Thursday, April 8, 2021

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Doug Loy, a member of the Jay County Economic Development Income Tax Advisory Committee, speaks at a meeting Wednesday. Loy expressed concern about contributing \$50,000 toward the 2021 Jay County Fairgrounds Christmas light show. Still, the board voted in favor, with Loy dissenting, of a recommendation for approval to Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council. Pictured, Jay County Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards (right), Redkey council member Dottie Quakenbush (left foreground) and county council member Ted Champ (right foreground) listen to Lov.

Funding is recommended

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

A holiday light show is planned for Jay County Fairgrounds in November.

Jay County Economic Development Income Tax Advisory Committee on Wednesday voted to recom-mend the county allot \$50,000 toward the display. Now the recommendation moves for approval from Jay County Council and Jay County Commissioners.

Deb Gillespie of Jay County Fair Board and others on the Christmas committee lighting approached the advisory board requesting funding to jumpstart the new event. She noted the group has already purchased \$40,000 in lights for the coming year. (The fair board also

County EDIT advisory supports using \$50,000 for Christmas lights

purchased about \$4,000 in lights for 2020.)

'We're trying to do it right," Gillespie said. The light show is expect-

ed to run from Nov. 19 through nearly the end of the year.

So far, the committee organizing the event has ordered a range of light configurations, such as a carousel, dinosaurs and trees.

About \$72,000 in revenue is expected from the show, Gillespie explained. That figure takes into account charging at least \$10 at the gate (\$15 on Fridays and Saturdays) and about \$32,000 in sponsorships.

The group will also be renting spots along the drive for local businesses or citizens to fill with lights for \$100.

See Recommended page 2

County returns to blue rating

Local cases, positivity rate both dropped this week

Bv RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review The county is back to blue.

In Indiana State Department of Health's update Wednesday, Jay County returned to a rating of "blue" (low risk for the spread of coronavirus). The county had been "yellow" (moderate risk) for



the previous two weeks.

Jay County saw significant improvement in both of the key metrics, with its positivity rate dropping to 2.31% this week. That's down from 7.5% last week.

Its cases of COVID-19 per 100,000 residents came in at 29 after hovering around 65 for the previous three weeks. Its lowest point this year was 23 in the March 3 update.

While the numbers got better locally, the statewide map turned slightly more yellow. Forty-five counties were rated yellow, up from 37 last week, while 45 were rated blue, down from 45 last week. Jasper and Jackson were the only counties rated orange (high risk) this week while none were rated red (severe risk).

Blackford County saw its rating drop to yellow after being orange in consecutive weeks. Wells County also shifted to yellow from orange. Delaware County shifted from blue to yellow, Randolph while and Adams counties remained blue.

Coronavirus vaccination appointments are now open to all Hoosiers 16 and older. Jay County currently has vaccination clinics available at Jay County Health Department and IU Health Jay. Appointments can be made online at ourshot.in.gov or by calling the state's 2-1-1 telephone assistance service.

See **Blue** page 2

Work underway

Work on a pair of U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) bridges got underway this week. Pictured above, the arch bridge over the Salamonie River near East Jay Elementary School has already been milled and steel railings have been removed. The Indiana Department of Transportation project also includes resurfacing the bridge over the Little Salamonie River near Portland Golf Club.

Wetlands bill gets scaled back

By LONDON GIBSON

The Indianapolis Star Tribune News Service

A bill that would have eliminated the state's law regulating wetlands was amended Wednesday morning to tackle the issue of wetlands regulation surgically, rather than with a "meat cleaver."

The bill, which has been the subject of heated debate, initially proposed repealing the state's environmental program protecting wetlands, which would have left more than 80% of the state's wetlands unprotected. Authors claimed the program created unnecessary red tape and was costly for landowners.

Environmentalists and good government alike experts staunchly opposed the legislation, pointing out that wetlands play a crucial role in mitigating flooding and water quality. They also were concerned that bill authors have close ties to the building industry.

After several iterations of amendments seeking compro-

House Environmental Affairs Committee seeks to address concerns about repealing regulations

Affairs Committee voted in favor of one Wednesday that would:

•Not require a wetlands permit for developing on land that has been used as cropland in the last five years, or in the last 10 years if the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has found there is no federally protected wetland on the property

•Exempt wetlands created by an ephemeral stream, a temporary stream caused by runoff or rain

•Not require a permit for maintaining drainage tiles or field tiles in a Class I wetland, which are ranked the lowest quality wetlands by the state

mise, the House Environmental or III wetland, the two highest struction costs, flood prevention,

maintain drainage or field tiles if they meet certain conditions and obtain a general operating permit

•Require landowners to pay less for wetlands mitigation by changing the required ratios. In many cases, landowners developing a wetland have to either purchase mitigation credits or rebuild a wetlands elsewhere at a high ratio. This amendment sets and reduces those ratios at 1:1 for Class I wetlands, 1.5:1 for Class II wetlands and 2:1 for forested Class II wetlands.

•Urges the establishment of an interim study committee to evalu-•Allow landowners in a Class II ate the effects of wetlands on con-

quality wetlands in the state, to water pollution and groundwater resources

Some lawmakers cited this amendment as an accomplishment for addressing issues brought up by bill authors and those in favor of Senate Bill 389 while still maintaining some level of wetlands regulation under the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

"Rather than trying to take a meat cleaver to this, we were a little more surgical and prescriptive in just trying to identify the problem and working within that," said Rep. Harold Slager, R-Schererville, while introducing the amendment to the committee.

See Wetlands page 2

Deaths

Norma DeVoss, 95, rural Portland

Melodi Haley, 72, Portland David Ellsworth, 51, Portland

Dustin Tighe, 26, Marion Sylvia Shetler, 85, rural Berne

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 79 degrees Wednesday. The low was 55.

There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms tonight with winds gusting to 25 miles per hour and a low of 50. Expect a high of 71 Friday with showers possible beginning in the afternoon. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Indiana Senate Bill 353 (bit.ly/INSB353) proposes changes to election procedure in the state, including banning the governor and election commission from changing the time, place and manner of an election. What are your thoughts? Send letters to the editor to r.cooney@thecr.com. There is a 700-word maximum.

Friday — Results from tonight's JCHS baseball game against Elwood.

Coming up

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



Recommended ...

Continued from page 1 Council member Ted Champ noted groups like those in Marion and Union City take free-will donations for entry and don't charge.

"I think if we actually set a fee at the gate, you'll hear about that," Champ said.

Gillespie noted the event committee had discussed taking free-will donations at its last meeting.

Portland Council City approved \$3,538.58 in EDIT funds for lights at the fairgrounds display Monday. Earlier that day, the city's EDIT advisory committee met to recommend the funding request be approved.

Typically, about \$75,000 are designated toward local amenities from EDIT dollars each year, said Jay County Development Corporation executive director Travis Richards. This includes groups such as the Fourth of July committee, Jay County Historical Society and Arts in the Parks. Currently, the EDIT fund holds about \$1.3 million.

EDIT advisory committee member Doug Loy said he supports having a light show in Jay. but he expressed concern about the overall cost.

"My thinking is how much money can we afford to put in light displays in the community when there's other projects that we need to be focusing on?" he asked.

He added this may encourage other municipalities in the county to approach the board for similar funding.

Jay County Commissioner Chad Aker encouraged the idea.

"You know, I guess if Dunkirk decides they want to do something, at that point they can come to us then, and we can do it on a case-by-case basis," he said. Loy noted this was an issue

similar to the EDIT advisory committee's November meeting about Jay County Humane Society. The board was worried the shelter would ask for more money than just initial \$275,000, although it recommended the amount to Jay County Commissioners. (The commissioners approved the amount in December and rescinded it in January.) Aker suggested making the

\$50,000 a one-time gift. "It's the Jay County Fair-

grounds," Champ later clarified. "It's for everybody, not just Portland people."

