

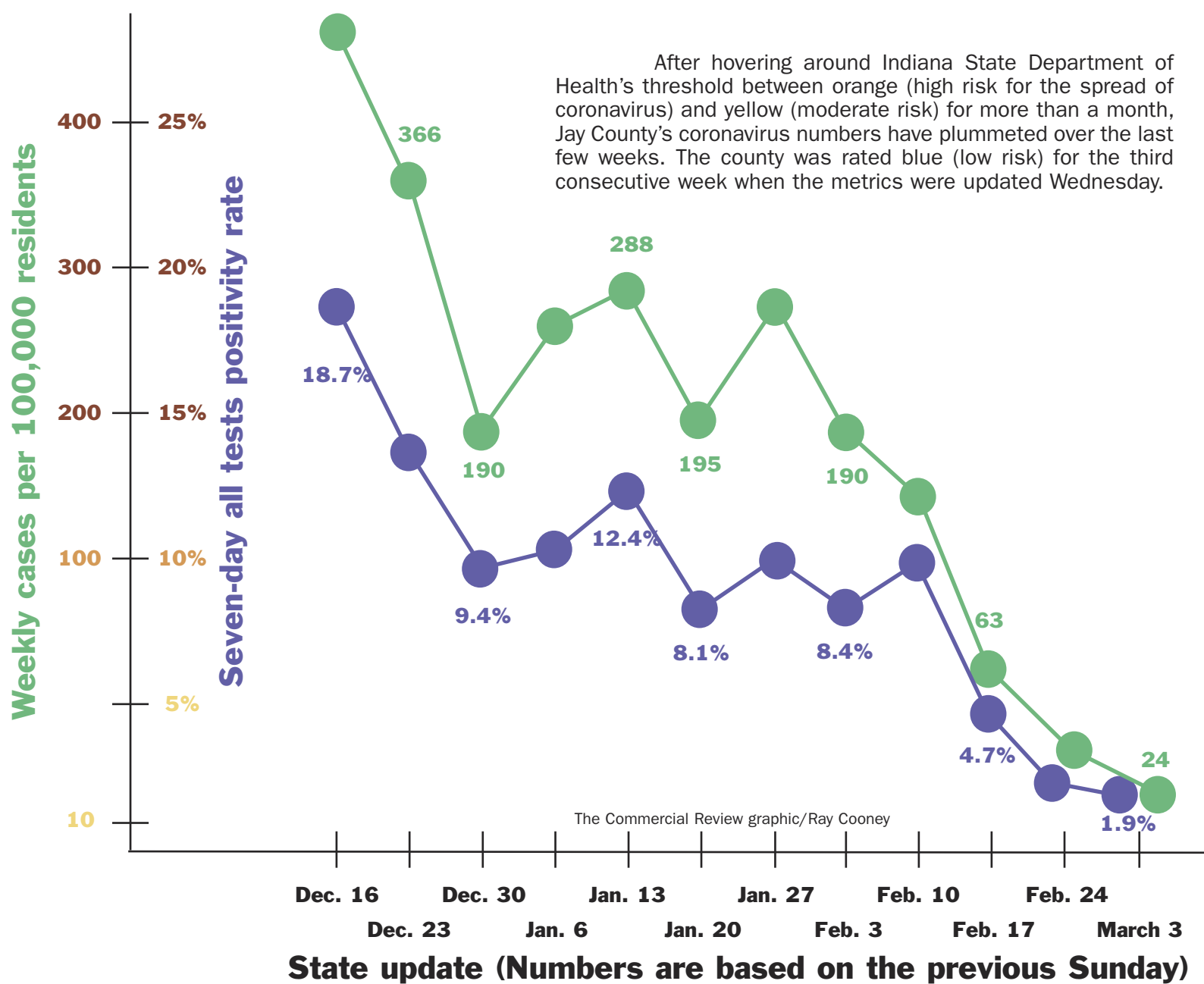
The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

COVID falling



Voting rights measure passes House

Legislation addresses districts, restrictions, finance

By BRIAN SLODYKO

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — House Democrats passed sweeping voting and ethics legislation over unanimous Republican opposition, advancing to the Senate what would be the largest overhaul of the U.S. election law in at least a generation.

House Resolution 1, which touches on virtually every aspect of the electoral process, was approved Wednesday night on a near party-line 220-210 vote. It would restrict partisan gerrymandering of congressional districts, strike down hurdles to voting and bring transparency to a murky campaign finance system that allows wealthy donors to anonymously bankroll political causes.

The bill is a powerful counterweight to voting rights restrictions advancing in Republican-controlled statehouses across the country in the wake of Donald Trump's repeated false claims of a stolen 2020 election. Yet it faces an uncertain fate in the Democratic-controlled Senate, where it has little chance of passing without changes to procedural rules that currently allow Republicans to block it.

The stakes in the outcome are monumental, cutting to the foundational idea that one person equals one vote, and carrying with it the potential to shape election outcomes for years to come. It also offers a test of how hard President Joe Biden and his party are willing to fight for their priorities, as well as those of their voters.

See Voting page 2

Jay County COVID-19 numbers have plummeted since the height of the pandemic in November

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The numbers keep coming down.

Jay County stayed in the blue range (low risk for spread of coronavirus) for the third consecutive week in the Indiana State Department of Health update Wednesday and continued to see improvement in COVID-19 statistics.

"We're definitely doing well and hopefully we can continue to do the things that got us there, continue to have more and more

people get vaccinated," said Heath Butz. "Hopefully we'll fill out our clinic times and get as many Jay County residents, and surrounding counties, in here as we can."

Also Wednesday, the state made coronavirus vaccinations available to Hoosiers 50 and older. That change came just a day after it had dropped the age requirement to 55. Before Tuesday, vaccines were available only to those 60 and older in Indiana.

The local statistics

went down for both metrics the state department of health uses to determine the county rankings.

Jay County's weekly cases per 100,000 residents was down to 24 after coming in at 34 last week. It was at 146 just three weeks ago.

Its positivity rate dropped to 1.87%, down from 2.24% a week ago. It had been above 20% at the height of the pandemic.

Jay County had just 57 reported cases of COVID-19 in February. That's

down from 215 in January and the high of 684 November.

The county's four new cases of COVID-19 reported Tuesday was the highest in a single day since Feb. 8.

Although the numbers have improved significantly, Butz continued to emphasize the importance of precautions as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Those include wearing a mask, social distancing, frequent hand washing,

avoiding large crowds and staying home when sick.

"There's that fear that if we let our guard down and with some of these new variant strains coming in that we could see a bounce back if we don't keep to the measures," he said.

Butz also encouraged residents to make use of the county's three vaccination clinics — at Jay County Health Department, IU Health Jay and Walmart.

See Falling page 2

Crackdown sparks outrage

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Footage of a brutal crackdown on protests against a coup in Myanmar unleashed outrage and calls for a stronger international response today, a day after 38 people were killed. Videos showed security forces shooting a person at point-blank range and chasing down and savagely beating demonstrators.

Despite the shocking violence the day before, protesters returned to the streets Thursday to denounce the military's Feb. 1 takeover — and were met again with tear gas.

The international response to the coup has so far been fitful, but a flood of videos shared online showing security forces brutally targeting protesters and other civilians led to calls for more action. The United States called the images appalling, the U.N. human rights chief said it was time to "end the military's stranglehold over democracy in Myanmar," and the world body's independent expert on human rights in the

Videos show shootings and beatings involving security forces

country urged the Security Council to watch the videos before meeting Friday to discuss the crisis.

