Thursday, May 20, 2021

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

Celebrating volunteerism



Brian Ison speaks at Portland The Foundation annual meeting Wednesday. Ison and Brandon Swoveland were presented the Jack Award Cole for Volunteerism at the meeting. Ison, who won the award for 2020, serves in multiple leadership roles across the county, including as president of the Portland Junior League and Chamber Leadership Academy boards.

Portland police officer resigns

\$1

Video alleged Clark sought sex with a minor

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review A Portland police officer has resigned after being suspended last week.

Portland Police Chief Josh Stephenson reported this morning that officer Joshua Člark has resigned from the department.

Clark's resignation came six days after he was suspended because a Predator Catchers video on Facebook alleged he messaged, planned to meet and discussed engaging in sexual conduct with an Avon minor. The video was posted on the evening of May 13 and Clark was suspended the same night.

According to comments made in the video, Clark, 36, messaged a 14-year-old "girl" and agreed to meet with her at an Olive Garden restaurant. (He was actually messaging the Predator Catchers team.) He allegedly indicated he was 17 and made sexual comments via text. He also told the team when they confronted him he didn't believe the "girl" was 14. The team alleged that he asked her to delete the texts stating her age.

"I'm an idiot," Clark repeated during the video.

No charges have been filed against Clark in Hendricks or Jay counties as of this morning. Avon Police Department has an ongoing investigation into the matter. See **Resigns** page 2

The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Ison, Swoveland get Cole award

By BAILEY CLINE The Commercial Review

A pair of volunteers were honored for their efforts Wednesday. The Portland Foundation presented the Jack Cole Award for pandemic. Volunteerism to Brandon Swove-

this year," executive director Doug Inman said, noting the foundation did not meet last year because of the coronavirus observed Brandon for years Chamber Leadership Academy

Swoveland, a Jay County the shadows," Inman read from Community Center board and a

cue 19 and Jay County Emer- free.' gency Management.

working on the sidelines and in board, vice president of the Jay

"We have two awards to give volunteer with Jay County Res- because he does this all for

Ison is president of the Port-"I as well others have land Junior League board and

2020 at its annual meeting.

as a volunteer firefighter and a tells you something about him

land for 2019 and Brian Ison for Sheriff's Office reserve, serves his nomination letter. "That member of Portland Park Board. See Volunteerism page 2

Airport projects approved

By RAY COONEY The Commercial Review

Runway extension work is slated to begin June 1. There will be some taxiway, hangar and striping improvements to go along with it.

Portland Board of Aviation on Wednesday approved nearly \$60,000 in projects for Portland Municipal Airport.

Board members John Lyons, Faron Parr, Clyde Bray and Mitch Sutton approved two improvement projects involving concrete work — one to repair taxiways that run between the hangars at the airport and another for a section of hangar floor.

Dalton's Concrete Construction was awarded the taxiway work at a cost of \$43,676. Its quote came in about \$12,500 under that of KBL Transport.

Mercer Concrete had the low

at a cost of \$3,060. Dalton's and KBL were the others who offered quotes for the work.

The board also approved spending \$15,368.75 to have Axtells re-mark 3,000 feet of the airport's runway. The company was already contract to re-stripe the other 1,000 feet of the existing runway that will be shut down during the extension project later this year. It agreed to do the additional work at the same cost per square foot of paint.

Site preparation work for the first phase of the runway extension project to 5,500 feet from the current 4,000 feet is scheduled to begin next week. Construction work is slated to start June 1 — it is contracted for 150 days — and a groundbreaking ceremony will be held at the airport at 3 p.m. June 2. The board OK'd a notice for HIS Constructors of Indi-

Friday with a high of 85. Highs

are expected to stay in the 80s

through at least the middle of

See page 2 for an extended out-

quote for the hangar floor project anapolis to proceed with the project on that timeline.

The first phase of runway extension involves leveling the land to the west of the current runway and enclosing 555 feet of Alexander Ditch. It will be completed this year.

The second phase, which is scheduled for 2022, includes paving and lighting. Jason Clearwaters of engineering firm Butler, Fairman & Seufert told the board he expects to bid that part of the project this summer.

In other business, the board:

•Heard the following from Tavzel: the airport is planning to host a fly-in this summer; Dunkirk resident and Sonrise Aviation employee Trent Finnertv of Dunkirk received his private pilot's license last week; the airport sold 3,998 gallons of fuel in April for a total of \$15,203.03. •Paid claims totaling \$13,932.46.

Thanking Frantz Jay School Board president Phil Ford (left) and

Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley share a laugh with school board attorney Phil Frantz during Monday's meeting. Frantz, who is retiring this week, was honored for his decades of service to the school board.

ay remains orange in state COVID-19 metrics

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The number of new cases of COVID-19 has come down since a spike during the first half of the month, but the positivity rate continued to rise.

The result was that the county stayed in the sec-

day. The low was 61.

low of 63.

ond-highest risk level in the seven-day positivity rate of the low point of 23 two state's metrics.

Jay County was rated "orange" (high risk for the spread of coronavirus) for 1.87% in March. the second consecutive week in Indiana State Department of Health's

next week.

look.

13.75%, up four percentage points from last week. The rate had been as low as

Its cases per 100,000 residents dipped to 137 this week, down from 229 last update released Wednesday. week. Still, the number is The county posted a significantly higher than

months ago.

Jay County recorded 86 new cases of COVID-19 through the first 18 days of May, already surpassing the full-month totals for February, March and April. (There were 215 new cases of the disease in January.)

The local spike in cases came from May 5 through 8, with 40 reported in that four-day span. The average has dropped to 3.3 cases per day in the 10 days since then.

Jay County was one of just three in Indiana to be orange, joining rated

Jasper and Lawrence counties. Forty-one counties, including Delaware, were rated "yellow" (moderate risk) and the remaining 48, including Adams, Wells, Blackford and Randolph, were rated "blue" (low risk)

See Orange page 2

Weather

Fighting between Israelis and Palestinians in the area of the Gaza Strip has topped headlines recently. What are your thoughts on the conflict?

Send letters to the editor to r.cooney@thecr.com. There is a 700-word maximum.

Friday — Results from tonight's girls tennis sectional championship match.

Coming up

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







The high temperature in Jay

Tonight's forecast calls for a

Expect mostly sunny skies

County was 79 degrees Wednes-

Volunteerism

Continued from page 1

He previously served as president of the John Jay Center for Learning board of directors, financial chair for Trinity United Methodist Church and a baseball, softball, soccer and flag football coach.