The intention would be to purchase some new lights each year as well to keep the display fresh, Loy noted. Gillespie agreed.

spie said.

Loy said many Portland businesses may not be open at night, making it difficult for them to benefit from the event.

Jay County Chamber of Commerce executive director Tabby Sprunger said businesses in town participating in Winterfest activities last year were receptive to keeping longer hours.

"This is just going to go along (with Winterfest), so I do think they'll be receptive," Sprunger said.

The lighting festival will last nearly a month and a half, Loy noted, adding that is a longer period of time than the few weekends Winterfest lasted in 2020

"The lights are not going to start until it's dark, and unfortunately most of our retail stores close before it's dark," Loy said.

Gillespie suggested starting at 6 p.m. Loy then asked Sprunger if she has asked local merchants "If we projected it all correct- if they are willing to stay open

ly, that would be on us," Gille- later for that timespan. From the few she has spoken with so far, she said, they've been open to the idea.

> Jay County Commissioner Brian McGalliard said he'd like to give some amount to each local municipality putting up Christmas lights. Aker recommended they wait for requests instead of designating a certain amount of funds to each. He mentioned last year, Portland didn't host a fireworks display, so the county gave \$5,000 each to Dunkirk and Redkey instead of their usual \$2,500.

Champ again addressed his concern about setting a fee at the gate. Aker agreed.

"I think if you set a fee you're kind of limiting yourself," Aker said.

The EDIT advisory committee voted to recommend committing \$50,000 for the lights on the condition that the fair board accept free-will donations rather than charge admission. Loy was the only dissenting vote.

CR almanac								
Friday 4/9	Saturday 4/10	Sunday 4/11	Monday 4/12	Tuesday 4/13				
S								
73/54 The fore- cast looks cloudy and windy for Fri- day. Winds may reach 30 mph, with rain possible.	70/48 There's a 80% chance of rain under mostly cloudy skies. Rain may clear up by the evening.	under mostly cloudy during the day. Mostly	70/44 Small chance of rain but otherwise cloudy with some sun. Temperatures may reach the 70s.	62/40 Mostly sunny skies. Winds may reach between 10 and 15 mph.				

Lotteries

Powerball

27-35-39-51-66 Power Ball: 16 Power Play: 5 Estimated jackpot: \$55 million

Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$201 million

Hoosier

Midday Daily Three: 5-6-2 Daily Four: 4-3-9-0 Evening Daily Three: 6-3-0 Daily Four: 9-9-3-0

Cash 5: 10-16-18-32-34 Hoosier Lotto: 7-16-17-28 - 35 - 44Estimated jackpot:

\$8.6 million

Ohio

Midday Pick 3: 4-7-2 Pick 4: 6-6-4-1 Pick 5: 8-3-2-0-0 Evening Pick 3: 4-8-8 Pick 4: 5-8-2-0 Pick 5: 0-0-6-4-5 Rolling Cash: 4-5-9-21-

Classic Lotto: 5-17-26-32-44-49

Ohio man charged with molestation

arrested Wednesday for on \$75,000 bond. child molestation.

Richard M. Yount, 29, has been accused of sexu- County Sheriff's Office. Greenville, Ohio, is being ally molesting a 2-year-

Yount, 314 N. Main St.,

Yount was preliminari- Level 5 felony.

An Ohio man was held in Jay County Jail old girl in 2019 in Bell- ly charged with child fontain, according to molestation, a Level 1 Tony Lennartz of Jay felony, and sexual misconduct with a minor, a

Obituaries

Norma DeVoss

Sept. 25, 1925-April 5, 2021 Norma DeVoss, age 95, a resident of rural Portland, passed away Monday, April 5, 2021, at her home in Portland.

Norma was born Sept. 25, 1925, in Randolph County, the daughter of

Amos Edward and Cecil Viola (Kelly) Philebaum. Norma graduated from Township Green School in Randolph County. She was a cook at I.P. Gray School, Redkey Elementary School and Jay School Corporation, and farmed many years in Jef-

ferson Township. Norma was a member of New Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church.

Norma married Jim DeVoss on Aug. 6, 1947, he passed away on Dec. 6, 2000,

Survivors include:

Three sons — Larry DeVoss (companion: Jayne Cunnungham), Franklin Indiana Gary DeVoss

She was born in Fort Wayne, Indiana, on Aug. 11, 1948, the daughter of Phillip and Mildred (Friedrich) Haley Sr.

Melodi retired in 2011 after working as a manager for Harvest Land Co-Op in Geneva. Afterward, she worked had for

Adam's Physical Therapy in Portland. She was a 1966 Portland High School graduate, member of Lutheran Zion Church, Altrusa and Portland Morning Optimists, and was active in the Bread of

Life. She enjoyed time at the swimming pool and children.

Haley

Surviving are her daughter Emily Hicks (husband: Matt) of Portland; sister Ruby Shaneyfelt (husband: Dennis, deceased); sister-in-law Donna Robinson of Portland; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Phillip Haley.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman

Funeral Home. Burial will follow in

the Green Park Cemetery. Visitation

is Saturday from noon to 3 p.m. The

Memorials can be made to the Jay

Condolences may be expressed at

Dec. 1, 1969-March 18, 2021

Portland passed away Thursday,

March 18, 2021, in the IU Health Ball

He was born in Portland on Dec. 1,

1969, the son of Larry Ellsworth and

Peggy Grile. He was a service tech

and auto mechanic in Austin, Texas.

He graduated in 1988 from Jay

County High School and attended

Walnut Corner Church. David

enjoyed NASCAR and fishing, and

Surviving are three brothers,

know, we were coming

from a full repeal," said

Mike Leppert, who's repre-

senting the Conservation

Law Center and the Ameri-

can Society of Landscape

Architects in opposition to

amendment that would

have been concerning if it

were the original version

of it, but its certainly a lot

better than what was on

Danny Ellsworth (wife: Lin) of Port-

was a Texas Longhorn fan.

Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

David Dean Ellsworth, age 51, of

wearing of masks are requested.

County Cancer Society.

David Ellsworth

bairdfreeman.com

Lupe) of San Antonio, Texas, and Bill Ellsworth (wife: Machelle) of Portland; two nephews; three nieces; one great-nephew; and three great-nieces.

Graveside services will be Saturday, April 10, 2021, at 11:30 a.m. in the Green Park Cemetery.

Memorials can be made to the Jay County Cancer Society.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

Dustin Tighe

June 27, 1994-April 5, 2021 Dustin Tighe, age 26, of Marion, Indiana, passed away Monday, April

5, 2021, in Marion General Hospital. He was born in Portland on June 27, 1994, the son of Kevin Tighe and Debra Ashurn Tighe. He attended Jay County schools.

Surviving are his mother Debra Tighe (fiance: Danny Fields) of Marion; brother Joshua Ashburn of Marion; sister Chelsea Hoffman (husband: Andrew) of Ridgeville; two nieces: and several aunts and uncles. Funeral services will be Friday, April 9, 2021, at 2 p.m. in the Baird-Freeman Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Hillcrest Cemetery in Redkey. Visitation will be Friday from noon to 2 p.m. Memorials can be made to the funeral home to help with expenses. Condolences may be expressed at



Committee calls for free-will donations instead of admission

Local

Quick Draw: 2-10-11-14-16-19-21-23-24-30-33-36-39-41-52-58-64-67-69-76

Kicker: 3-6-1-0-6-4 Estimated jackpot: \$6.8 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	Central States Montpelier
Corn	Corn5.82
Wheat6.00	May corn5.83
POET Biorefining	Beans14.39
Portland	Sept. beans12.28
Corn5.96	July wheat 5.98
May corn5.98	
	Sunrise
The Andersons	St. Anthony
Richland Township	Corn5.86
Corn	April corn5.89
May corn5.88 Beans14.44	Beans14.26
May beans14.44	April beans14.28
Wheat 6.27	Wheet CO
May wheat 6.27	Wheat5.82 July wheat5.6

Today in history

United States Senate passed, 38-6, the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolishing slavery. (The House of Representatives passed it in January 1865; the amendment was ratified and adopted in December 1865.)