The coup reversed years of slow progress toward democracy in Myanmar, which for five decades had languished under strict military rule that led to international isolation and sanctions. As the generals loosened their grip in recent years, the international community lifted most sanctions and poured in investment.

U.N. special envoy for Myanmar, Christine Schraner Burgener, described Wednesday as "the bloodiest day" since the takeover, when the military ousted the elected government of

leader Aung San Suu Kyi. More than 50 civilians, mostly peaceful protesters, are confirmed to have been killed by police and soldiers since then, including the 38 she said died Wednesday.

"I saw today very disturbing video clips," said Schraner Burgener, speaking to reporters at the U.N. in New York via video link from Switzerland. "One was police beating a volunteer medical crew. They were not armed. Another video clip showed a protester was taken away by police and they shot him from very near, maybe only one meter. He didn't resist to his arrest, and it seems that he died on the street."

See Crackdown page 2



Japan News

Flying Pfizer

Japan's third shipment of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is moved at Narita Airport this week. The shipment contained 87,750 vials. If the stated six doses are withdrawn from each vial, the amount will be enough for about 520,000 doses. According to Pfizer Inc., the vaccine was transported from one of the U.S. pharmaceutical giant's production bases in Belgium and kept at an ultralow temperature.

Deaths

Kelley Dixon, 94, rural Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 55 degrees Wednesday. The low was 32.
Tonight's low will be in the mid 20s. Expect sunny skies Friday with a high in the low 40s.
For an extended outlook, see page 2.

In review

Jay School Board and Jay Classroom Teachers Association this week united against legislation that would direct tax dollars to voucher programs and allow education savings accounts. What are your thoughts on the issue?
Send letters to the editor to r.cooney@thecr.com. There is a 700-word maximum.

Coming up

Friday — Coverage of today's Portland Board of Works meeting.

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Jay County Commissioners meeting.



Falling ...

Continued from page 1
The vaccination at the health department runs from 11:15 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Saturdays, and the clinic at the hospital has appointments from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Those clinics have been using the Moderna vaccine, but IU Health Jay is in the process of switching to Pfizer. The Pfizer vaccine must be stored at ultra-low temperatures — minus-76 to minus-112 degrees. IU Health Jay recently received a storage unit — it is on loan from the state at no cost to the hospital — that

meets those requirements. The change is intended to stabilize the vaccine chain.

Those interested in making an appointment can do so online at ourshot.in.gov or by calling the state's 2-1-1 telephone assistance service.

Nearly 3,000 first doses of coronavirus vaccine have been administered in Jay County thus far with more than 1,500 fully vaccinated.

Statewide, 1.03 million have received their first dose with more than 608,000 fully vaccinated.

Clinics in counties adjacent to Jay are at Adams Memorial Hospital in Decatur, Adams County

Health Department, Kroger in Decatur, Wells County Health Department, IU Health Blackford, Blackford County Health Department, Randolph County Health Department and the Walmart store in Winchester.

There are 10 sites in Delaware County including IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital and Delaware County Health Department.

For the first time in months, Indiana had no counties rated orange (high) or red (severe). More than half of the state's counties — 51 — were rated blue with the remaining 41 yellow (moderate).

Blackford, Delaware and Ran-

dolph counties were all rated blue while Adams and Wells counties were yellow.

Gov. Eric Holcomb said Wednesday that he plans to keep the state's mask mandate in place rather than following some other states, including Texas, that have lifted restrictions. It is currently in effect through March 31.

"We just need to do it looking at Indiana numbers, not Texas, not Mississippi, not Nebraska, not Vermont," Holcomb said Wednesday. "I'm on the phone with all these governors, they're all very respected voices in the country, but I'll continue to focus on what's going on in

Indiana, not around the country."

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 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.

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 illnesses.

CR almanac

Table with 5 columns: Friday 3/5, Saturday 3/6, Sunday 3/7, Monday 3/8, Tuesday 3/9. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts (42/24, 43/25, 50/33, 57/41, 60/48).

Lotteries

Table listing lottery results for Powerball, Mega Millions, Hoosier, and Ohio. Includes estimated jackpots and winning numbers.

Markets

Table listing market prices for Cooper Farms Fort Recovery, POET Biorefining Portland, The Andersons Richland Township, Central States Montpelier, and Sunrise St. Anthony.

Today in history

On March 4, 1933, Franklin D. Roosevelt took office as America's 32nd president. In 1789, the Constitution of the United States went into effect as the first Federal Congress met in New York. In 1797, John Adams was inaugurated the second president of the United States. In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated for a second term of office; with the end of the Civil War in sight, Lincoln declared: "With malice toward none, with charity for all." In 1987, President Ronald Reagan addressed the nation on the Iran-Contra affair, acknowledging that his overtures to Iran had "deteriorated" into an arms-for-hostages deal. In 1994, in New York, four extremists were convicted of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing that killed six people and injured more than a thousand. In 1996, Bob Quadrozzi of Jay County Development Corporation reported that Indiana Department of Commerce awarded a \$125,000 grant to Teledyne Portland Forge for employee training. —AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today 5:15 p.m. — Jay/Portland Building and Planning Joint Board, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. Monday 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, com-

Obituaries

Kelley Dixon

Oct. 26, 1926-March 1, 2021
Kelley E. Dixon, age 94, of rural Portland passed away Monday, March 1, 2021, at IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie. He was born on Oct. 26, 1926, the son of Everett and Evelyn (Geeting) Dixon. Kelley worked as a live stock buyer and farmer. He is survived by two nephews, Randy Noble (wife: Chris) of Arca-

dia, Indiana, and Stan Noble (wife: Connie) of Leesburg, Florida.

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 6, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the Green Park Cemetery Chapel. Burial will follow in the Green Park Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the St. Jude Children's Hospital or Jay County Cancer Society.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home in Portland is in charge of arrangements. Masks and social distancing are requested.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

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.

Voting ...

Continued from page 1
This bill "will put a stop at the voter suppression that we're seeing debated right now," said Rep. Nikeema Williams, a new congresswoman who represents the Georgia district that deceased voting rights champion John Lewis held for years. "This bill is the 'Good Trouble' he fought for his entire life."

To Republicans, however, it would give license to unwanted federal interference in states' authority to

conduct their own elections — ultimately benefiting Democrats through higher turnout, most notably among minorities.

"Democrats want to use their razor-thin majority not to pass bills to earn voters' trust, but to ensure they don't lose more seats in the next election," House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy said from the House floor Tuesday.

The measure has been a priority for Democrats since they won their House majority in 2018.

But it has taken on added urgency in the wake of Trump's false claims, which incited the deadly storming of the U.S. Capitol in January.

Courts and even Trump's last attorney general, William Barr, found his claims about the election to be without merit. But, spurred on by those lies, state lawmakers across the U.S. have filed more than 200 bills in 43 states that would limit ballot access, according to a tally kept by the Brennan

Center for Justice at New York University.

In Iowa, the legislature voted to cut absentee and in-person early voting, while preventing local elections officials from setting up additional locations to make early voting easier. In Georgia, the House on Monday voted for legislation requiring identification to vote by mail that would also allow counties to cancel early in-person voting on Sundays, when many Black voters cast ballots after church.

Capsule Reports

Fell asleep

A Portland woman fell asleep at the wheel and drove into a ditch on Indiana 67 about 3:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Mindy K. Bergman, 37, was driving north on the highway when she fell asleep, according to a Jay County Sheriff's Office report. She later told officers the 2012 General Motors Terrain she was driving continued over a guard rail and into the ditch.

Damage is estimated between \$2,500 and \$5,000 to the vehicle, which was towed. The GM Terrain is registered to Craig M. Imel of Portland.