"Everything started here for me in John Jay," Ison said, while offering his thanks to those who helped get him involved.

The award was created by the foundation's board of directors when Jack Cole left the position of executive director to take a leadership role in statewide philanthropic organizations. He was unable to attend Wednesday.

The foundation's assets totaled \$39.95 million at the end of 2019 and \$43.1 million at the end of 2020, with the addition of 16 new endowments in the last two

\$1.8 million in gifts were received, and grants and scholarships totaling \$2.8 million were awarded.

Since its founding in 1951, the foundation has awarded \$12.3 million in grants and \$6.8 million in scholarships.

highlighted Inman also progress on the seventh phase of the Lilly Endowment Giving Indiana Funds for Tomorrow (GIFT), which matches funds for those building unrestricted endowments. The foundation raised \$500,000 in unrestricted endowments and received \$500,000 in matching funds.

In 2019, the foundation began the planning phase of the GIFT initiative and received a \$50,000 needs in the county, Inman years of service.

years, Inman reported. About added. After delaying nine months because of the coronavirus pandemic, the foundation started its implementation phase for the project last week.

Local

"The goal of the implementation phase is ... to develop a strategy to combat the interrelated issues of the opioid epidemic, high child poverty, low postsecondary educational attainment and low workforce development skills," he explained.

Task forces have been formed to begin developing a strategy for this phase to "hopefully move the needle in a positive direction," Inman said.

Outgoing foundation board member Pat Bennett and outgoing foundation board president Rex Journay were also honored grant to determine the greatest at the annual meeting for their



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Brian Ison (2020) and Brandon Swoveland (2019) were honored as winners of the Jack Cole Award for Volunteerism during The Portland Foundation's annual meeting Wednesday at John Jay Center for Learning.

CR almanac							
Friday 5/21	Saturday 5/22	Sunday 5/23	Monday 5/24	Tuesday 5/25			
*	۱						
85/62 Summer- like weather is setting in as the high climbs to 85 degrees under mostly sunny skies.	85/65 Expect a mostly cloudy day with clear evening skies. Highs will be in the upper 80s.	88/65 The high temperature will be 88 under sunny skies. A good day for a swim.	84/67 Mostly sunny skies are in the fore- cast again with a 30% chance of rain.	86/66 Expect a 40% chance of rain continu- ing all day and night under mostly sunny skies.			

Lotteries

Ρ	0	V	ve	rba	all	
	1	1	19	55	FC	C

11-13-55-56-69 Power Ball: 4 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: million \$218 million

Cash 5: 1-12-17-19-38 Hoosier Lotto: 1-3-13-18-31-36 Estimated jackpot: \$11

Ohio

	Unio		
Mega Millions	Midday		
Estimated jackpot:	Pick 3: 9-9-3		
v 1	Pick 4: 4-1-4-6		
\$515 million	Pick 5: 6-5-3-3-5		
Heesier	Evening		
Hoosier	Pick 3: 2-9-2		
Midday	Pick 4: 6-7-3-7		
Daily Three: 4-0-3	Pick 5: 2-1-6-3-4		
Daily Four: 0-7-6-2	Rolling Cash: 2-16-17-		
Evening	27-39		
Daily Three: 3-7-2	Classic Lotto: 11-16-17-		
Daily Four: 6-5-5-7	23-38-46		
Quick Draw: 1-2-6-9-10-	Kicker: 5-8-8-2-8-7		
11-12-13-22-27-29-33-34-41-	Estimated jackpot:		
44-47-60-63-71-74	\$8.6 million		

Capsule Reports

way. As he crossed the inter-

section with Como Road, 19-

year-old Paige S. Finch

drove a 2007 Cadillac CTS

into the side of his vehicle,

causing it to roll, according

to a Jay County Sheriff's

Office report. (Como Road

drivers have a stop sign at

Both vehicles were towed

the intersection.)

Failed to yield

Damage is estimated \$50,000 between and \$100,000 after a Ridgeville woman failed to yield to oncoming traffic on Indiana 67 at 3 p.m. Saturday.

Haskel K. Criswell III, 31, Muncie, was driving his 2015 Chrysler Town and Country west on the high-

Resigns

Continued from page 1 been obtained by the Portland department, according to a press release from Portland Mayor John Boggs. He had been with the department for less than three months.

"Although these incidents can be Clarks' badge and weapons have troubling to the public process and question the integrity of the department, it is important to note that these incidents are rare nationwide and this one incident should

from the scene. Criswell was transported to IU Health Jay for treatment of his injuries.

Deer hit

A Pennville woman drove into a deer on Indiana 18 about 12:10 p.m. Saturday.

ing her 2012 Chevrolet Traverse on the highway near county road 550 West when the animal ran into the roadway from a woods to the south. She wasn't able to stop before colliding her vehicle with it.

Bell's vehicle was towed, with damage estimated Amy L. Bell, 43, was driv- between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

opinion of the Portland Police Department," Boggs said in the release. A Portland Board of Works spe-

cial meeting that was scheduled for 4 p.m. Monday to discuss Clark's not distract the public's overall employment has been canceled.

range

Continued from page 1

Vaccination clinics continue to be open 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. The health department has also opened its vaccination clinic to walk-ins from noon to 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

IU Health Jay offers the Pfizer vaccine, which has been approved for those 12 and older. Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

The hospital will also host a community COVID vaccination clinic from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. Appointments are not required.

avirus vaccine had been administered in from an infected person coughing, sneez-Jay County. So far, 5,321 individuals have ing, talking or breathing. The CDC been fully vaccinated. administered statewide with nearly 2.35 million fully vaccinated.

Jay School Corporation superintendent Jeremy Gulley also announced Wednesday that with the expiration of Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb's executive order May 31, masks will no longer be required in schools beginning June 1. Classes in Jay County continue until June 12 because the start of the school year was delayed until September in response to the pandemic.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention last week updated mask-wearing guidelines, saying those who have been vaccinated do not need to be masked indoors except for in close-contact group settings such as airports and theaters.