In 1513, explorer Juan Ponce de Leon and his ana 26 about a mile west expedition began exploring the Florida coastline. In 1820, the Venus de

Milo statue was discov-

On April 8, 1864, the ered by a farmer on the Greek island of Milos.

In 1911, an explosion at the Banner Coal Mine in Littleton, Alabama, claimed the lives of 128 men, most of them convicts loaned out from prisons.

In 1971, no injuries were reported after a semi overturned on Indiof Center. The semi tipped while attempting to pass a milk truck.

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday

Commissioners, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

3:45 p.m. — Jay County Election Board, voting room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

4 p.m. — Jay County 9 a.m. — Jay County Public Library Board. Community Room, library, 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

6 p.m. — Jay County Regional Sewer District, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

(wife: Kay), Redkey, Indiana, and Tim DeVoss (wife: Charlotte), Portland, Indiana

Thirteen grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren and greatgreat-grandchildren

Visitation will be held Thursday from 4 to 8 p.m. at Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home in Portland. Funeral services will be held Friday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home. Pastor Huey Kelly will officiate the service and burial will take place at Gardens of Memory Cemetery in Muncie.

Memorials may be directed to New Mt. Pleasant Methodist Church or Everheart Hospice.

Condolences may be expressed at williamsonspencer.com.

Melodi Haley

Aug. 11, 1948-April 6, 2021 Melodi S. Haley, age 72, of Portland passed away Tuesday, April 6, 2021, in IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie.

Wetlands

Continued from page 1 favor of the amendment, however. Democrat and Republican representatives voted in favor of the bill passing out committee, but said they may change their minds on the House floor.

Rep. J.D. Prescott, R-Union City, said it was a matter of "taking what he could get." (Prescott's district includes Jay County.)

"Senate Bill 389 in its our interests ... but you Not everyone was in original form was a much stronger bill, a better bill," Prescott said in committee. "IDEM is an agency that has been out of control and we need to make sure we reign them in." the bill. "This is the kind of

Opponents of the bill saw the amendment as a step in the right direction, although the it is still more stringent than they would like.

"It's clearly a step toward the table before."

Blue

Continued from page 1 The health department was also accepting walk-in appointments this afternoon.

As of Wednesday, more than 8,300 doses of coronavirus vaccine had been administered in Jay County. A total of 3,424 have been fully vaccinated.

Statewide, more than 3.1 million doses have been administered, with 1.29 million fully vaccinated.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines encourage wearing a sure.

mask, avoiding close contact when around others, frequent hand washing and surface cleaning as ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Indiana restrictions that had been in place in some form since March 2020 were lifted Tuesday with some exceptions, including on school property. The state's mask mandate was removed, though masks are still recommended.

The virus causes a range of symptoms, which can appear two to 14 days after expo-

bairdfreeman.com.

Sylvia K. Shetler, rural Berne, a relative of area residents, died Wednesday at her home. Services will be at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Shetler residence, 2406 W. 350 South, Berne.

•••••

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 land, Michael Ellsworth (wife: homes or mortuary services.

SERVICES

Today

Gray, Annotta: 2 p.m., Walker Funeral Home, 248 E. South St.,Winchester.

Friday

DeVoss, Norma: 10 a.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday

Shetler, Sylvia: 9 a.m., Shetler residence, 2406 W. 350 South, Berne.

Ellsworth, David: 11:30 a.m., Green Park Cemetery, Portland.

Tighe, Dustin: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Haley, Melodi: 3 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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

Family

Optimists donate

Portland Optimist Club recently made several donations — \$500 to the Jay County High School girls tennis team and \$300 to the Jay County Summer Swim Team. It also donated to Jay Community Center for its Boomer Sports program. Pictured, Jeff Bowen presents checks to summer swim team president Chantel Beiswanger (right) and coach Dave Cramer, Lily Hedges and Courtney Benter (below) of the girls tennis team.





Work at home creates conflict

DEAR ABBY: As the pandemic has forced many to work remotely, I feel certain I'm not the only person with this dilemma. I have been working from home since last March. My fiance, on the other hand, has a manual labor job in a skilled trade. Abby, it seems like every other day he picks a fight with me because he thinks I should have the house clean, chores done and dinner cooked when he returns from work, despite the fact that I have been working at my job all day.

He equates my being home to me being able to take care of all the chores. He criticizes me and calls me lazy and other names all the time. Regardless of what he thinks, I have a demanding job in an IT field, which is no less demanding because I'm home. It involves numerous conference calls all day.

I have an opportunity now where some of us can he's harassing you come back to the office, but because I have an autoimmune disease, I'm heart to chip in, then hesitant. Should I go back for the sake of your to the office to keep the peace or remain working PLEASE rethink this from home, which I actual- engagement, because it ly enjoy? I have talked to is unhealthy.



him about this repeatedly, and it not only doesn't seem to be getting any better, it's getting worse. Your thoughts? — TELECOM-MUTING IN FLORIDA

DEAR **TELECOM**-**MUTING: Your physical** health must come first. If returning to the office will endanger your health, you must stay home and protect it.

Your mental health comes next. Your fiance appears to be having a chauvinistic fever dream in which he has been transported back to the 1950s. For the last quarter of a century and more — men have been helping their partners with the "chores" about. If he can't dig deep and find it in his health and your sanity,

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Blood drives scheduled for April

There will be multiple opportunities to give blood this month.

The American Red Cross will host a series of blood drives in April, including one each in Portland and Bryant.

There will be a drive from 2 to 7 p.m. April 20 at Bryant Wesleyan Church, 209 S. Hendricks St. A drive is also scheduled for 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 27 at Jay Community Center.

Additional blood drives in adjacent counties are slated for April 16 at Riverside Center in Decatur and Bluffton-Wells County Public

Taking Note

> Library, April 20 at the library in Bluffton and April 25 at Hope Missionary Church in Bluffton. Delaware County Fairgrounds will play host to blood drives on Monday as well as April 22 and May 4.

To schedule an appointment visit

redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2767.

Process underway

Jay School Corporation's enrollment process for kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year is underway.

The process begins online by filling out a registration form at jayschoolcorp.org. After filling out the form, parents will be contacted in may about setting up a kindergarten assessment. For that session, parents will need to bring a copy of their child's birth certificate and social security numbers.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in

AMERICAN LEGION meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. miscarriage, birth or ill-

Community Calendar as POST 211 AUXILIARY — each Thursday at The Rock ness will meet from 7 to 9 space is available. To sub-Will meet at 6 p.m. at 211 W. Church, 1605 N. Meridian p.m. at St. Vincent Ran*mit an item, email* Walnut St., Portland. St., Portland. Come early dolph Hospital, Winches-

,	We	dr	ies	sda	ıy'	s S	ol	uti	ion	news@thecr.com.
	2	8	6	9	7	4	1	5	3	Today SENIOR CI'
The objective is to fill a nine-by nine grid so that	3	9	4	1	5	2	8	6	7	CARD CLUB — W
each column, each row, and	5	7	1	3	8	6	4	2	9	at 1 p.m. on the fi
each of the nine three-by- three boxes (also called	4	2	3	7	9	5	6	8	1	ond, third and fifth day of each month
blocks or regions) contains	6	1	7	8	2	3	9	4	5	Community Center
the digits from 1 to 9 only one time each.	8	5	9	6	4	1	7	3	2	PIKE FRIENDS
one time caon.	9	4	5	2	6	7	3	1	8	NEIGHBORS — W
	7	3	2	4	1	8	5	9	6	at 5:30 p.m. Thursda 8, at Richards Res
	1	6	8	5	3	9	2	7	4	in Portland.
Dr. Thomas Banta 1413 W. Votaw St., Portland 260-726-7822			9 F	01 t. F 41	Inc Rec 9-3	lus ove 75	tria ery -49	il D , O 951		All Weath Heating and Conditioni
Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition		Williams Auto Parts, Inc. 1127 Detroit Ave. Portland, IN 8-5:30 Mon-Fri, Closed						(260)726-482 24 hr Emergency S Serving Portla & Surrounding A		
100 N. Meridian St.,		8	-5:	30	IVIC		-rı, Suı	Cl	osed	Baird Freem

TIZENS ill meet rst, sec-Thursn at Jav

S AND ill meet ay, April taurant

RECOV-CELEBRATE ERY — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 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.