Ran off road

A Portland semi driver went off the road and into a ditch on county road 300 North about 5:20 p.m. Tuesday.

Daniel D. Hall, 45, was driving east on the road near county road 600 East

when the 1992 International Truck he was driving ran off the road and into a ditch. The semi — it is registered to McAfee Recycling — flipped onto its side and was later towed. Damage is estimated between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

Failed to stop

A Bryant woman's breaks malfunctioned while stopping at the intersection of Meridian and Water streets in Portland, causing her car to crash into another vehicle about 8:49 p.m. Wednesday.

Elizabeth G. Graber, 28, was driving north on Meridian Street when she tried to stop her 2012 Ford Fusion for the red light. She later told Portland police her breaks malfunctioned and her car crashed into the back of a 2002 Chevrolet Silverado driven by David W. Atkinson, 54, Winchester.

Damage is estimated less than \$1,000.

Chain reaction

A Portland woman attempting to park in the Priority Plastics lot collided with a parked vehicle about 10 p.m. Wednesday.

April L. Limbert, 52, told Portland Police she was driving her 2020 Kia Optima north in the parking lot at 500 Industrial Drive and turned south to park when the vehicle she was driving collided with a parked 1980 GMC registered to Stephanie L. Bisel of Hartford City. The GMC then moved forward and hit a parked 2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer registered to Katina G. Kootz of Redkey.

Damage is estimated between \$10,000 and \$25,000. Limbert's vehicle was towed.

Crackdown ...

Continued from page 1
She appeared to be referring to a video shared on social media that begins with a group of security forces following a civilian, who they seem to have just pulled out of a building. A shot rings out, and the person falls. After the person briefly raises their head, two of the troops drag the person down the street by the arms.

In other footage, about two dozen security forces, some with their firearms drawn, chase two people wearing the construction helmets donned by many protesters down a street. When they catch up to the people, they repeatedly beat them with rods and kick them. One of the officers is

filming the scene on his cell phone.

In yet another video, several police officers repeatedly kick and hit a person with rods, while the person cowers on the ground, hands over their head. Officers move in and out of the frame, getting a few kicks in and then casually walking away.

While some countries have imposed or threatened to impose sanctions following the coup, others, including those neighboring Myanmar, have been more

hesitant in their response. The sheer volume of violent images shared Wednesday, along with the high death toll, raised hopes that the dynamic could change.

U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet on Thursday urged all of those with "information and influence" to hold military leaders to account.

"This is the moment to turn the tables towards justice and end the military's stranglehold over democracy in Myanmar," she said.

State Department spokesman Ned Price said the U.S. was "appalled" at the "horrific violence," and the U.N.'s independent expert on human rights in Myanmar, Tom Andrews, said the "systematic brutality of the military junta is once again on horrific display."

"I urge members of the UN Security Council to view the photos/videos of the shocking violence being unleashed on peaceful protesters before meeting," he said on Twitter.

Jay County Development Corporation
Now Seeking: Jay County Community Developer
Responsibilities include collaborating with communities and organizations to develop plans, researching and applying for grants essential for community development projects, providing support for implementation and oversight of grants, providing support for fundraising initiatives, and developing ties among Jay County communities and organizations. This position requires a bachelor's degree in urban/regional planning, community development, or relevant social science and a minimum three years' experience in planning or community/economic development. Interested candidates may see a full job description or learn more at www.jaycountydevelopment.org or by calling 260-726-9311. Resumes may be mailed to 118 S Meridian St, Ste B, Portland, IN 47371 or emailed to jhayes@jaycodev.org.

SERVICES
Saturday
McLaughlin, Curt: 11 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.
Dixon, Kelley: 2 p.m., Green Park Cemetery Chapel, Portland.
Service listings provided by PROGRESSIVE OFFICE PRODUCTS 120 N. Meridian St. Portland, Indiana 47371 (260) 726-9201 progressiveofficeproducts.com

ISDA funding available

Funding is available for those involved in the specialty crop industry.

Indiana State Department of Agriculture announced Monday that it is seeking project proposals from the specialty crop industry for funding through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grant Program.

Applicants can include non-profit and for-profit organizations, governments and public or private colleges and universities. Grants are available in the areas of market enhancement; access, education and training; and research.

"It is more important now than ever to leverage these financial opportunities, and I want to encourage all eligible businesses or organizations to apply," said ISDA director Bruce Kettler. "These dollars will go a long way in ensuring Indiana's robust specialty crop sector remains thriving for years to come."

For more information, visit the ISDA website at in.gov/isda. The deadline to apply is March 25.

Taking Note

Library spring break

With travel still not as convenient or safe because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the library is offering other options for a spring break escape.

Jay County Public Library will have a variety of activities available for local residents March 22 through 26.

Events for the spring break week kick off March 22 with outdoor and giant games available from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the library. It will also off an "Ag in the Classroom" session led by Jay County Farm Bureau at 1:30 p.m.

Other plans include:

March 23 — Students in sixth through 12th grade will be invited to the library at 1:30 p.m. to help make fleece blankets for local children.

March 24 — Super-Mario Kart

tournament on Nintendo Switch for children ages 8 through 12 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Sign up by calling or visiting the library.) Craft stations will also be set up from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

March 25 — Super Smash Bros. tournament on Nintendo Switch for ages 13 through 18 from 3:30 to 6 p.m. (Sign up by calling or visiting the library.) Also, LEGOs will be available from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

March 26 — Board and card games will be available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Offering help

As part of College Goal Sunday, Ivy Tech Community College is offering assistance from financial aid professionals. The event is set for 2 p.m. Sunday.

Students can get help with filling the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that is required for federal grants, scholarships and loans. The form must be filed by April 15 in order to be eligible for Indiana financial aid.

For more information, visit CollegeGoalSunday.org.

Dog saves her owner's life

By CATHY FREE

The Washington Post

Brian Myers knew he was in trouble when he fell to the floor. He had no feeling on his left side and couldn't stand up in the crawl space between his bed and the wall.

"It was really frightening — I couldn't get up and I didn't realize at that moment that I'd had a stroke," he said. "My cellphone was on the dresser about 15 feet away, but there was no way I could get to it."

Seconds later, Myers, 59, felt something wet and rough on his face. His dog's tongue.

Sadie, the 100-pound German shepherd he had rescued in September from an animal shelter near his Teaneck, N.J., home, was standing above him with a look of concern on her face, he said.

"She kept licking me and crying, so I reached my right hand up to pet her; then I grabbed her collar," recalled Myers, who had

gone to bed just two hours before he fell on the evening of Jan. 16.

Sadie began pulling Myers inch by inch out of the crawl space, and then wiggled toward his dresser.

"She was not trained as a service dog, but she was in distress over what was happening and she could tell that I was in trouble," he said. "I don't know how she did it, but she knew."

Five minutes later, Myers was in front of his dresser and was able to reach up about three feet with his right arm and retrieve his cellphone to call for help.

At Englewood Health hospital that night, Myers was given an MRI that revealed he'd suffered a stroke. Doctors told him it was likely that his four-legged companion had saved his life.

"It was the best decision I'd ever made, to adopt her," said Myers, who came home last month and has much of his mobility back, thanks to physical therapy. "I really feel it was meant to be."

Man's bisexual past eats at woman's trust

DEAR ABBY: I am a 49-year-old woman who has been in a romantic relationship with a good, caring man for two years. We live together, and he shows me all the time how much he loves me. We have amazing chemistry and are very affectionate. We enjoy spending time together, especially outdoors.