Coronavirus is mainly spread through Ås of Wednesday, 10,921 doses of coron- respiratory droplets or small particles

SERVICES

Friday

Huntsman, Patsy: I p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

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

Saturday

Lotz, Milton: 2 p.m., Springer-Voorhis-Draper Funeral Home, 202 S. Illinois St., Monticello

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

Cooper Farms **Fort Recoverv**

1 011 110001019	
Corn	.7.00
Wheat	
,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	

Markets

POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....7.15 June corn7.15

The Andersons **Richland Township**

Corn	7.00
June corn	7.00
Beans	15.77
June beans	15.77
Wheat	6.69
June wheat	6.69

Central States **Montpelier**

montponoi	
Corn6.94	
June corn6.94	
Beans15.77	
Sept. beans13.27	
Wheat 6.68	
Sunrise	

St. Anthony

0	Corn	6.97
-	June corn	7.00
0 7	Beans	15.54
7	June beans	15.54
9	Wheat	6.33
9	July wheat	6.33

Today in history

On May 20, 1927, Charles Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field on Long Island, New York, aboard the Spirit of St. Louis on his historic solo flight to France.

In 1506, explorer Christopher Columbus died in Spain.

Abraham Lincoln signed the Homestead Act, Pacific. which was intended to west of the Mississippi River by making federal land available for farming.

1932, Amelia service. In Earhart took off from

Newfoundland to become the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. (Because of weather and equipment problems, Earhart set down in Northern Ireland.)

In 1956, the United States exploded the first In 1862, President airborne hydrogen bomb over Bikini Atoll in the

In 1971, Sheller-Globe encourage settlements of Portland held its annual service award banquet. Honorees included LeVaughn Lantz for 45 years of

—AP and The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today

6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

Monday

9 a.m. – Jay County St. Commissioners, commissioners' St., Portland.

ty Solid Waste Manage- 131 S. Main St.

ment District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland. 4 p.m. — 10 a.m. — Portland Board of Works special meeting, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin

com- 6 p.m. — Dunkirk room, Board of Works, city courthouse, 120 N. Court building, 131 S. Main St. t., Portland. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City 3:30 p.m. — Jay Coun- Council, city building,

Felony arrests

Resisting law

A Portland man was arrested Monday for resisting law enforcement. Edgar J. Serna, 19, 113 E. Washington St., was charged a Level 6 felony for the offense. He was released on \$3,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Maintaining nuisance

Three Portland residents were arrested Friday for maintaining a common nuisance.

Korey L. Ellsworth, 34, 511 E. High St., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for the crime and a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana. He was released on \$4,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Misty D. Ellsworth, 33, 322 N. Pleasant St., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for the crime, along with a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She was released on \$4,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Chanelle R. Gierhart, 30, 6769 W. 400 S., was preliminarily charged a Level 6 felony for the crime. She was also preliminarily charged a Class B misdemeanor for possession of marijuana and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia. She was released on \$10,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

reports that it may be possible those parti-About 4.89 million doses have been cles and droplets remain suspended in the air for an unknown period of time and travel beyond 6 feet, especially indoors.





FREE Mammogram Screenings

During the month of May (Must be scheduled by May 31, 2021.)

Eligibility Requirements:

- Women over the age of 40
- Uninsured
- Resident of Jay County or immediate surrounding Indiana county
- Have not had a mammogram in the past year
- Never had breast implants
- No personal history or symptoms breast cancer

*Additional testing, views, or procedures after the initial screening is the financial responsibility of the patient.

Funding provided by: IU Health Jay Volunteers

500 W. Votaw St. Portland, IN



Schedule your FREE Mammogram Screening today! 260.726.1868

**Screening for stateassisted insurance will be completed prior to scheduling.

> iuhealth.org ©2021 IUHealth 04/27/21

Family

Doctor husband is a poor patient

DEAR ABBY: My physician husband recently had a total hip replacement. (Orthopedics is not his specialty.) I'm a board-certified registered nurse with 40 years of experience who used to work inpatient orthopedics. He refuses to follow the surgeon's directions or mine, which are the same. He believes he knows more than all of us combined. However, when the home health nurse and physical therapist came, he accepted everything they told him. When I told him he doesn't respect my profession-al opinion, he didn't respond. Then I told him he'd insulted my integrity, and he blew up and accused me of being crazy.

History will soon repeat itself because he has to have his other hip done in a few months. I am to the point of letting the chips fall where they may and letting his have no choice but to let the



outcomes (good or bad) be his sole responsibility. However, this is difficult to do as a wife and nurse. Plus, I will have to live with the fallout of any subopti-mal outcomes. Your advice? — HIP SERVICE IN FLORIDA

SERVICE: DEAR HIP Whether caused by a painful recovery or the drugs he has been prescribed, your husband's behavior is self-defeating. Because he ignores your and his surgeon's advice, you

chips fall where they may. You wanted to hear, she is extremely can suggest and warn until you're hoarse, and your husband will continue to tune you out. The person who will have to live with the consequences is your noncompliant husband.

Allow me to offer a suggestion: Hire a nurse to tend to him after the second hip replacement and stay safely out of the line of fire. The peace of mind will be worth the money.

DEAR ABBY: I have a niece who is bipolar. She was put into rehab at the age of 20 and has been clean and sober for the last three years. We have always been close, but on a family visit, she asked my opinion about a job choice, and I was honest with her. Because it wasn't what she

distant now. I am no longer "Auntie." She calls me by my first name only. Weekly calls have ceased.

I have championed my niece, supported her emotionally when she had problems and helped her out financially. Her mother says if you don't agree with her (even though she solicits your opinion), you are then "against" her. What's the best way to reach out to her? Due to extreme drug abuse for many years, she seems emotionally stuck at age 14. — AUNTIE NO MORE IN CALI-FORNIA

DEAR AUNTIE: With the clear understanding that I am not a psychotherapist, may I point out that some individuals who suffer from mental illness find it necessary to place people into two categories: friends and enemies. Disagreeing with your niece has landed you in the latter. Her mother has explained this to you, so try not to take it personally.

I don't think this troubled young woman will be receptive to a reconciliation until she has found another target. In the meantime, remain open, stay cordial and fill your life with activities that bring you joy rather than pain. I'm sure her mother will update you on your niece's progress.

.....

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 Dear Ab-by.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Evangelical hosting weekend activities

Games are scheduled and refreshments will be for Friday. served.

The music will follow Sunday evening.

Evangelical Methodist Church will have a busy weekend as it hosts a Friday Fun Night from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Friday and an old-fashioned gospel sing at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Friday Fun Night will land. be held in the church's fellowship hall. It will call Pastor Steve Arnold include games and crafts, at (260) 251-0970.

There will also be devotions.

The gospel sing will feature Mark and Marie McKinley along with Paul Resler. Song requests are encouraged. The church is located at 930 W. Main St., Port-

For more information.