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

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 all kinds of addictions, will have lost a baby through

ter, in community room 1. For more information, call Kimberly Sibery at (765) 964-6075 or Nikki Bosworth at (765) 584-6452.

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.

Dr. Thomas Banta 1413 W. Votaw St., Portland 260-726-7822	Home Idea Center 901 Industrial Dr. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-375-4951 www.ehomeidea.com	All Weather Heating and Air Conditioning	E MA
Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition 100 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371 Email:	Williams Auto Parts, Inc. 1127 Detroit Ave. Portland, IN 8-5:30 Mon-Fri, Closed Sat & Sun. Used auto parts since 1951	(260)726-4822 24 hr Emergency Service Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas Baird Freeman Funeral Home 221 N. Meridian St.	
jcdpccontact@gmail.com Barnes Sewer & Septic, LLC 3075 N. 100 W., Winchester 765-584-7295 www.barnesseptic.com	1951 www.williamsautoparts.com Ohio Valley Gas 129 E. Main St., Portland 260-726-8114 www.ovgc.com	Dunn Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Portland, IN 47371 260-726-8007	Businesses
Fuqua Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep & Ram 127 E. Commerce St., Dunkirk Garage is open! 765-768-6224 www.fuquachysler.com	Grube Auctioneering 111 ¹ / ₄ E. Butler St. Ft. Recovery, OH	Cascio Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Suite B Portland, IN	Services
Fortkamp Foam 3226 Wabash Road Ft. Recovery, OH 419-852-1390 Fortkampfoam.com	419-305-9202 grubeauctioneering@ gmail.com Live & online auctions	260-726-7006 New patients are always welcome	All Circuit Electrical, LLC 5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN 260-997-8336 www.allcircuitelectrical.com Bisplay Craft Slgns 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535 Bisplay Craft Slgns 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535

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Opinion

It's our obligation to pursue truth

To the editor:

Growing up, I was taught the importance of telling the truth, even if it hurt.

Honesty is a highly regarded character trait that helps define a person as credible. The depths of meaningful relationships with others is heavily dependent on being truthful.

But what is true today?

How can you be truthful about information you share if you lack clarity of the reliability of those alleged facts?

And how does relative truth, which is influenced by perspective, play into this?

I love the taste of fish, but my wife doesn't. Who's correct in describing whether or not it's worth eating?

We live in an information age with access to various forms of media at our fingertips. However, having more information doesn't increase the amount of available truth. Sometimes information is deliberately skewed to achieve other goals — like gaining power or wealth, for examples.

Letters to the Editor

This reminds me of Arthur Sackler who, in the 1960s, used the persuasive power of advertising to promote the use of Valium. His team pitched directly to doctors that this pill was a remedy for all kinds of ailments. Within the following decade, and billions of dollars in profits later, his pharmaceutical company was accused of not warning of the drug's addictive potential. Yet years later, the same advertising strategies were applied (and acceptable) to market another opiate painkiller — OxyContin.

On a more personal note, I can't help but reflect on an invasive surgery I had over five years ago. At the time, my surgeon claimed the benign tumor

monitoring for several years with my doctor had a 30% chance of being cancerous. I had it removed and later questioned the need for the entire "whipple procedure." The surgeon simply said that I might have developed pancreatitis. I now daily deal with surgical hernias in my abdomen and malabsorption of some nutrients for something that might have happened.

Fortunately, that experience led to my hesitancy in having a recommended triple bypass surgery a year and a half later. With prayer intervention intensifying my feelings of reservation about the upcoming surgery, I postponed the procedure. A second catherization allegedly confirmed that the blockage still existed in the arteries, but I declined the bypass surgery anyway.

Since then I've had no issues with my heart. Last spring three years later — I decided to ing this task may appear. Sortget a second opinion. The cardi- ing out truth amidst the deluge

stress test. I passed with flying colors. The doctor shared his interpretation of the images that were taken of my heart three years prior. He determined those images indicated that two of the arteries needed no attention, while the third may have benefitted from a simple stint. He described me as a 1% heart risk.

These examples of distorted truth — motivated by pride, greed or whatever — are not intended to undermine the integrity of all skilled professionals or corporate entities that truly aspire to positively influence mankind. There is a plethora of honest and wellintended people, which can even include many political figures, that desire to ethically serve the public, to share, and act on what is true.

Ultimately, every individual has the responsibility to seek truth, regardless of how daunt-

on my pancreas that I'd been ologist had me complete a of information we are constantly inundated with can be extremely challenging. This is why some call on God for clarity and discernment — not out of weakness, but to acknowledge that He's the expert in the matter. For Jesus said that He's the way, the truth and the life.

Although most of us are raised with the instructions to be truthful (even if it hurts) and that "honesty is the best policy," not all people are committed to this selfless quest. It's a hard truth to accept, but unfortunately some have other motivating factors that draw a stronger allegiance.

Truth can be found, but you must seek it. To simply accept an assertion based on a seemingly astute presentation is a discredit to the mind you've been gifted with. As the only truly intelligent species on earth, we're obliged to pursue truth.

Sincerely, Doug Johnson **Rural Portland**

Are we ready for changes?

By MORTON J. MARCUS

I've been asked (by two readers) to write about two questions.

This flood of interest is overwhelming.

Thus, with much humility, I offer the following opinions:

On teacher's pay: Michael Hicks at Ball State University has offered two columns on the subject.

He makes the statistical argument well about Indiana's delinquency regarding the pay of teachers.

Our compensation for teachers is below the market rate. This likely, but not necessarily, gives us teachers who are below standard quality. Are the teachers' union and the local school boards ready to dismiss or retrain teachers who do not perform up to the standards to which we aspire?

Perhaps, we don't need higher pay for teachers. Rather, do we need pay for more teachers with the skills necessary to meet the challenges of today's students? Both more pay and more teachers suggests higher taxes, even for businesses. That brings us to our teacher colleges. Are they admitting sub-par students and turning out sub-par graduates? Likewise, are Indiana voters and legislators willing to upgrade the quality of our school boards and do battle with all the organizations mentioned thus far? I see no evidence Hoosiers are ready to improve our schools. Why aren't the university presidents out in front on this effort? Must Mitch Daniels do everything alone? College, the "problem" can be resolved without a Constitutional amendment. Maine and Nebraska have shown us the petition as each party has way. In those two states, two electors go to the party that wins the statewide vote, just as today. Each remaining elector goes to the party winning each Email him at mortonjcongressional seat.



In Indiana, we had eleven electoral votes in 2020

Under the current winner-take-all rule, all 11 electoral votes went to the winner of Indiana's presidential vote, Donald . Trump.