When we first started dating, he told me he was bisexual and had had relationships with men. He insists I am his true love and he is with only me now. He has never shown signs of straying, but sometimes I get insecure and wonder if I should take him at his word that he only wants me. Should I trust him? — WANTS TO BE SURE IN RHODE ISLAND

DEAR WANTS: This man has been upfront with you. Because someone finds mem-

Dear Abby



bers of both genders attractive does not mean the person is incapable of monogamy. During the last two years, he has given you no reason to believe he is untrustworthy, so take steps to deal with your insecurity and take him at his word.

DEAR ABBY: My son and daughter-in-law — the parents of three minor children — were divorced in 2019. Prior to their divorce, the ex-DIL got pregnant by another man. She has since

had a little girl. My dilemma is, do I include the new little girl when they come to visit Grandma? She is still my grandchildren's half-sister. As they get older and come to visit me, I would feel bad leaving her out of events.

My son is livid that I would even consider including her. Her other grandparents refuse to have anything to do with her. How do I deal with this? — DILEMMA IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR DILEMMA: You have a loving heart. I assume all the children live together with their mother. To exclude their half-sister would be logistically difficult and cruel to a child who is blameless. Your son may not like the situation, but it is time for him to grow up and face reality. You are the only grandmoth-

er that child has ever known, so remain calm, assert your right to self-determination and refuse to allow yourself to be bullied or intimidated.

DEAR ABBY: Unfortunately, I am not in the same income bracket as my family and some of my friends. Also, I married a guy who doesn't like to socialize because he's a recovering alcoholic, and he also has hearing problems. Family and friends rarely ask us to join them when they go out, but they never fail to call and tell me all about the great time they had and where they plan to go next. It hurts, and I resent them for it. I want to be happy for them and not feel the way I do. Help! — DIFFERENT IN NEW YORK

DEAR DIFFERENT: Your husband may have hearing

problems, but your relatives appear to be tone deaf in the sensitivity department. What they are doing is cruel.

Rather than compare your life to that of friends and relatives who have more freedom to socialize than you and your husband do, it would be more constructive to figure out what you CAN do. Socialize either with others or by yourselves in places that don't serve alcohol and aren't overly noisy. Ask your relatives to join you there — and put the ball in their court.

DEAR ABBY is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

WAYNE BLUE RIBBONS 4-H CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thurs-

day, March 4, in the Bob Schmit Memorial Exhibition Hall at Jay County Fairgrounds.

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

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet the first Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North. The meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. and the

meeting will begin at 7 p.m.

FORGET-ME-NOT — A support group for parents, friends and relatives who have lost a baby through miscarriage, birth or illness will meet from 7 to 9 p.m. at St. Vincent Randolph Hospital, Winchester, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

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.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, March 5, at Harmony Cafe in Portland. Members are encouraged to wear a face mask and practice social distancing.

Saturday

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

MUSEUM OF THE SOLDIER — 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

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

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Wednesday's Solution

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

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



THE COVID-19 VACCINE IS HERE. IT'S TESTED, SAFE AND EFFECTIVE.

It's our shot, Hoosiers. Seniors, long-term care residents, healthcare workers and first responders are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

To check if you or someone you know qualifies, go to OurShot.IN.gov. Seniors can also call 211 to learn more.



Remember, we need to keep wearing masks and following other protective measures to keep everyone safe.

Thank you for honoring Vicki

To the editor:
Maybe for the first time in my life I am just at a loss for words to expertly express the thoughts that I have in appreciation for Jay County Chamber of Commerce renaming the Lifetime Achievement Award in honor and memory of my dear departed wife of 51-plus years, Vicki.

I know that if she were here she would be so truly humbled and appreciative of this great honor.

She never really worried about her name or recognition being in the light. She always said, "I am not looking for recog-

Letters to the Editor

nition, I am glad that what 'we' (notice the plural) set out to do was accomplished."

To her it was always a team effort, never an individual accomplishment.

I am so very grateful to all involved with the chamber who have made this happen.

Charles E. Tague
Portland

Indiana is on the verge of compassion

By MORTON J. MARCUS

The Indiana General Assembly, which gets its share of bruises, is getting close to doing something very beneficial for a some very sick children, their parents and their siblings.

Hoosiers are fortunate to have Riley Hospital for Children located in Indianapolis. It is nationally ranked in 10 children's specialties. However, it is in Indianapolis. That's not a bad thing, except if you are poor and live in a corner of the state.

Imagine your family on Medicaid. Not Medicare, which is primarily for the older population, but Medicaid, the stepchild of health care in the United States. The federal and state governments share Medicaid costs, with the states anteing up 34% of the fees paid to health care providers.

Your family is very poor; if you weren't, you wouldn't qualify for Medicaid. You have just one old, not very reliable car, and one very sick child. To get a proper diagnosis and treatment plan for that child, Indiana's Family and Health Services Administration would have you go to Riley in Indianapolis.

But how far is Riley from the extreme reaches of the state? From Hammond (Lake County), Fremont (Steuben), Vevay (Switzerland), New Albany (Floyd) and Mt. Vernon (Posey)? In terms of distance, the average is 150 miles or two and a half hours one way. Double that to come home. Yes, 300 miles in an unreliable car and five hours on the road when there are closer alternatives in Chicago, Louisville and Cincinnati.

When there is a distinguished hospital in an adjoining state, that might be a better choice for the child, the parent(s) and any siblings. Last year, the Indi-

Eye on the Pie



ana Senate rejected a bill that would have granted parents that choice. Why? The out-of-state hospital might expect Medicaid reimbursement from Indiana Family and Health Services Administration at a higher rate, as approved in their state, than Indiana would approve. We do have a reputation for being cheap.

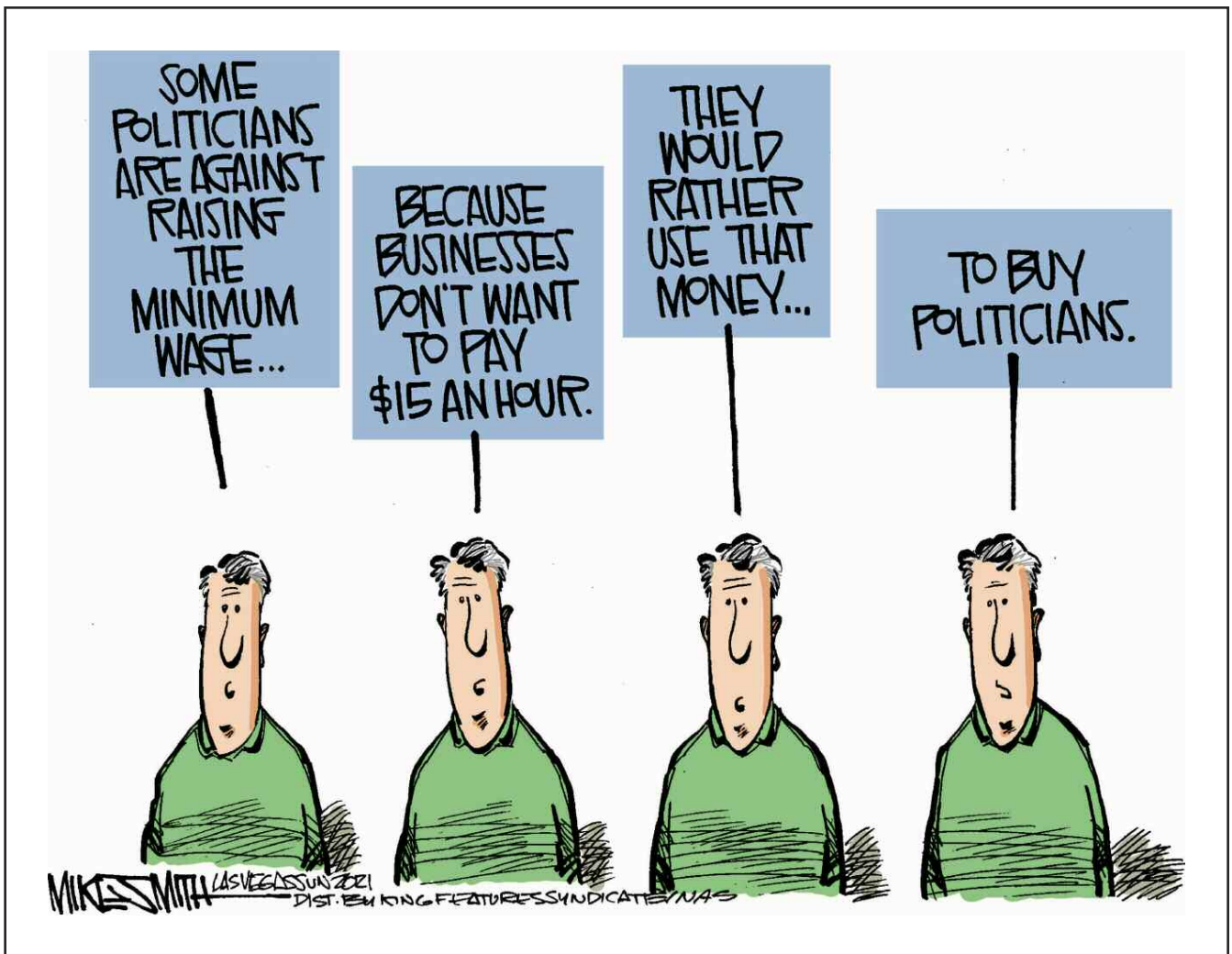
How much money are we talking about? The Indiana Legislative Services Agency, recognizing that an exact estimate was not possible, advised "Indiana's state share ... would be between \$300,000 and \$950,000."