Sudoku								
				7	4		8	
8						5		
7	3				8		9	
	6			5		9	4	
			6				3	
5				4	2			
					3		7	
			8		7	3		4
		2						
Level: Intermediate								

Fifth in state

The Fort Recovery FFA poultry judging team recently placed fifth out of 67 teams in state competition. The team had to grade interior and exterior egg quality, judge broilers and layers, and take an exam about the poultry industry. Pictured, from left are team members Owen Knapke, Olivia Hawk, Alayna Laux, Makena Ellenberger and Megan Metzger. Hawk placed sixth in the state as an individual.

Community Calendar

Notices will appear in Rock Church, 1605 N. Community Calendar as Meridian St., Portland. space is available. To suban item, email mit news@thecr.com.

Today

ERY — A 12-step Christian ond, third and fifth Thursrecovery program meets at day of each month at Jay

Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

SÉNIOR CITIZENS CARD CLUB — Will meet CELEBRATE RECOV- at 1 p.m. on the first, sec-

EN AVANT CLUB Meets at 1 p.m. on the third

Thursday of each month. ORGAN TRANSPLANT SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 3 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the IU Health Blackford main conference room.

JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY — Will meet at

SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113. S. Main St., Dunkirk. CINCINNATUS

LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, May 21, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.



Tuesday's Solution

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

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

A BETTER LIFE – BRI-ANNA'S HOPE — A faithbased recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The at (765) 584-6452.

Community Center.

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 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library. The public is welcome.

PORTLAND LIONS CLUB — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month at Portland Lions Civic Center, 307 W. 100 North.

Friday

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL 2532.

Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Is open from 8 a.m. to noon each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church.

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

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	Find
Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition 100 N. Meridian St., Portland, IN 47371 Email: jcdpccontact@gmail.com	Williams Auto Parts, Inc. 1127 Detroit Ave. Portland, IN 8-5:30 Mon-Fri, Closed Sat & Sun. Used auto parts since 1951 www.williamsautoparts.com	(260)726-4822 24 hr Emergency Service Serving Portland & Surrounding Areas Baird Freeman Funeral Home 221 N. Meridian St. Portland, IN 260-726-7171	Local Businesses
Barnes Sewer & Septic, LLC 3075 N. 100 W., Winchester 765-584-7295 www.barnesseptic.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	Services
STANLEY STEEMER Asthma & Allergy friendly CARPET CLEANING 1-800-STEEMER 260-726-4377 FOR A CLEANER HEALTHIE HOME	Grube Auctioneering 111¼ E. Butler St. Ft. Recovery, OH 419-305-9202 grubeauctioneering@ gmail.com Live & online auctions	Cascio Family Dental Care 110 W. North St. Suite B Portland, IN 260-726-7006 New patients are always welcome	Fuqua Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep & Ram 127 E. Commerce St., Dunkirk Garage is open! 765-768-6224 www.fuquachysler.comFortkamp Foam 3226 Wabash Road Ft. Recovery, OH 419-852-1390 Fortkampfoam.comHopkins Repair, LLC Auto & light truck repair Mon-Fri. • 7am-4pm Call Scott Hopkins 260-251-0459All Circuit Electrical, LLC 5510 N. US 27, Bryant, IN 260-997-8336 www.allcircuitelectrical.comDisplay Craft SIgns 630 E. Votaw St. Portland, IN 260-726-4535Adair Processing 190 N. Union St. Pennville, IN 260-731-3221
This			

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

Opinion

Contact for Lions has been changed

To the editor:

Page 4

This letter is to let everyone know that the Dunkirk Lions Club no longer has Kent Taylor as its secretary/treasurer. He moved south over a year ago.

As a result, any correspondence sent to him regarding the Dunkirk Lions

Dunkirk Post the Editor

Club is at the Letters to

Office and can't be released to current president/treasurer Ray Jones.

Any correspondence can be sent to:

Dunkirk Lions Club Dunkirk Scout Cabin 205 Commerce St. Dunkirk, IN 47336 Or you can call Ray Jones at

(765) 748-0355.

The Dunkirk Lions Club is also in need of a good wood or metal building at least 10 feet by 10 feet to 10 feet by 14 feet that can be moved — donated or cheap — to store glassware and nickel pitch booth.

Thank you. Rosetta Soske Secretary Dunkirk Lions Club

UP NEXT, MORE OF MY INTERVIEW WITH LIZ CHENEY LIZ CHENEY IS JOINING US IN THE STUDIO. CLICK CLICK WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH MORE QUESTIONS FOR LIZ CHENEY. WE'RE LIVE WITH LIZ CHENEY. SO MUCH FOR THE GOP'S ATTEMPT TO SILENCE IZCHE MIKESMITH UANEGASFUN 2021 DIST. BYKING FEATURESSYNDKATE/NAS

Mental health is crucial I know how I need to be loved

By JENNY MCNEECE Vincennes Sun-Commercial

I suffer from anxiety and depression.

That's not something very easy for me to admit. Yet here we are.

I was always a rather anxious kid, always worried about what everyone else thought, always worried about whether or not I was good enough, always worried about this test or that quiz or some other big assignment. I thought I had to be perfect, pleasing to everyone around me.

While many memories from my childhood and adolescence are now blurred, that constant struggle with worry remains embedded, woven throughout every fiber.

Then, my family suffered a tragic loss just as I was entering high school, and that's when what I call "the doom" moved in. I'd never experienced sadness or longing like that before. It was hour spent amid the trees, in his consuming, overwhelming. And there were many a morning I wondered whether or not I would survive at all. Those feelings stuck with me. They're with me now, all the time. There's always "the pieces where I show you a bit of doom," some unknown, untouchable fear that I can't just always seem, especially for explain and barely touch. It's real and yet it's not. Because I struggled so much with that unexpected loss as a teenager, my parents thought it best I "talk to someone," as we so often say when we refer to a blur and I wonder if I'm makmental health counseling. Always eager to please, I did, and thus began what is now a life-long relationship with my own mental health. I remember talking to Dr. Fred as everyone so affectionately called him — in his quaint office, tucked into a corner of his rural and charming historic home, my frame slight in his high-backed, yellow fabric-lined chair. His little dog, a yorkie, would often curl up and sleep at my feet.



Through college and into adulthood, I continued seeing Dr. Fred from time to time. I worked through break-ups, more loss and, later, divorce. I talked through the struggles of new relationships, new challenges and even the fear that often comes with personal success.

