Dollar, who is a back-to-back state runner-up at 98 pounds and has the same ranking this year, came through West Jay's program prior to becoming a high school student, and she joined Lita Chowning on

the girls national team. "Those are two tough competi-tors," Chad Chowning said. "They take it seriously. They help others accustomed to the sport. take it to the next level."

Ison, a 170-pound junior who is Indiana High School Girls al team and has spent a ton of time ranked third in her weight class, won the regional tournament Fri day at Maconaquah, becoming just the second JCHS girl to win a regional title.

No. 8 Jazzman Barnett

North Knox

No. 2 Hannah Stapleton

Centerville

Ison doesn't have the years of experience like Lita and Dollar. She just started wrestling this season. She said she joined the program at the encouragement of her family and the Chownings.

Ison took her lumps to begin the season with losses, but came on strong lately as she became more

See Paths page 7

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Display Craft Signs 630 E. Votaw St.

Portland, IN 260-726-4535

Garner Tax Services 1165 N US Hwy 27

Portland, IN (260) 726-7020

Home Idea Center 901 Industrial Dr.

Ft. Recovery, OH 419-375-4951 www.ehomeidea.com

Lawrence Excavating

1165 N US Hwy 27 (260) 726-0827

Grube Auctioneering

1111/4 E. Butler St. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-305-9202 grubeauctioneering@ gmail.com

Live & online auctions

All Circuit

Electrical, LLC

5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN

260-997-8336

1413 W. Votaw St.,

Portland

260-726-7822

Local 4



Services

All Weather Heating and Air

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Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition

129 E. Water St. Portland, IN 251-3259 Email: jcdpccontact@gmail.com

This local business listing runs 4 times a month with packages of either \$25, or \$50. Give us a call at 260-726-8141 to be included