You'll be proud to hear the bill passed the House by a vote of 93-0. Now it rests with the Senate. In fiscal terms, this proposal is hardly to be noticed in a total budget of \$36 billion as passed by the House.

Rep. Hal Slager (Lake County) and Sen. Mike Bohacek (La Porte County) introduced House Resolution 1305 to enable Hoosier families to use out-of-state hospitals to treat their children when circumstances require such action. They have been joined by Reps. Edmond Soliday, Edward Clere and Julie Olthoff, as well as Sens. Ed Charbonneau, Rick Niemeyer and Karen Tallian.

When passed by the Senate, this will be a major benefit to poor Hoosier families caring for extremely sick children.

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



Transgressions can't be forgiven

By GARY ABERNATHY

Special to The Washington Post

Former President Donald Trump was afforded a hero's welcome Sunday at the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) in Orlando, and the lifelong conservative in me desperately wanted to share in the jubilation.

After all, Trump was the great disrupter, the enemy of Washington swamp creatures, the bane of cancel culture and woke America. I wanted to do what so many have done: to forgive Trump (if they ever blamed him) for his actions after the election. I wanted to develop selective amnesia like so many Trump supporters. But try as I might, I couldn't. In fact, the memories grow more vivid.

As I watched Trump bask in the warm ovations, I wondered: Did any among the CPAC dignitaries, who tend to be strict constitutional constructionists, have the temerity to approach him and say, "Mr. President, I think it was terrible that you spent weeks trashing state officials of your own party and attacking our judicial system because they refused to participate in your power grab." Anyone?

Trump's vice president, Mike Pence, reportedly declined a CPAC invitation, but Trump didn't seem to miss him. Not once in his rambling monologue did Trump mention Pence, in stark contrast to Jan. 6, when Trump told thousands of his supporters: "Mike Pence is going to have to come through for us. And if he doesn't, that will be a sad day for our country, because you're sworn to uphold our Constitution." Did anyone at CPAC take Trump aside and say, "Mr. President, I just want you to know that how you've treated Mike Pence, who was building the conservative movement back when you were building your personal brand, is unforgivable." Anyone?

On Sunday, Trump ran through his greatest hits, and I agreed with his list. Great pre-pandemic econo-

Gary Abernathy



my? Check. Stronger borders? Check. Energy independence? Check. A vaccine delivered in record time? Check. When Trump delivered his proposals for election reform, I nodded along with each item, from returning to one national election day with limited absentee voting to stronger voter-ID requirements. Perhaps, as Trump was exiting the venue, someone at CPAC might have suggested one other reform: "Don't pressure state election officials to somehow find the exact number of votes you need to win." Anyone?

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Kentucky, wasn't welcome at CPAC, but why not? After excoriating Trump in his post-impeachment trial remarks, McConnell later said that if Trump is again the nominee of the party he will "absolutely" support him. Not, "No way in hell." Not even, "Trump was great, but he lost me forever when he refused to admit he lost, spent weeks riling up his base with ridiculous claims of a stolen election, and engaged in reprehensible rhetoric to ignite a riot at the Capitol, costing innocent lives." Just, "Absolutely."

"This election was rigged," the man who lost bellowed. "You won! You won!" the CPAC throng chanted in reply. Everyone was having fun, and no one dared spoil a good time. But you just know that this year's CPAC was like a drunken party that everyone will regret when they sober up. Few things will be more embarrassing than images of the wild ovations on Sunday for the man who told an angry crowd just before the lethal Capitol invasion: "You'll never

take back our country with weakness. You have to show strength, and you have to be strong."

There was some evidence of cooler heads emerging even at CPAC. Trump won a presidential straw poll, but with just 55%. That's not an unbeatable number this early in a presidential cycle, and Trump surely knows that. In second place — and first place in a poll that didn't include Trump — was Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, followed by South Dakota Gov. Kristi L. Noem. A DeSantis-Noem ticket — my preference would be Noem-DeSantis — is a natural fit for Trumpism without Trump once the Republican Party recovers from its hangover.

I'll continue to praise Trump for what I loved about him, and the Senate was smart not to take away the right of Americans to vote for him, which would have made him a martyr to some. But I'll never stop urging his supporters to forsake him, as he forsook his post-election duties to them and all Americans.

After reading something I wrote, an exasperated Trump supporter sent a note asking, "Is it possible you could stop reminding me of when and why you stopped supporting President Trump?"

No, it's not. Such an omission is tantamount to pretending it's not important — and pretending it's not important surrenders our dignity as Americans to the cult of Trump.

No newspaper columnist or commentator on any medium should ever discuss Trump without a reminder that he attempted to override an election and contributed to a deadly incursion at the Capitol during a constitutionally mandated affirmation of democracy. Just wondering, did anyone at CPAC mention it to him? Anyone?

.....
Abernathy, a contributing columnist for The Post, is a freelance writer based in southwestern Ohio.

Inspector general's opinion should be public

The Republic (Columbus)

For once, Todd Rokita doesn't feel the need to offer an opinion.

Indiana's new attorney general came under scrutiny last week after it was revealed that he is working part time for a private health care benefits company while in office.

First reported by the political newsletter Importantville, it was discovered that Rokita received an opinion from the Indiana Inspector General's Office on Jan. 15 in regards to

Hoosier Editorial

his continued employment as a strategic policy adviser with Indianapolis-based company Apex Benefits.

While his office maintains that the moonlighting is OK, Rokita has declined to make

the IG opinion public. It also has not been disclosed how much time Rokita is spending per week working for Apex — a company in which he has ownership interest.

A spokesperson for Rokita told the Indianapolis Business Journal that the Inspector General's Office opinion indicated "his interests and outside employment are all squarely within the boundaries of the law and do not conflict with his official duties."