Months — or even years would go by when I wouldn't seek therapy at all, but I would always, at some point, feel that craving — a longing for that sense of ease and weightlessness that so often comes with an little office, tucked into that high-backed chair. The other day, I had a conversation with a woman who was offering me a bit of praise for my writing, particularly these my heart. She said to me, "You someone so young, to really have it all together." I'll admit, I laughed, because most days I feel like I'm hanging on by the thinnest of threads. The hours and the days go by in ing any difference to anyone at all. But then I realized, maybe I do have, at least some of it, together. And if I do, it's because I gave myself the greatest gift when I succumbed to my parents' plea all those years ago. Over the years, during all of those hours and minutes spent talking and listening to Dr. Fred, locking away every whisper of advice and nudge toward selfawareness, I gave myself a tool box, so to speak — a collection of resources and knowledge I can draw upon when things get important. tough.

I know well the importance of respect. I know my mental health requires the setting of bound-

in return.

aries. I know that when I feel "the doom" set in, I can fight it by getting up and finding five things for which I am grateful.

I know the value of a long walk at sunset or an hour spent giving to someone other than myself.

And all of these tools came from my choice to embrace my mental health, not to run from it, all those years ago. Because understanding why we feel the way we feel — and why others respond to us in the ways they do is imperative to our overall health and well-being.

May marks Mental Health Awareness Month, something that's been observed in the U.S.

Let's pause to remember lessons By COLBERT I. KING

The Washington Post It is hard to imagine that the anniversary of the Supreme Court's ruling in Brown v. Board of Education could come and go without being duly noted in the halls of Washington or the national press. But, sadly, that is the case.

The landmark school desegregation decision, reached unanimously on May 17, 1954, is also a cornerstone in U.S. history. The Brown decision not only established that it was illegal to segregate public schools on the basis of race; it also overturned the 1896 Supreme Court decision in Plessy v. Ferguson that permitted segregation in public facilities across the board, so long as it could be maintained



Racial inequalities have not been erased racial and economic divides seem as entrenched as ever.

It was a safe space, a place for me to talk openly about my grief in — what I would later discover - was an attempt to take hold of it, examine it, understand it and, if possible, put it down for awhile.

When I find myself in a disagreement, I know to stop talk- The Commercial Review through ing and to actively listen the Hoosier State Press Associainstead.

every year since 1949.

Yet I'm only recently seeing more and more people be brave enough to speak about it among friends, to colleagues and to post about it on their social media platforms.

According to Mental Health America, 19% of Americans say they struggle with mental health. The Centers for Disease Control says one in every six Americans will suffer from depression or anxiety.

Suicide rates increased an astonishing 33% between 1999 and 2019; it's now the tenth-leading cause of death in the U.S. That's one person — one soul every 11 minutes.

This is not rare. It's not elusive. And resources are out there for the taking. So wouldn't we all be better served to stop speaking in hushed voices when we or someone we love needs to "talk to someone?"

No one is ever faulted for seeing a physician for chronic headaches or high blood pressure, yet stigma remains around embracing our own mental health.

Yet I assure you, it's just as

This column was provided to tion Information Network.

that the facilities for Whites and Blacks were somehow "equal." The Brown decision destroyed Plessy's "separate but equal" doctrine.

plainly The court declared: "Separate educational facilities are inher-ently unequal."

It was a momentous enough occasion that Edna West Payton, principal of our all-Black Francis Jr. High School in the West End section of D.C., convened an afternoon assembly of ninth-graders in the school auditorium to notify us of the victory over segregation. She tried to alert us, as best she could, to the changes and challenges that awaited us in the upcoming school year — let alone those that would confront us for the rest of our lives.

But 67 years later, the mission of integrating public U.S. schools unachieved. remains Racial inequalities have not been erased — racial and economic divides seem as entrenched as ever. Abject racism and resistance are there, like the air. Witness the renewed assault on voting Post columnist who won the rights coming from the Pulitzer Prize for Commenright. Police violence tary.

against Black citizens defines our time.

Still, Brown led to the Montgomery bus boycott, and sit-ins and a civil rights movement that kicked Jim Crow laws in the teeth. The spirit of Brown found life in the Civil Rights Act of 1964. which paved the way for the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the 1968 Fair Housing Act, and the election to state legislatures, Congress and the White House of political leaders fundamentally who changed the color of American public servants.

We should never pass up an opportunity to tell this story. Yet today, the Brown decision remains separated from the news, and – judging from its treatment – unequal in importance, even for a brief moment, to issues that command America's attention.

What does this treatment of Brown tell us about ourselves?

•••••

King is a Washington



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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

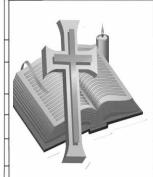
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Area churches are listed with location, pastor and phone number, services and website or email address. All services are Sunday. unless otherwise indicated.

Asbury United Methodist 204 E. Arch St., Portland Joe Boggs (260) 726-8464 Services: 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 Recov- Ratliff ery Quentin Elsea (419) 733-1469 christchapelfr.com

Church of Christ (Southside) 1209 S. Shank St., Port-

land 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,

aith Community Mary Help 9560 W. 200 South, Dunkirk of Christians **Faith Community** 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.o rg

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 Brad and Kate Revs. (419) 375-4680 Services: 10:30 a.m. frnaz@frontier.com

Fort Recovery United Methodist

309 E. Boundary St., Fort Recoverv Rev. Allan Brown (419) 678-2071 Services: 9 a.m.

Full Gospel Lighthouse Tabernacle

468 E. Washington St., Dunkirk **Robert Thomas** (765) 348-4620

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

Bruce Phillips (260) 335-2017 Services: 9 a.m.

Second Chance

River of Life

Susan Hathaway

Services: 10:30 a.m.

(260) 729-1095

Matt Ransom

(260) 726-7474

Salamonia

tland

722 W. Main St., Portland

1605 N. Meridian St., Por-

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matt@therockjc.org

Church of Christ

3900 S. 600 East

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

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

Sugar Grove Nazarene

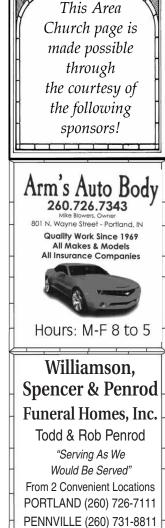
County roads 400 North and 550 West **Rev. Dan Sickels** (260) 731-4733 Services: 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m. (the 2nd and 4th Sunday at Pennville Park)

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





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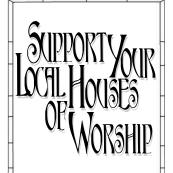
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Andrew Stevens (765) 768-6969 Services: 10 a.m.