If the Maine/Nebraska system had been operative, two electoral seats would go automatically to the Republicans. But with Democrats winning two congressional races, they would get two electoral votes; Republicans would get seven electors based on their seven congressional wins. In total, the score would have been Republicans 9,

Democrats 2. By my count, 27 states



One cheer for earmarks

Bv RAMESH PONNURU

Bloomberg Opinion Tribune News Service

After a 10-year hiatus, earmarks are coming back to the U.S. Congress. Democrats and Republicans alike repudiated the practice of letting congressmen direct federal spending to specific projects and enterprises around the start of President Barack Obama's administration. Now both parties have decided to revive it, with reforms. The decision should inspire mixed feelings. Earmarking isn't the most noble activity a congressman can undertake, and it can even be corrupt. But the ban hasn't lived up to the hopes that were invested in it. The campaign against earmarks took off during the last years of the George W. Bush administration. The number of earmarks had vastly increased starting in the mid-1990s. Earmarks played a role in congressional scandals of the time. Representative Duke Cunningham, a California Republican, resigned and went to prison after it emerged that he had taken bribes to steer defense contracts to certain companies. Conservatives were starting to sour on Bush, regarding him as a big spender, and earmarks became a symbol to them of the party's wrong turn during his era. "Earmarks are the gateway drug to overspending,' said Tom Coburn in 2006, when he was a Republican senator from Oklahoma. "And if you'll get rid of earmarks, you're going to start seeing a fiscally more conservative Senate. Senators would no longer be tempted to vote for bills they knew deserved their opposition but included goodies for their constituents. At least that was the theory.

Ramesh Ponnuru



Labor Department to get stimulus funds, but Republicans generally didn't.

Speaking of Obama, his hope was also dashed. "Trust and confidence" in Congress, as measured by Gallup, was not high a decade ago, but managed to sink further during the earmark-free decade. Congressmen do not seem to have had any difficulty getting themselves into scandals without earmarks. They have made do with tax fraud, insider trading and that old standby, sexual misconduct. It's possible that the earmark ban even lowered the repute of Congress, in an indirect way. Supporters of earmarks often argued that they helped the legislature function by giving its leaders carrots and sticks. (This was the mirror image of Coburn's argument: He thought too much legislation was passing that way.) The ban on earmarks may have made budget brinksmanship more common. But the effect should not be exaggerated. Rising partisanship surely played a larger role, and it was happening during the period of earmark proliferation. Looking back over the last 20 years or so, earmarks appear to have been a symptom of larger trends rather than a cause. Congressmen rejected earmarks as they grew more concerned about federal spending, and have come back to them as they have shed those inhibitions. But earmarks don't themselves determine spending levels, even indirectly. The ban didn't achieve much, and lifting it will slightly strengthen an enfeebled Congress and weaken an overmighty presidency. One cheer, then, for the return.

have split delegations to the House of Representatives.

In California, instead of all 55 electoral votes going to Biden, under the Maine/Nebraska system, Biden 44, Trump 11. In Texas it would have been Republican 22, Democrat 13 instead of Republican 35, Democrat 0.

With the Maine/Nebraska model in place, the 2020 electoral count would have Democrat been 275,Republican 263 instead of Democrat 306, Republican 232.

The current system gave Biden 57% of electors; the proposed system would reduce that to 51%, matching the popular vote.

With these changes, As for the Electoral candidates and their parties would pay more attention to congressional districts.

We might increase comreason to turnout their voters, winning districts and improving their statewide vote.

.....

Marcus is an economist. marcus@yahoo.com.

In his 2011 State of the Union address, Obama presented the end of earmarks as a necessary step toward "Because the American people deserve to know that special interests aren't larding up legislation with pet projects," he declared, "both parties in Congress should know this: If a bill comes to my desk with earmarks inside, I will veto it. I will veto it."

Spending on earmarks was never a large part of the budget. A new report on earmarks by Zachary Courser and Kevin Kosar for the American Enterprise Institute points out that "even at their peak, earmarks accounted for only 3% of total discretionary spending - and discretionary spending is only about a third of all federal outlays.

In the first years of the earmark moratorium, though, Coburn's gateway-drug argument looked pretty good. Federal spending and the federal deficit shrank as a share of the economy. But the picture got worse during Donald Trump's presidency. A bipartisan spending spree took place even with earmarks gone.

The earmark ban didn't even get rid of earmarks so much as it drove them underground. Members of Congress turned to "lettermarks": Instead of specifying who should get federal money in bills or committee reports, they wrote letters to pressure the agencies administering the spending to direct it to favored recipients. The effect was to make such directed spending depend more on which party held the White House. Liberal Democrats in Congress got

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Ponnuru is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is a senior editor at National Review and a visiting fellow restoring confidence in government. results from writing to Obama's at the American Enterprise Institute.



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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 umc.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 Dunkirk of Latter-Day Saints 1865 S. Indiana 167, Junkirl

Faith Community 9560 W. Dunkirk Joe Schmit (260) 251-5254 Services: 10 a.m.

Family Worship Center 200 E. Elder St., Portland Ronald Willis (260) 726-4844 Services: 11 a.m., 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., 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., Robert Thomas (765) 348-4620 ervices: 9:30 a.m., 6:30

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Church

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**

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

River of Life

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

Matt Ransom (260) 726-7474 Services: 9 and 11 a.m. matt@therockjc.org

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

228 S. Meridian St., Portland Dave Keen (260) 251-8792

St. James Lutheran County road 600 East, south of county road 400 South Robin Owen Services: 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph Catholic 1689 St. Joe Road, Fort Recovery Rev. Ned Brown

St. Mary's Catholic 346 S. Broad St., Dunkirk Rev. Kevin Hurley Services: 5 p.m. Saturday,

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

St. Peter Catholic 1477 Philothea Road, Fort Recoverv

Rev. Ned Brown Services: 10 a.m. Sunday

Sugar Grove Nazarene

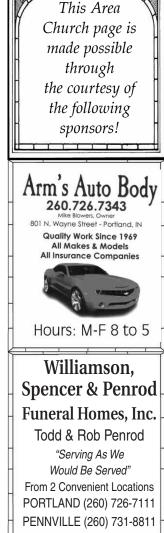
County roads 400 North and 550 West **Rev. Dan Sickels** (260) 731-4733 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park)

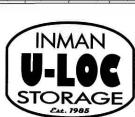
Sugar Grove United Methodist

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 and 6 Services: 11 a.m p.m., 7 p.m. Wednesday







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Second Chance at Life Ministries

Mike Eads (260) 703-0733

Services: 10:30 a.m.

pastorrobino@gmail.com

Services: 7:30 a.m. Sunday

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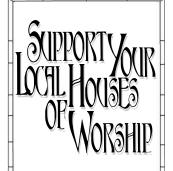
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Andrew Stevens (765) 768-6969 Services: 10 a.m.

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 avenues, Portland Chicago 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) 251-0970Services: 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.

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. Saturdav churchofthemostholytrinity.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

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 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 mail.com p.m., 6:30 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@g Services: 10:30 a.m.

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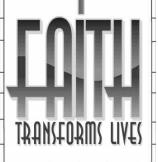
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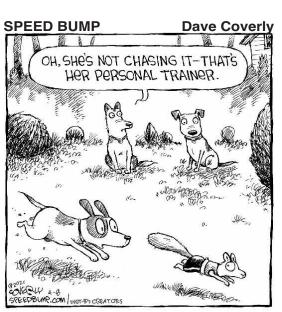