According to his bio on the

company's website, Rokita "advises Apex and its growing roster of clients who employ thousands of hard-working people on public policy initiatives, internal corporate strategies and employee benefits compliance outcomes. In the best interest of the company's clients, he also collaborates with industry experts to drive positive transformation of healthcare and benefits issues."

Rokita's second job may fall within legal boundaries, but

the ethics behind it are suspect.

He has shown no transparency in his private sector role, which should raise concerns for Hoosiers.

Hoosiers need to know that Rokita's part-time job isn't impacting his fulltime work as the top legal official in the state, and there are no conflicts of interest in play.

If Rokita doesn't release the opinion by the inspector general, he risks diminishing the trust of the public.

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VOLUME 148-NUMBER 219
THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 4, 2021

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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter." — Thomas Jefferson

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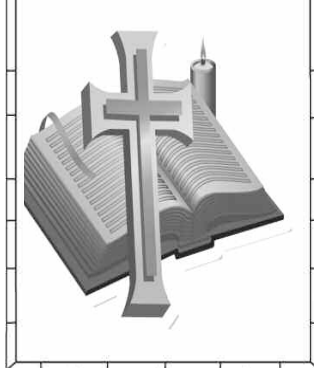
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Asbury United Methodist
 204 E. Arch St., Portland
 Joe Boggs
 (260) 726-8464
 Services: 9:30 a.m.
 asburyministries.org

Banner Christian Assembly of God
 1217 W. Votaw St., Portland
 Michael Burk
 (260) 726-4282
 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Bellefountain United Methodist
 440 S. 600 East
 Gordon Jackson
 Services: 9 a.m.

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

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

Boundary St. Paul
 Corner of Treaty Line Road and county road 300 East
 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.unc.org

Christ Chapel
 105 S. Elm St., Fort Recovery
 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 p.m.

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
 1865 S. Indiana 167, Dunkirk
 Andrew Stevens
 (765) 768-6969
 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 Chicago avenues, Portland
 Kevin McClung
 (260) 729-7295
 Services: 10 a.m.

Church of the Living God
 South Broad Street, Dunkirk
 Rev. Theodore Wagoner
 Services: 7 p.m., 7 p.m. Friday

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

Faith Community
 9560 W. 200 South, 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.
 fccfcrecovery.org

First Community Baptist
 341 S. Meridian St., Redkey
 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
 Revs. Brad and Kate Ratliff
 (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.

Full Gospel 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 Balbec
 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren
 Indiana 1 and Indiana 26
 Earl Doll
 (260) 731-4477
 Services: 10:30 a.m.

High Street United Methodist
 435 High St., Geneva
 Rev. Joseph Hampton
 (260) 368-7233
 Services: 9 a.m.

Holy Trinity Catholic
 7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant
 Fr. Peter Logsdon
 Services: 8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m. Saturday
 churchofthemostholym Trinity.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 of Christians
 403 Sharpsburg Road, Fort Recovery
 Rev. Ned Brown
 (419) 375-4153
 Services: 4:30 p.m. Saturday, 9:30 a.m.

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

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

New Beginnings Holiness Church of Blaine
 4017 W. 200 South
 Randy Smith
 (260) 251-2406
 Services: 10 a.m., 6 p.m.
 nbholiness.com

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

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

New Mt. Pleasant United Methodist
 5905 S. Como Road
 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 1, Pennville
 Dee Hartman
 Services: 10:30 a.m.

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

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

Portland First Church of Nazarene
 920 S. Shank St., Portland
 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, south-west 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
 Lori McIntosh
 (765) 369-2085
 Services: 10:30 a.m.

Redkey Church of the Nazarene
 801 W. High St.
 Robert Farris
 (765) 369-2676
 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 6:30 p.m. Wednesday

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

The ROCK
 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., Portland
 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
 Rev. Kevin Hurley
 Services: 5 p.m. Saturday, 5:30 p.m. Thursday

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

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
 Rev. Dan Sickels
 (260) 731-4733
 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park)

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 Sunday)
 pastorrobino@gmail.com

Trinity United Methodist
 323 S. Meridian St., Portland
 Darrell Weaver
 (260) 726-8391
 Services: 10:30 a.m.
 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.

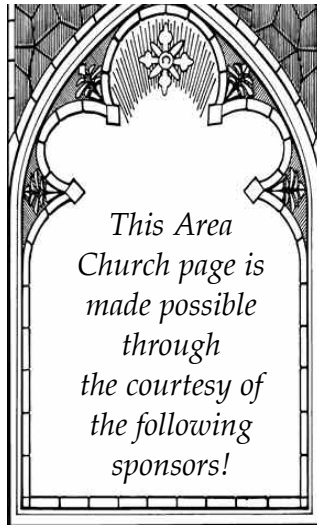
Union Chapel Church of the Nazarene
 County road 900 North (Jay-Wells county line)
 Fred Stevens
 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.

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
 4487 E. 400 North
 Randy Fennig
 (260) 726-6311
 Services: 10:35 a.m.

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

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Darrell Borders
 218 E. High St., Portland
 (260) 726-8832
 zionlutheranportland@gmail.com
 Services: 10:30 a.m.



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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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| ACROSS | 1 "Terrif!" | 4 Declare | 8 Gush | 12 Have bills | 13 Repulsive | 14 Give up | 15 Former | 17 Opera | 18 Pre-schooler | 19 Less | 21 Gung-ho | 24 Kreskin's | 25 Yale grad | 26 Shred | 28 Harvest | 32 Poet | 34 Mahal | 36 Jeans-maker | 37 Elena | 39 Bankroll | 41 Sea, to | 42 May | 44 Taxi | 46 Seattle | 50 Nonstick | 51 Hurler | 52 Salad | 56 "Walk Like —" | 57 Converse | 58 Punk-rock | 59 Ilk | 60 Bohemian | 61 Boring | 62 Shock | 63 Sleeping | 64 Online | 65 Sports-caster | 66 Fraternal | 67 "Super-man" star | 68 Surgeon's | 69 Impudent | 70 Actress | 71 Sport | 72 Neither | 73 Sheriff's | 74 Pilgrimage | 75 Highland | 76 Castle | 77 Multitude | 78 Gather | 79 German | 80 Sylvester, | 81 Outback | 82 Hog-wash | 83 Alan of | 84 "The West Wing" | 85 Chart-topping | 86 Dog's foot | 87 Call to mind | 88 Always | 89 Round | 90 Table | 91 "Winnie-the-Pooh" | 92 author | 93 Bread | 94 Dijon | 95 Sheriff's | 96 Pilgrimage | 97 Highland | 98 Castle | 99 Multitude | 100 Gather | 101 German | 102 Sylvester, | 103 Outback | 104 Hog-wash |
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Yesterday's answer 3-4

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Detectives looking into Woods' SUV 'black box'

By STEFANIE DAZIO
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Detectives are looking at data from the “black box” of Tiger Woods’ SUV to get a clearer picture of what occurred during the Southern California rollover crash that seriously injured the golf star, authorities said Wednesday.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department said traffic investigators executed a search warrant Monday to retrieve data from the device from the Genesis SUV that Woods was driving.

There was no immediate information regarding what was found in the black box, Deputy

Trina Schrader said in a statement.

The 2021 GV80, made by the Hyundai luxury brand, is likely to have a newer version of event data recorders nicknamed “black boxes” after more sophisticated recorders in airplanes. The devices store a treasure trove of data for authorities to review.