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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.

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

Gilead Church

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

Hickory Grove Church of the Brethren

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

High Street United Methodist

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

Holy Trinity Catholic

7321 E. Indiana 67, Bryant Fr. Peter Logsdon 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

Services: 11 a.m 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@g Services: 10:30 a.m.

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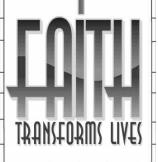
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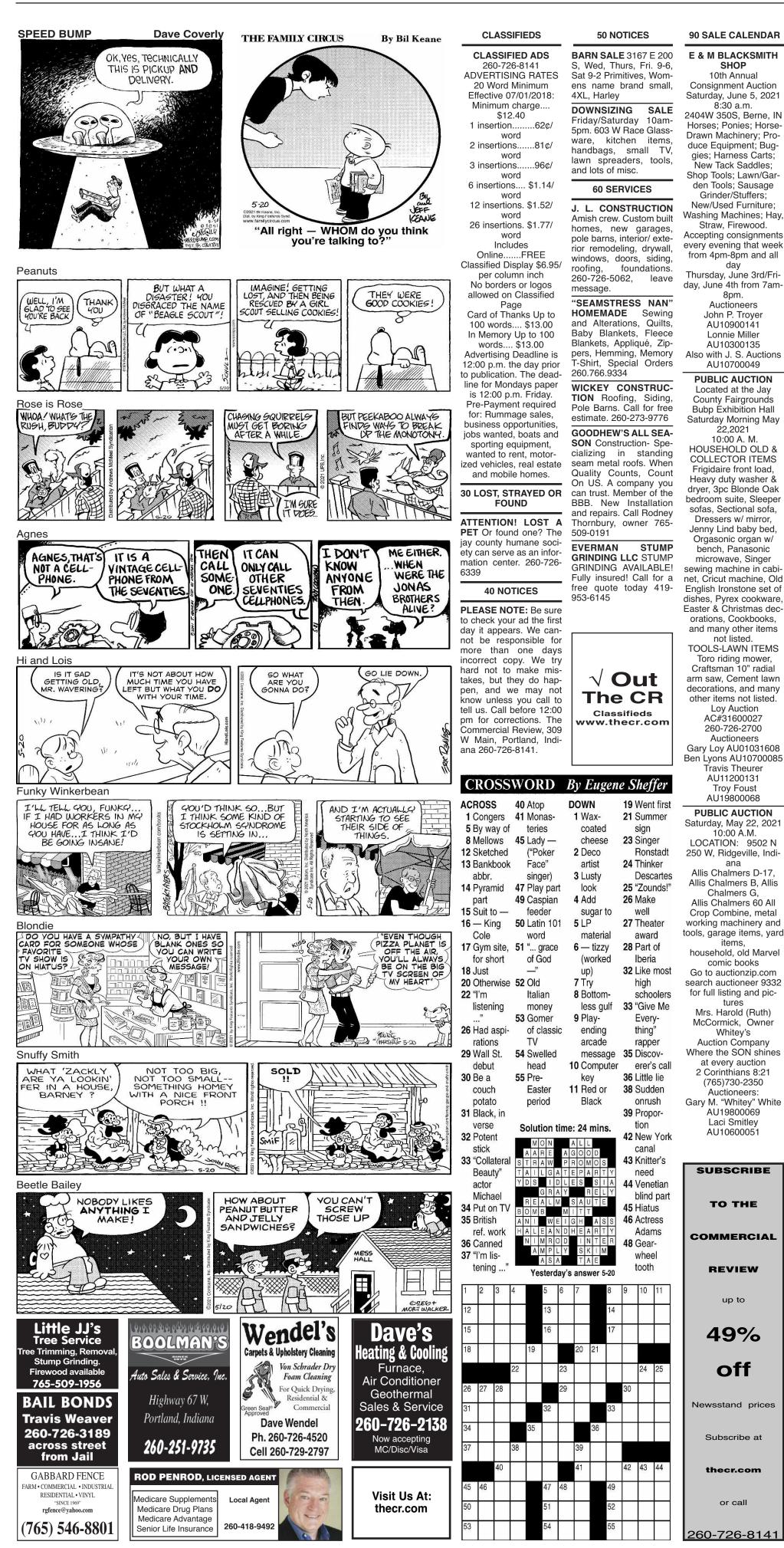
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Sports/Classifieds

Wizards host Pacers in win-or-go-home game

By HOWARD FENDRICH

AP Sports Writer WASHINGTON — After the Russell Westbrook, work Bradley Beal and the rest of the Washington Wizards did to reach the NBA's play-in round, all will be for naught with a loss to the visiting Indiana Pacers on Thursday night.

So what if Washington went 17-6 down the stretch to end up eighth in the Eastern Conference standings after being 17-32 in early April? So what if Westbrook averaged a triple-double, broke Oscar Robertson's record for most career games with that statistical achievement and led the league in assists? So what if Beal finished second in scoring at 31.3 ppg?

And so what if the Wizards

Squeaks

Continued from page 8 Jay County's quickest victory of the night came from the team's lone senior in the lineup. Lyric Garringer, the Patriots' No. 2 singles player, only lost one game against Autumn Abel in cruising to a 6-0, 6-1 victory in a match that lasted less than an

hour. "She looked real good," Cramer said. Garringer topped Abel 6-4, 6-1 when they met earlier in the season.

At No. 1 singles, Grace Brewster handed Kaylan McIntire a 6-2, 6-4 loss, which at that time put Jay County on top in the overall match score 2-1.

"Grace had to fight a little bit but took charge," Cramer said.

Lilly Hedges and Holly Hemmelgarn had to work a little bit for their win against Kevlana Davis and Evy Hinds at No. 2 doubles. The Patriot tandem won the first set 6-3, but Davis and Hinds nearly forced a third set. However, Hedges and Hemmelgarn held them off for a 7-5 win in set two.

'Sorry it took so long," Hedges joked to a teammate afterward.

"Our No. 2 doubles battled or else we wouldn't have been where we're at," Cramer said. Hedges and Hemmelgarn Hedges Hemmelgarn secured the semifinal victory with their triumph. "They did what they had to do to win. That's what counts. It's great.'