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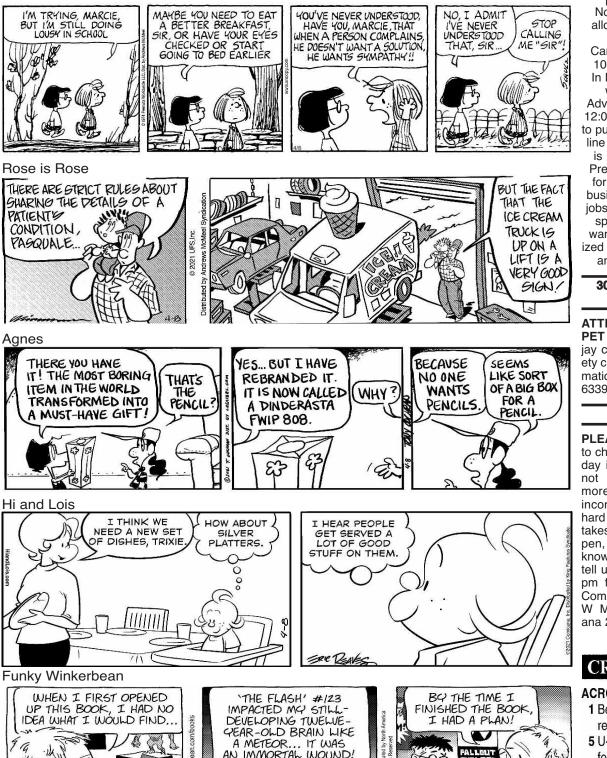
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(765) 546-8801 Senior Life Insurance 260-418-9492	50	57	26		260-726-

90 SALE CALENDAR

HUNT ESTATE, FARM & BIRD

Auction Live & Simulcast Multi Ring! Saturday, April 10th 10 am-Live Ring Farm Supplies & Tools Gates, Hopper Wagon, 220 Large Air Compressor, Hay Rake, 3 pt. Post Auger, Aluminum Boat, Batteries, Work Benches, Electric Motors, Wood Shelving, 3 pt. Disc, Steel Wheels, Dog Kennel, Water Tanks, Ladders, Tool Box, and more! 11am-Bird Auction Chickens, Peacocks, Ducks, Pigeons, Turkeys, etc. 12pm-Hunt Estate Simulcast 410 Shot Gun, 22 Rifle, Furniture, Antiques, Primitives, Coins, Comic Books, Canning Jars, Fishing Supplies, and much more! Go to www.bidbricker.com to start bidding! Tel: 260-251-4445 Cell: 260-703-0839 Bricker Auction Company Chad Bricker-Auctioneer AU11600027 PUBLIC AUCTION Located: 11559 West Highway 26, Dunkirk IN Saturday, April 10th, 2021 10:00 am

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A MUST-HAVE GIFT! FWIP 808.	40 NOTICES	Review Classifieds.	Crosley radio, Garfield toys, Pink depression,
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	W Main, Portland, Indi- ana 260-726-8141.		our office at (260) 726-
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Indians rally for 4-2 win

By JOE NOGA

Cleveland.com Tribune News Service

CLEVELAND — José Ramírez provided the muscle as the Cleveland Indians' offense came alive late Wednesday and Shane Bieber delivered his typical steady effort in a 4-2 win against Kansas City.

homered Ramírez twice against Royals relief pitchers, blasting a two-run shot to right field in the eighth off Greg Holland for what proved to be the winning runs.

Nick Wittgren pitched a scoreless ninth inning for his first save since Sept. 4, 2019 against the White Sox. Emmanuel Clase (1-0) struck out a pair of Rovals hitters in the eighth and picked up the win.

Starting pitcher Shane Bieber struck out 12, but allowed an uncharacteristic four walks in 6 1/3innings. He left in the seventh after issuing Kyle Isbel a free pass and giving up a base hit to Michael Taylor with one out.

Manager Terry Francona summoned James Karinchak from the bullpen, but Nicky Lopez greeted Karinchak by smashing a first-pitch fastball into right field for an RBI single that tied the score at 2-2.

Cleveland managed just three baserunners through the first five innings against Royals

starter Jakob Junis. Junis entered the game 1-5 in his previous eight starts against Cleveland since the beginning of 2019. Junis had allowed nine home runs to Indians hitters over a 41 1/3 inning span.

But Junis stymied the Indians offense with good command, walking a pair and allowing only a second-inning single to Josh Naylor. He left after the fifth, throwing just 58 pitches.

Cleveland hitters came to life against Kansas City's bullpen in the sixth as José Ramírez delivered the first runs for the home team in 2021.

Ramírez drove a Jesse Hahn slider foul deep into the right field corner on the first pitch he saw from the right-hander, but managed to keep the next pitch fair, launching Hahn's sinker 355 feet to the seats in right.

Ramírez's first home run of 2021 snapped a scoreless streak for the Indians at Progressive Field of 14 2/3 innings to start the season. It was his 17th career multihomer game.

Bieber threw 20 pitches in the first inning, but appeared to settle in after that. His sixth-inning strikeout of Royals catcher Salvador Perez gave him 17 career doubledigit strikeout games, passing C.C. Sabathia for eighth in franchise history.



Cleveland.com/Tribune News Service/John Kuntz

Cleveland Indians third baseman Jose Ramirez rounds the bases after hitting a two-run homer off Kansas City Royals relief pitcher Jesse Hahn in the sixth inning Wednesday at Progressive Field.

Sports on tap

Scoreboard

NBA Basketball Indiana 141, Minnesota 137 washington 131, Orlando 116 Boston 101, New York 99 Brooklyn 139, New Orleans 111 Memphis 131, Atlanta 113 Houston 102, Dallas 93 Charloote 113, Oklahoma City 102 Denver 106, San Antonio 96 Phoenix 117, Utah 113 F/OT

Major League Baseball Cincinnati 11, Pittsburgh 4 Cleveland 4, Kansas City 2 Atlanta 7, Washington 6 F/7

Altanta 2, Washington 0 F/7 Minnesota 3, Detroit 2 Boston 9, Tampa Bay 2 Texas 2. Toronto 1 Milwaukee 4, Chicago Cubs 2 F/10 Oakland 4, L.A. Dodgers 3 F/10 Philadelphia 8, N.Y. Mets 2 Seattle 8, Chicago White Sox 4 San Francisco 3, San Diego 2 F/10

Local schedule

Today Jay County — Softball vs. Delta – 5 p.m.; Girls tennis at Bellmont – 5 p.m.; Baseball vs. Elwood – 5:30 p.m.; Track at Bellmont – 5:30 p.m.; JV baseball at Shenandoah - 5

p.m.; JV softball vs. Delta - 5 p.m. Fort Recovery — Baseball at Delphos St. John's – 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Delphos St. John's - 5 p.m.

Friday

Fort Recovery - Track at Celina Invitational – 4:45 p.m.; Baseball vs. Houston at Day Air Ballpark in Dayton – 5 p.m.; Softball at Fort Loramie – 5 p.m.; JV baseball vs. Houston – 5 p.m.

Saturday Jay County — Boys golf at Yorktown Invitational - 10 a.m.: Baseball at Mississinewa - 10 a.m.; Tennis at Hagerstown

Invitational - 10 a.m.; JV baseball at Mississinewa - noon Fort Recovery - Softball doubleheader vs. Franklin Monroe - 11 a.m.

Monday Jay County — Boys golf vs. Richmond – 5 p.m.; Baseball vs. Coldwater – 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Huntington North – 5:30 p.m.; JV baseball at Coldwater – 5 p.m.; Junior high track hosts Southern Wells and Adams Central – 5:30 p.m.

TV schedule

Today 7:30 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Miami Heat (TNT) 10 p.m. - NBA Basketball: Phoenix Suns at Los Angeles Clippers (TNT)

Friday 7 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Indiana Pac ers at Orlando Magic (FSIN)

Saturday

8:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Los Ange les Dodgers at Brooklyn Nets (ABC)

Sunday

7:08 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Philadelphia Phillies at Atlanta Braves (ESPN)

130 MISC. FOR SALE

230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

Scoring historic in Reds' start

By DAVID JABLONSKI Springfield (Ohio) News-Sun **Tribune News Service**

CINCINNATI — A number of Cincinnati Reds fans brought brooms to Great American Ball Park on Wednesday.

They started waving them when Tyler Naquin hit the first pitch of the bottom of the first inning into the stands in left field. They kept waving them as the Reds added four more runs in that inning. They waved them when Nick Castellanos hit his fourth home run of the season. They waved them as starter Luis Castillo blanked the Pittsburgh Pirates for seven innings. They waved them when Tyler Stephenson and Aristides Aquino hit back-to-back home runs in the eighth inning.