Woods suffered a serious leg injury when the SUV he was driving went off a Los Angeles County road and rolled over on a downhill stretch known for crashes. Sheriff Alex Villanueva said Woods was not drunk and was driving alone in good weather when the SUV hit a raised median, went across oncoming

lanes and rolled several times. The crash injured his right leg, requiring surgery.

Deputies will review data from the black box to “see if they can find out what was the performance of the vehicle, what was happening at the time of impact,” said Villanueva, who previously faced criticism for almost immediately calling the crash “purely an accident.”

During a live social media event on Wednesday, the sheriff said the new data could provide more information on the cause of the accident.

“And that’s all it is, and we’ll leave it at that,” he said. California law allows law

enforcement to seek search warrants for data recorders that were involved in motor vehicle crashes that result in death or serious bodily injury. Law enforcement must show that the recorders could have evidence of a felony or misdemeanor in the crash, and detectives must limit their review of the data to information directly related to the offense.

A black box is a computer that stores data from a vehicle’s sensors, which can be downloaded. The boxes usually are below the center of the dashboard or beneath seats to be protected from damage.

There aren’t any federal regu-

lations requiring the boxes, but the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says nearly all vehicles have them now. The government does require the recorders to store 15 data points including speed before impact and whether brake and gas pedals were pressed.

USA Today first reported the search warrant, noting that deputies did not seek one for samples of Woods’ blood. The blood samples could show if Woods had any drugs or alcohol in his system. Villanueva has repeatedly said the athlete did not show any evidence of impairment at the scene.

Return ...

Continued from page 8
They’ve had a tough time since Harden was traded Jan. 14 and haven’t won since Feb. 4.

The Rockets used a 10-0 run, with five points from John Wall, to cut the lead to eight with about eight minutes left in the fourth. But the Nets scored the next eight points, with two 3s from Harden, to extend it to 113-97 midway through the quarter.

It’s the eighth triple-double for Harden this season and his second straight after he had 30 points, 14 rebounds and 15 assists without a turnover in an overtime victory at San Antonio on Monday night. He didn’t play as clean of a game Wednesday when he had eight turnovers.

Harden got a mixed reception from the crowd. Many of the 3,615 fans booed when he was introduced before the game and more boos came the first few times he touched the ball.

He said it was a “little weird” being on the visitor’s side but denied having any extra emotions.

“Once I get on that court I’m just trying to win,” he said. “So that was kind of my feeling. I wasn’t trying to show off. I wasn’t trying to do anything out of the ordinary that I haven’t been doing. Just playing my brand of basketball.”

The Rockets played a video showcasing some of the countless highlights of his eight seasons in Houston during a timeout in the first quarter. There were more cheers than boos as it played. Harden stepped

out of the huddle and raised his arms before placing his hands in a praying position to acknowledge the fans as it ended.

“You could tell it meant something to him,” coach Steve Nash said. “This place is special to James. Houston means a lot to him ... so I know it was a big game for him. I was proud of the way he handled it.”

Wall had a season-high 36 points, and Victor Oladipo also set his season high with 33.

Houston coach Stephen Silas said the strong play of those two stars is an encouraging sign amid this difficult stretch.

“It lets us know that when we get back and we’re healthy and we’re whole and we are in a position where we have enough guys to compete we’re going to be just fine,” he said.

Harden’s jersey

Rockets owner Tilman Fertitta told the Houston Chronicle this week that the team will retire Harden’s number later this season. He will be the seventh player in franchise history to receive the honor.

He said he learned about it on the internet and was asked what that would mean to him.

“That hopefully I did something right,” Harden said. “Obviously, I came up short of a championship but the work I put up the past eight years was elite... I think the only thing I didn’t accomplish was a championship.”



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Sectional show

Macy Miller, a Jay County High School junior, performs a split leap as part of her floor exercise routine during the IHSAA gymnastics sectional meet on Saturday at Concordia in Fort Wayne. Miller scored 8.0 and placed 23rd overall.

On tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Junior high swimming at Bluffton – 6 p.m.

Monday
Jay County — Junior high swimming at Belmont – 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. South Adams – 6 p.m.

Thursday
Jay County — Junior high wrestling at Bluffton – 5:30 p.m.

Friday
Jay County — Junior high swimming hosts ACAC championships – 5:30 p.m.

Saturday
Jay County — Junior high wrestling in ACAC championships at South Adams – 9 a.m.

Monday
Jay County — Junior high swimming vs. Blackford – 6 p.m.

TV schedule

Today
7 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Michigan State at Michigan (ESPN); Oklahoma State at Baylor (ESPN2)

8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pacers vs. Denver Nuggets (FSN)

9 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Nebraska at Iowa (BTN); Texas at Oklahoma (ESPN); Arizona State at Colorado (ESPN2)

9:30 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Wyoming at Utah State (FS1)

Friday
3 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Los Angeles Dodgers at Kansas City Royals (ESPN)

Saturday
Noon — Men’s College Basketball: Florida State at Notre Dame (ESPN2); South Carolina at Kentucky (ESPN); Georgetown at UConn (CBS); Rutgers at Minnesota (FOX)

2 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Alabama at Georgia (CBS); Arizona at Utah (FS1)

2:30 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Villanova at Providence (FOX)

4 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Illinois at Ohio State (ESPN); Butler at Creighton (FOX); Virginia at Louisville (ESPN2); USC at UCLA (CBS)

6 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Duke at North Carolina (ESPN)

7 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Seton Hall at St. John’s (FS1)

9 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Xavier at Marquette (FS1)

Sunday
Noon — Men’s College Basketball: Houston at Memphis (CBS)

Noon — NHL Hockey: Buffalo Sabres at New York Islanders (NBC)

12:30 p.m. — Men’s College Basketball: Wisconsin at Iowa (FOX)

90 SALE CALENDAR

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For further information on the Leaking Underground Storage Tank program, please go to www.in.gov/idem/tanks/2333.htm.

Or contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (317) 232-8900 or by e-mail at LeakingUST@idem.IN.gov. CR 3-4-2021 HSPAXLP

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

The resistible impulse

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♦ K 10 8 5
♥ K 9 6 3 2
♦ Q 4
♠ A 6

WEST
♦ 7 2
♥ 8
♦ K 10 8 5 3
♠ K 10 9 5 4

SOUTH
♦ Q J 9 3
♥ Q J 10
♦ A 6
♠ K J 8 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass
1♠ Pass 4♠
Opening lead — eight of hearts.

If you tend to play impulsively, you often will fail to get the best possible result. There are simply too many built-in traps in bridge for anyone to be able to play first, think later and still come out all right.

Consider this deal where East won the heart lead with the ace and, recognizing that the eight was a singleton, immediately returned a heart. This didn’t work out well because, although West got his heart ruff, declarer made the contract. The only trick he lost after the ruff was the ace

of trump. Declarer’s diamond loser was eventually discarded on one of dummy’s hearts.

East’s heart return was not very well thought out. He should have realized that declarer would almost surely make the contract after a heart return, and that the only real chance for an additional trick was to lead a diamond at trick two, hoping to find West with the king (or ace).

South inevitably would have gone down one after a diamond return. If he rose with the ace and returned a trump, East would take the ace and return a heart for West to ruff, whereupon West would cash the king of diamonds for down one. And if South played low on the diamond, West would score the king that much sooner and eventually ruff a heart to set the contract.

In the given situation, it is not enough for East to recognize that his partner’s opening lead is a singleton, and so spontaneously return a heart. East must look beyond that one thought and ask himself: “If I give partner a heart ruff now, which will be the third trick for our side, where is the fourth trick going to come from?”