Jay County had three straight sectional titles from 2013 to '15. It has a chance to win the sixth title in program history Thursday against Union City, which es, while the JCHS doubles teams will be looking for its first sec- combined to only lose one game.

to victory in Thursday's win-orgo-home game, that's who will move on to face the East's No. 1 seed, Joel Embiid and the Philadelphia 76ers, in the playoffs.

"We were a long way from even thinking about this seven weeks ago," Wizards coach Scott Brooks said Wednesday. "But the grit and the toughness and determination and stick-togetherness that we've shown and displayed over the last seven weeks put us in this position to play the Pacers on our home court to advance into the playoffs to face the Sixers.'

Tonight's loser is done.

went 3-0 against the Pacers? If teammates are, too," Beal said age of 139.7 points in their three he ended up with five assists, less than half of his 11.7 average, points to Jayson Tatum in a 118-100 loss at Boston in a play-in opener Tuesday. "But we can't talk about it. We've got to go out there and compete.'

The Pacers, meanwhile, ended up 10th in the East despite having the conference's best road mark (21-15). They extended their season by overwhelming the Charlotte Hornets 144-117.

With Westbrook and Beal making things go, Washington averaged 116.6 points to finish third in the league in scoring, trailing only Milwaukee and Brooklyn.

Like most opponents, Indiana was unable to quiet Washing-"I'm confident. I'm sure my ton's offense, giving up an aver-

Asked what the biggest challenge is that the Wizards pose, Pacers coach Nate Bjorkgren replied: "The speed at which they play."

"It's a very big game for us to play at the tempo we want to play at," said Bjorkgren, in his first season with Indiana, "because Russell will get that rebound and they'll push it. So transition (defense) is No. 1.'

The Wizards are a 3-point favorite, according to FanDuel Sportsbook. One key element in this

matchup is health — for both teams.

Westbrook didn't seem himself for much of the Boston loss;

shot just 6 for 18, and went to the locker room early. "A lot of nicks and bruises, but I'll be all right," he said.

Beal wore four compression sleeves on his strained left hamstring, which kept him out of three of Washington's last four regular-season games, and acknowledged afterward, "I can't be as explosive as I want to."

Bjorkgren said Wednesday he would prepare as if the Pacers would be without all four players who sat out against Charlotte: second-leading scorer Caris LeVert (COVID-19 protocols), NBA blocks leader Myles Turner (right foot), T.J. Warren (left foot) and Jeremy Lamb (left knee).

Kicks

Continued from page 8

Wednesday's games Gavin Byrum shut down

Flamespray Machine Service by striking out all nine batters he faced in leading Inman U-Loc to a 7-4 victory in the Willie Mays division. Hunter Fields also struck out five batters in two innings.

Nolan Fields tripled, Cavanaugh Drayton knocked in two runs and Mitchel Byrum and Gavin Byrum also singled for Inman.

Bryar Garringer led the Flamespray offense with a double, while Cooper Reynolds and Roman Clamme each singled. Brayden O'Brien struck out eight batters.

Also in the Willie Mays division, Portland Optimist topped PG-14 by a 7-5 score.

Sam Wiggins tripled, doubled and drove in three RBIs in the loss for PG-14. Brayden Scott doubled, and Andrew Myers walked three times.

Deric Coons led Optimist with four RBIs, and Nick Snow was second with two RBIs. Varen Ridgway doubled, while Oakland Ingram had an RBI as well.

Portland Optimist picked up a 12-1 win against The Rock Church in their Rookie softball contest.

Alyssa Wendel paced Optimist with three triples and a single. Brinley Steed and Emily Towell both collected three singles and three runs, as Cambria Layton had two singles and scored twice. Journi Dalrymple doubled and scored a run in the loss for The Rock. Renlee Hummer, Brynleigh Vickery and Chessa Butler all singled.

PATE The Commercial Review/Chris Schanz

Grace Brewster, a Jay County High School junior, hits a forehand shot during her No. 1 singles match against Winchester's Kaylan McIntire in the sectional semifinal on Wednesday at JCHS. Brewster won, 6-2, 6-4, and the Patriots knocked off four-time defending sectional champion Winchester 3-2 and earned a spot in Thursday's sectional championship.

tional championship.

Friday

5:30 p.m.; Baseball at Richmond Invita-

Saturday

Jay County — Boys golf ACAC cham-pionships at Celina Lynx – 9 a.m.; Base-

tional – TBD

ond round of spades, and the seven and two of hearts on the next two spades. When the jack of hearts was led, West took the ace and returned the diamond three to East's king.

East was now at the crossroads East was how at the crossroada. If he continued with a third diamond or cashed the ace of clubs and then reverted to diamonds after seeing West's apparently discouraging three of clubs, declarge would have made

of clubs, declarer would have made the contract, discarding his remaining loser(s) on dummy's hearts.

But East had taken careful note of his partner's three discards and the diamond three return at trick seven. It

diamond three return at trick seven. It all added up to the following: West had discarded the five of diamonds — his original fourth-best diamond — and then led the three, so he started with five diamonds and declarer with two. West had also played high-low in hearts to show an even number in that suit, which had to be four. (There would be no reason in this deal for West to signal that he had the ace of hearts, so the high-low had to be a count signal.)

South's pattern was therefore known to be 7-2-2-2. If he had the club king, four spades could not be defeated, so after taking the diamond

king, East played the ace and another club to set the contract.

At the other table, where the sig-naling was not as precise, East tried to cash another diamond after win-

ning the king, and declarer finished with an overtrick.

had to be a count signal.)

Jav County - Softball at Richmond -

The Patriots topped the Indians 5-0 April 27. Brewster and Blunk both won three-set match-

If Wednesday's semifinal was any indication, Cramer feels his team could be surprised once again.

'They played us tougher than anybody," he said. "They'll be a

(FS1)

(ESPN)

(ESPN)

9 p.m.

good match because we're not playing good right now."

Winchester's No. 1 doubles team advances to the regional tournament, set for Tuesday and Wednesday at Marion.