The brooms flew again when Amir Garrett ended an 11-4 victory with a strikeout as the Reds completed a three-game sweep and won their fifth straight game. It's early, but the Reds have been spectacular — especially at the plate — and dominant.

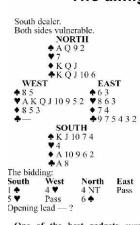
The Reds have scored 57 runs, the most the franchise has ever scored in the first six games. "It's awesome,"

said Reds outfielder Kyle Farmer, who drove in two runs with a double in the first inning. "It starts with the energy in the clubhouse from the older guys on our team. Guys are hot right now. Everyone is rolling well. Hitting is contagious. It's a lot of fun to watch.'

The last time the Reds started 5-1 in 2016, they lost six of their next seven games. Of course, that team only scored 31 runs in its first six games. This team is averaging 9.5 runs through its first six games and has shown the potential to be a powerful offense.

Bridge By Steve Becker

The almighty deuce



One of the best gadgets ever devised is the Blackwood Convention, which enables a partnership to learn how many aces and kings it has. The great disadvantage of Black-wood is that players tend to overuse it. They show such an abiding inter-est in accs and kings that they lose sight of the main objective — namely, how many tricks can be made.

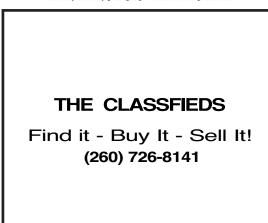
Blackwood should be used only in cases where knowledge of how many aces and kings partner has will determine the best final contract. If

4-8

CRYPTOQUIP

XTMRO GZO TMRQEQYBO YNQG LNHOL HQX TCELNFTXTMS ZTX ΗQΧ OFOLW CNFO, Ζ0 EBQWTMS TG YW NQL? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ANALGESIC BRAND

FOR ACHES AND PAINS PEOPLE GET FROM INSTALLING BATHROOM FLOORS: TILING-ALL. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Z equals H



other factors are more relevant — such as distribution, secondary con-trols, intermediate cards, trump length and so on — the convention should not be used.

For a clear case of the proper use of Blackwood, consider North's four-notrump bid in this deal. If partner has two aces, North wants to be in six spades; if South has three aces, North spades; if South has three aces, North can consider undertaking seven spades; and if South has only one ace, North can stop at five spades. Blackwood is therefore entirely appropriate in this case. When the deal occurred, South responded to four notrump with five hearts, showing two aces. North cor-rectly leaped to six spades, an excel-lent slam that ordinarily would have been easily made. But West, who had listened attentively to the bidding.

listened attentively to the bidding, decided that normal defense would not stop the contract. It seemed to West that if he led a

high heart and it won, that would be his side's only trick. His opponents had bid much too confidently for him to expect his partner to come up with a second trick. So West decided to a stake the outcome on the possibility that East had the eight of hearts. Accordingly, he led the heart deuce! When East, much to his sur-

prise, won the trick with the eight, he had no trouble whatsoever finding the killing club return.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2021 King Features Syndicate Inc.

PUBLIC AUCTION Saturday, April 24th, 2021 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3886 W 300

90 SALE CALENDAR

N, Portland, IN 47371 (3.8 mi west of Hwy 27, on CR 300 N - north side)

REAL ESTATE

81 acres located in Section 33 of Jackson Township, Jay County. Being offered as 2 tracts, or in entirety. Tract One is 3 acres containing a 1Ω story 3-bedroom home with 816 sq. ft., a 40 ft. by 40 ft. Quonset building, a 20 ft. by 30 ft. outbuilding. Fenced and in a great location! Tract Two contains 78 acres with approximately 60 tillable acres (the balance being wooded).

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, April 11th, 1 TO 3 PM. Or for private showing phone Auctioneers. TERMS on real estate: Cash with 10% nonrefundable deposit day of Auction. Balance due at closing. Sale not subject to buyer obtaining financing. Arrange financing if needed prior

to Auction. Tractors - Vehicles -Farm Equipment - LP Tanks-

Antiques- Appliances-Furniture Terms on personal prop-

erty: Cash - Good Check - Credit Card **OWNER: Kelley Dixon** Estate Randy Noble (personal representative) Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad. Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate AC31800004 **AUCTIONEERS** Pete D. Shawver Lic# AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver Lic# AU10500168 260-729-2229 More Photos available at www.auctionzip.com & www.auctionsoft.com

AMISH CREW LOOK ING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, 260-849remodeling. 2489.

100 JOBS WANTED

110 HELP WANTED

THE DUNKIRK PARK BOARD is accepting applications for the following positions until April 16th pool manager, assistant manager, certified life guards, concessions, admissions, park labor. Applications can be picked up at The City Building is open from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday-Friday EoE

1ST AND 2ND SHIFT COOKS. 3 days on, 3 days off. Call 260-997-8300 before 2pm.

BANNERS 40" x 13" **BUY ONE** FOR \$**6**⁹⁵ GET **ONE FOR** \$**3**50

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Open

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p.m. Custom sizes

available.

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ning attitude who enjoys

110 HELP WANTED

a challenge and will attract new clients to print and digital media. Responsibilities: Develop and manage revenue producing relationships with current clients and agencies. Prospect for new business and build a full pipeline of sales products. Analyze client marketing goals and develop needs based solutions to achieve them. Qualifications: Strong problem solving and analytical skills. Have basic computer skills. Be able to work on a deadline. Have good communications skills. Be organized and have a positive attitude. Be able to pay attention to detail. Have reliable transporta-

tion & valid driver license. Prior experience with digital & print advertising sales experience preferred but not necessary, we will train. Apply in person along with your resume or mail in your resume to: The Commercial Review PO Box 1049, 309 W. Main St., Portland, IN 47371 Attn: Business Manager or email gpcbusiness@embarg-

mail.com EXPERIENCED SEMI DRIVER needed in Portland, IN. Monday-Friday dedicated run only, \$0.60/mile, 2500-3000 miles/week. Lots of benefits included. Call/text 260.251.7839 or email customerservice@tjxpservice.com

130 MISC. FOR SALE

ALUMINUM SHEETS 23"x30",.007 thick. Clean and shiny on one side..35 cents each or four for \$1.40, plus tax. The Commercial Review,

309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

190 FARMERS COL-UMN

AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid w/full loaders cab. heat/ac. Fort Recovery 419-852-0309

200 FOR RENT

PIEDMONT **APART-**MENTS, 778 W 7th Street, Portland, Indiana, accepting applications for 1, 2, 3 bedroom apartments, no application fee. Rent base on 30% of your gross income. Call 260-726-2920, TDD 800-743-3333. This is an Equal Opportunity Housing Complex. This institution is an Equal Opportuand Provider nity Employer.

INMAN U-LOC Storage. Mini storage, five sizes. Security fence or 24 hour access units. Gate hours: 8:00-8:00 daily. Pearl Street, Portland. 260-726-2833

LEASE SPACE available, Coldwater, OH. Manufacturing, warehousing, assembly, distribution, offices, inside and outdoor storage. Easy access to major highways and railroad access with loading docks and overhead cranes available. Contact Sycamore Group, 419-678-5318, www.sycamorespace.co m

NEED MORE STOR-AGE? PJis U-Lock and Storage, most sizes available. Call 260-726-4631.

220 REAL ESTATE

FOR SALE 16.24 ACRES BARE LAND on south side of 200 N west of 300 E Portland. Good building land. Contact Ben B. Girod 11464 S 150 E Geneva, IN 46740

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WE PAY CASH for junk autos. We pick up at your location. 1-765-546-2642 1-765-857-1071. or Slocumís Salvage

AUTO PARTS SWAP MEET, Sunday May 2nd, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Fairgrounds in Wapakoneta, OH. Info: 419-394-6484.