It takes real discipline to stop and ask oneself questions like this before acting automatically at trick two. You can’t play impulsively and expect to get the best results.

Tomorrow: Test your play.
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3-4 CRYPTOQUIP
SEIQEPPGS BRARSER A BRWPZZA
BORWRBPGW QOZ’V R WGRKKF
ORASVZIG, IRBOZ CDF: VPDSKF
SZ - WECOP.

Yesterday’s Cryptoquip: WHEN SOMEONE IS IN REALLY GOOD SPIRITS WHILE MAKING SELECTIONS, I’D SAY THAT’S CHEERY PICKING.

Today’s Cryptoquip Clue: S equals D

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Junior high swim team is home on Tuesday, see Sports on tap

Sports

McConnell sets steals record in Pacers' rally

By BRIAN DULIK
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — T.J. McConnell set an NBA record with nine steals in the first half and posted his second career triple-double with 16 points, 13 assists and a franchise-best 10 steals, leading the Indiana Pacers to a 114-111 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers on Wednesday night.

McConnell also went 8 of 8 from the field in 36 minutes off the bench as Indiana rallied from a 19-point deficit in the third quarter to end its four-game losing streak. Malcolm Brogdon scored 29 points and Domantas Sabonis had 18 points for the Pacers.

"That's as good of an all-

around game from T.J. as you're going to see in the NBA with the multiple ways he affected it," Brogdon said. "He's the ultimate teammate, as well, so we were all very happy for him."

The NBA record of 11 steals in a game is shared by New Jersey's Kendall Gill on April 3, 1999, against Miami, and San Antonio's Larry Kenon on Dec. 26, 1976, at Kansas City.

McConnell's previous career best was six steals on two occasions, the last on Feb. 12, 2018, against New York, when he had his first triple-double with 10 points, 10 rebounds and 11 assists. The sixth-year pro leads the league in steals with 2.0 per game.

"The guys showered me with water after the game, but I don't

remember much about it because it was so cold," McConnell said, laughing. "It was not enjoyable, but it was enjoyable at the same time, if that makes any sense."

Collin Sexton had 32 points, 10 assists and three steals, and Jarrett Allen had 17 points and 11 rebounds for the Cavaliers, who committed 26 turnovers and had their four-game winning streak snapped. They held an 81-62 lead midway through the third.

Indiana went up for good at 108-106 on a 3-pointer by Justin Holiday with 1:18 left. After a Dylan Windler layup pulled Cleveland within 112-111, Brogdon made two free throws with one second left and the Cavaliers were unable to get off a potential game-tying shot.

"This was very, very big for us and a really impressive game by T.J.," Indiana coach Nate Bjorkgren said. "You're always going to get the effort from him at both ends. He's got that look in his eye every night."

Indiana stole the ball on six straight Cleveland possessions in the first period — five by McConnell — and rattled off 11 consecutive points. The Pacers scored 35 points off turnovers, more than offsetting their first half total of five rebounds.

"McConnell earned it, he earned it tonight," Cavaliers coach J.B. Bickerstaff said. "He's a pest all the time. He's super competitive all the time."

Cleveland point guard Darius Garland scored 16 points in 19

minutes before exiting with a strained left groin.

Sexton had 14 points and 10 assists at halftime and became the first Cavaliers player to have double-digit assists in the opening half since LeBron James on Feb. 6, 2017, at Washington.

McConnell is the first NBA player to record a point-assist-steal triple-double since Atlanta's Mookie Blaylock had 14 points, 11 assists and 10 steals against Philadelphia on April 14, 1998.

"I was just playing with our defensive principles and trying to help run the team, I wasn't going out of my way to make steals," McConnell said. "We kind of dug ourselves a hole, so I'm happiest about the win."

Boone takes leave from NY

By The Associated Press

New York Yankees manager Aaron Boone took a leave of absence from the team to get a pacemaker and intends to return to work in a few days.

The Yankees said the procedure was performed Wednesday at St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, Florida, and went as expected. Boone remained hospitalized overnight.

"It sounds like it's going to be a short-term thing," general manager Brian Cashman said. "I do applaud him for being very open and honest."

Bench coach Carlos Mendoza took over as acting manager for Wednesday night's exhibition against Toronto in Tampa.

Boone, 47, said in a statement the medical team is "confident that today's surgery will allow me to resume all of my usual professional and personal activities and afford me a positive long-term health prognosis without having to change anything about my way of life. I look forward to getting back to work in the next several days."

again in about a week," Nationals manager Dave Martinez said. "We want him to get it taken care of now, so it's not an issue."

In 2006, Lester's rookie season with the Boston Red Sox ended early because he was diagnosed with a form of lymphoma. He underwent chemotherapy treatments and returned to the Red Sox at spring training before the following season.

Lester is entering his 16th year in the majors and first with Washington. He was a free agent and joined the Nationals on a \$5 million, one-year contract after playing the past six seasons with the Chicago Cubs.

Astro's Valdéz hurt

Houston Astros left-hander Framber Valdéz has a fractured left ring finger, an injury that could deal another blow to the team's banged-up starting rotation.

The 27-year-old was hurt on the fifth pitch of his spring training debut Tuesday at Port St. Lucie, on a one-hopper off the bat of the New York Mets' Francisco Lindor for the second out of the first inning. The ball hit the finger as he grabbed the ball, and after throwing to first for the out, Valdéz flexed the finger several times.

He took a few warmups and stayed in the game. Valdéz finished two innings, throwing 24 pitches.

"Following his outing, we decided to have Framber examined," Astros general manager James Click said Wednesday.

Lester surgery

Washington Nationals left-hander Jon Lester is leaving spring training camp to have surgery for the removal of his thyroid gland.

The 37-year-old Lester was to travel from West Palm Beach, Florida, to New York on Wednesday; the Nationals said the operation is planned for Friday.

"Hopefully he can pitch



Photo provided

Club members show out

Four members of the Jay County Barbell Club showed out at the IceBreakers CrossFit competition Saturday in Plainfield. Pazia Williams and Bre McIntire (far left and second from left) finished first in the women's scaled division, while Kurt Hess and Aaron Hoevel (second from right and far right) were runner-up in the men's scaled division.

Harden has triple-double in return

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON — The No. 13 on his jersey, James Harden won so many games for the Houston Rockets.

On Wednesday night in the first meeting with his former team, No. 13 had a triple-double for the Brooklyn Nets to send the reeling Rockets to their 13th straight loss.

"A lot of mixed emotions from the

fans but I knew that was going to happen," Harden said. "I just wanted to come out here and give them a show."

He did that with 29 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists in the 132-114 victory. The Nets set a franchise record with their seventh straight road victory. They've won 10 of their last 11 overall.

Harden has meshed well with his

new team and the Nets are 17-7 since the trade.

"So far, so good," he said. "It's everything that I signed up for. Top to bottom it's been great."

It's the longest skid for the Rockets, who had just eight players available because of injuries, since they dropped 15 in a row in 2001.

See Return page 7

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<p>Fuqua Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep & Ram 127 E. Commerce St., Dunkirk Garage is open! 765-768-6224 www.fuquachrysler.com</p>	<p>Grube Auctioneering 111 1/4 E. Butler St. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-305-9202 grubeauctioneering@gmail.com Live & online auctions</p>	<p>All Circuit Electrical, LLC 5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN 260-997-8336 www.allcircuitelectrical.com</p>
<p>Fortkamp Foam 3226 Wabash Road Ft. Recovery, OH 419-852-1390 Fortkampfoam.com</p>	<p>Display Craft Signs 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535</p>	<p>Adair Processing 190 N. Union St. Pennville, IN 260-731-3221</p>

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