Sports on tap

Local schedule Today

Jay County -Boys track sectional at Muncie Central - 5 p.m.; Girls tennis sectional final vs. Union City – 5 p.m.; Softball vs. Northeastern – 5 p.m.; Baseball at Bellmont - 5 p.m.; JV base

ball vs. Blackford – 5 p.m. Fort Recovery — Track district at Spencerville – 4 p.m.; Baseball section-

Bridge By Steve Becker

Precision defense

North dealer. Neither side vulnerable NORTH **↑**6 ♥KQ10986 WEST 4 2 9 7 The bidding: North East 2♥ Pass 3♥ Pass South 2 ♠ 4 ♠ West Pass

3 ♥ Pass 4 ♠ Opening lead — queen of diamonds. Defense is generally acknowl-edged to be the most difficult part of the game, but over the years many useful signals have been developed to help the defenders overcome declarer's natural advantage. Take this case from a national

declarer's natural advantage. **Take this case from** a national team event. Both Souths reached four spades after North had opened a weak two-bid. Both Wests led the queen of diamonds. East signaling with the ten. After taking the acc, both declarers drew trump and then led the iack of hearts.

At the table where the winning At the table where the winning and was found. West had dis-

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz. ©2021 King Features Syndi

5 - 20CRYPTOQUIP

YW HFGDQVAV QOK PBA PD AUK

WCPPO ABGSCYDH, Y'M SYH

VQF AUKF'OK AUOPZYDH AUKYO

ZKYHUA OOPBDM.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHICH CHEMICAL ELEMENT OCCURS IN ABUNDANCE IN MOUTH ORGANS WITH TASTE BUDS? TONGUE-STEN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: O equals R

ball at Richmond Invitational - TBD al final at Crestview - 5 p.m.

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Friday 7:10 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Milwaukee Brewers at Cincinnati Reds

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7:15 p.m. — Major League Baseball: Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals (FOX)

8 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Boston Celtics at Brooklyn Nets – Game 1 (ABC) 10:30 p.m. — NBA Basketball: Portland Trail Blazers at Denver Nuggets Game 1 (ESPN)

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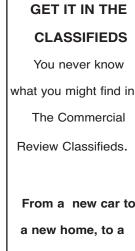
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Jay squeaks into final By CHRIS SCHANZ

The Commercial Review

Exactly a month ago, the Patriots didn't lose a set to the Golden Falcons.

A lot can change in four weeks.

Heavily favored to win the program's first sectional title in six years, the Jay County High School girls

tennis team squeaked by the Winchester Golden Falcons 3-2Wednesday in the sectional semifinal.

"Winning is good, but we have to get better," said JCHS

coach Dave Cramer, whose team improves to 10-5 and advances to the sectional championship today against the Union City Indians, who defeated the Randolph Southern Rebels 4-1 in the other semifinal Wednesday night.

On April 19, Jay County beat four-time defending sectional champion Winchester 5-0. (The Patriots topped all three sectional rivals by a 5-0 margin this season.)

One of those victories was a 6-2, 6-2 win at No. 1 doubles on the efforts of Madison Dirksen and Rachel Muhlenkamp.

But that's the spot where Winchester flipped the script the most. Sophomore

Winning is good, but we have to get better.³ Dave Cramer,

JCHS girls tennis coach



2

Mabrey McIntire and Morgan Williams played with much more aggressiveness than a month earlier.

The Golden Falcon duo turned that loss into a 6-3, 6-1 win, during which Dirksen and Muhlenkamp weren't able to match the gusto of their competition nor keep momentum on their side.

"Their No. 1 doubles made some major improvements," Cramer said. "We handled them earlier. They outplayed us real easy tonight."

Winchester also reversed fortune at No. 3 singles thanks to sophomore Reagan Riggin.

Riggin, who lost to Kierston Blunk 6-4, 6-1 in their first meeting, jumped ahead early and grabbed the opening set, 6-3. Riggin kept momentum in the second set, winning it 6-3 despite the overall team match having already been decided.

See Squeaks page 7

Junior League kicks off season

Rain washed away the start of the season Monday.

Weiler-Wilson Park was finally bustling with action Tuesday.

Portland Junior League kicked off its 2021 season Tuesday, and Display Craft, Fisher Packing, Cook's Nursery and Pio-Packaging neer all emerged victorious. Stella Skirvin led Display Craft in its 9-0 minor softball victory against Craven Nutrition with a double and a single. Opal Garrett, Ava Peterson, Schemenaur, Kendal Avery Snow and Emery Forthofer all had two singles.

Junior League roundup

for-3 with two RBIs in helping Cook's get past Barnett's Auto Parts 10-7 in Rookie baseball action. Connor Richman, Beck ham Hough and Griffin Lambert were all 3-for-3 with a pair of RBIs. Lambert and Hough each scored three times, while Ashton Conn and Richman each scored twice. Cody Klopfenstein led Barnett's with four hits and two RBIs. Zayden Jester, Tucker Hemmelgarn, Sawyer Hemmelgarn and Jordan Wendel all had two hits in the loss. Also in the Rookie divi-

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Natalie May accounted for Craven's only hit.

In the same division, Ayla Jackson knocked in a pair of runs to lead Fisher past CrossRoads Financial Federal Credit Union 9-6.

Kadilynn Stout and Madysen Taylor each contributed RBIs for Fisher.

Layla Armstrong doubled, singled and scored twice to pace CrossRoads. Kenady Lyons chipped in two runs, while Hailee Randall and Jade Plessinger both had one run. A trio of batters went 3sion, Pioneer Packaging totaled 23 hits in cruising to a 17-2 victory against Williams Auto Parts.

Koda Johnson, Brady Long and Bently Berry were each 3-for-3 for Pioneer.

LJ Carter led Williams with his 3-for-3 effort, while Parker Huntsman and Liam Schreiber were both 2-for-2.

See Kicks page 7

Sixth inning **propels Patriots**

May 7, the Patriots managed just three hits in four innings.

They trailed the Jets 2-0 when the game was postponed.

As it was picked up Wednesday, the Patriot offense finally decided to show up.

A five-run sixth inning carried the Jay County High School baseball team to a come-frombehind, 5-2 victory over the Adams Central Jets in a continuation of a game from a couple weeks earlier.

The win moves the Patriots to 12-7 on the season, and they finish Allen County Athletic Conference play 4-2.

As Jay County still innings of work.

Before the rains came trailed Adams Central 2-0 heading to the bottom of the sixth inning, Quinn Faulkner and Sam Myers led off the frame with back-to-back singles.

Crosby Heniser drove them in on a two-run double to left field to tie the game.

A walk and a hit by pitch — both with two outs — loaded the bases for Dusty Pearson, and he played the eventual gamewinning runs on a basesclearing double to center.

Pearson finished the game with two hits and three RBIs, while Myers chipped in three singles.

Sam Dunlavy picked up the win in relief. He allowed one hit and struck out two in three