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given that the City of Portland by its City Council will conduct a public hearing on April 19, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers located at 1616 N. Franklin Street, Portland, IN 47371 to discuss the adoption of the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the next phase of upgrades to the waste water treatment facility. The PER provides information necessary for the State Revolving Fund (SRF) to determine the technical, economical, and environmental adequacy of the project. A copy of the PER will be available at City Hall for the public to examine. It will be available on April 2 -April 19. Questions and comments may be submitted to City Hall, 321 North Meridian Street, Portland, Indiana 47371, in writing prior to the public hearing. Written comments will be accepted during the hearing and for 5 days after the public hearing.

Lori Phillips, Portland Clerk-Treasurer, IAMC CR 4-8-2021 HSPAXLP

THE **CLASSFIEDS** Find it - Buy It Sell It! (260) 726-8141

Reds scoring runs at historic pace, see story page 7

Page 8

Thursday, April 8, 2021



Grab Friday's paper for coverage of tonight's JCHS baseball opener

www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review

LeFevre 3rd for Fordham

Robby LeFevre found himself back near the top of the standings.

LeFevre, a 2019 Fort Recovery High School graduate, earned a pair of topfive finishes for the Fordham University men's track team Friday at the Stockton Invitational.

The 10-time OHSAA state medalist placed third in the 100-meter dash with his time of 11.98 seconds.

In the 200 dash, LeFevre crossed the finish line in 23.83 seconds to place fifth.

Nana Anit of Montclair State won both of the races. He had times of 11.52 seconds in the 100 dash and 22.68 in the 200 dash.

The Fordham Rams compete this weekend in the Metropolitan Championships in New York.

Kendal Garringer Jay County – 2019

Was third in two events for the Manchester University women's track team Saturday at the Hanover Invitational.

Garringer had a height of 4 feet, 11.5 inches, in high jump to place third. Elizabeth Evans won with her jump of 5 feet, 8.75 inches.

Garringer was also third in the triple jump with a distance of 31 feet, 2 inches. Nosa Igiehon of Rose-Hulman had a winning distance of 35 feet, 7.75 inches. In the 100-meter dash,

Garringer had a time of 14.1 seconds to take fourth. Manchester scored 96

points for third out of four teams.

Cade Wendel Fort Rec. - 2018 Erie baseball team Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader against Kentucky Wesleyan.

Collegiate

Check-up

Wendel started and lasted five innings, allowing four earned runs on seven hits while striking out six and walking one. The Storm (3-16) lost 6-4, and Wendel did not factor into the decision.

In five appearances this year, Wendel is 0-2 with a 6.41 ERA and 21 strikeouts and eight walks in 19 2/3innings.

Collin Haines Jay County – 2018

Led the Indiana University-South Bend men's golf team as it competed in the TPC Deer Run Invitational on Friday and Saturday.

Haines shot 80 on each day of the two-day tournament hosted by Lawrence Tech. His tournament total of 160 was tied for 43rd overall.

The Titans shot 649 to place 12th out of 16 teams.

Nick Hayden Jay County – 2017

Also competed for the IU-South Bend men's golf team in the TPC Deer Run Invitational.

Hayden shot 81 on the first day, and added two strokes on the second for a tournament score of 164, Pitched for the Lake which placed him 56th.



The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Little late

Haleigh Clayton, right, of the Jay County High School softball team, is a little late applying a tag to prevent Savanna Morris of Blackford from scoring a run during the second inning of their game Monday night at JCHS. After trailing 4-0, Jay County rallied for a 9-4 victory against the Bruins.

Tennis opens with shutout

HARTFORD CITY — The Patriots' season opener was delayed two days

They still cruised past the Bruins. Jay County High School's girls tennis team began its 2021 season Wednesday by beating the Blackford Bruins, 5-0.

Lyric Garringer and Kierston Blunk were hardly challenged in their victories. Garringer topped Vanessa Carroll 6-1, 6-1 in their No. 2 singles contest, and Blunk didn't surrender a game in beating Sydney

Patriots cruise past Bruins, three get first career wins

for her first career victory. At No. 1 singles, Grace Brewster

also got the first win of her career, beating Sissy McNeal 6-2, 6-4. Jay County's No. 1 doubles team No. 2 doubles.

Thornburgh 6-0, 6-0 at No. 3 singles of Madison Dirksen and Rachel Muhlenkamp got the first wins of their career, beating Alli Clamme and Ammee Uggen 6-0, 6-0.

The Patriots received a forfeit at



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Pacers set season high

By J. MICHAEL The Indianapolis Star

Tribune News Service INDIANAPOLIS — The Minnesota Timberwolves are a team the Indiana Pacers are supposed to beat, but given the

for the first time this season. He matched up with Towns, and 6-7 forward Sampson served as his undersized backup. Bitadze scored 12 of his points in a 77-point first half. Oshae Brissett, a 6-7 forward on a 10day contract, played in the middle when both picked up 2 fouls. A dunk by Reid cut the Pacers' lead to 100-87 to make it uncomfortable, but Sampson swopped in behind Aaron Holiday's drive and inside of 3 players for Minnesota to snatch the offensive rebound for the putback.

April 10, 2021 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

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way they've played lately, that's not a given.

The Timberwolves were the chicken soup that the Pacers needed Wednesday to settle themselves during a sickly stretch of play at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

They beat the Timberwolves 141-137 to sweep the season series, playing without Malcolm Brogdon (right hip), Domantas Sabonis (left ankle) and Myles Turner (left ankle).

The Pacers (23-27) were led by Aaron Holiday (season-high 22 points), Justin Holiday (21 points), Caris LeVert (18 points), JaKarr Sampson (season-high 16 points), Goga Bitadze (season-high 14 points), T.J. McConnell (19 points, seasonhigh 15 assists) and Doug McDermott (12 points).

After a shaky start when the Pacers continued to allow second chances, they tightened up, even though they still were outrebounded 53-36.

Karl-Anthony Towns (32 points, 12 rebounds, 6 assists) led Minnesota, which lost to Indiana in overtime Feb. 17 when Sabonis had a 36-point triple-double. Anthony Edwards (27 points), Ricky Rubio (17 points), Naz Reid (16 points) and D'Angelo Russell (17 points) sparked the comeback that fell short.

The Timberwolves (13-38) trimmed a 21point halftime deficit to less than 10 after Edwards went on an 11-point run of his own early in the fourth quarter and eventually got it down to two points before the Pacers held on.

Goga Bitadze enters starting lineup

The Pacers rolled out their 15th different starting lineup with Bitadze being in it 3 to shut down another threat.

Aaron Holiday abuses Timberwolves

The Timberwolves tried to get away with not really covering Aaron Holiday. They stunted to him on his jump shot or tried to defend him above the arc with Jake Layman (9 points). He abused the mismatch in making 6 of 8 shots, including all 4 from 3. With the shot clock winding down to begin the fourth, Holiday buried a deep 3 over Reid. His backcourtmate McConnell got whatever he wanted as the Pacers called plays for him to isolate, beat his man off the dribble and get into the paint. With 25.6 seconds left and the shot clock about to expire, McConnell made a desperation corner 3 for Indiana's last field goal in a 1-possession game.

Justin Holiday breaks out of shooting slump

Justin Holiday hasn't shot the ball well from 3 lately shooting 25% in his previous 8 games, but in the fourth with Indiana's lead down to 112-103, he made consecutive 3s to hold off a surge. Then Edmond Sumner (7 points), who has shot almost 60% overall in his previous 7 games, got the bounce on a corner 3. A 3 from Edwards got the Timberwolves to 125-120 only for Holiday to respond immediately with another 3. Russell's 3 made it 128-125. Holiday answered again with a second-chance



