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The Voice of the Southside

www.SouthsiderVoice.com | Wednesday, April 21, 2021 – Tuesday, April 27, 2021 | Vol. 13, No. 9

Honoring FedEx victims

Samaria Blackwell lived in Beech Grove

By **Fred Shonk**
Columnist

The City of Beech Grove held a community gathering Sunday evening on the steps of City Hall in honor of the FedEx employees who lost their lives in last week's tragic mass-shooting.

Stuart, our therapy dog, and I arrived a bit early and saw several local television cameras being set up for telecasts later Sunday. Beech Grove Mayor Dennis Buckley greeted several people who also had gathered early.

Bill Chandler, a good friend of mine, approached and he informed me that one of the eight victims was a Beech Grove resident. I was among those in attendance who had no idea of a local connection with the tragedy that happened at the far-westside FedEx facility.

Chandler explained to me that he, his wife Cheryl, and their family were friends with 19-year-old Samaria Blackwell, her parents and her older siblings. He told of how their families came to know each other and pointed out some common friends and family members.

Samaria was home-schooled by her mother Tammi. She was a student-athlete who played basketball and soccer. She played for the Indianapolis Homeschool Wildcats and Indy Genesis. She had been working at FedEx for only a few months.

Samaria had planned on becoming a police officer. Several Beech Grove police officers were in attendance.

Mayor Buckley spoke to the crowd briefly and told of his long-time connection with Samaria and her family. He told us that Samaria's mother was a babysitter for his kids many years ago. Those who spoke pulled the crowd together in the aftermath of the tragic shootings.

The observance honored all eight of the victims with additional thoughts and prayers for those who were injured in the shootings.

In addition to Samaria Blackwell, seven more indiviuals lost their lives in the shooting last week: Matthew Alexander, 32; Amarjeet Kaur Johal, 66; Amarjit Sekhon, 48; Karli Smith, 19; Jasvinder Kaur, 50; Jaswinder Singh, 68; and John (Steve) Weisert, 74.

Those who spoke, including Rev. Dan Bailey and Sikh member Gaganpal Singh Dhaliwal, emphasized healing and unity. Four of the shooting victims were Sikh. Prayers helped the healing.

Buckley recognized that of all the recent mass shootings in the nation that this one, although on the far westside, was too close to home because a local girl was among the victims.

Samaria Blackwell

The mayor also pointed out that several residents in Beech Grove work for FedEx which has several locations in central Indiana.

FedEx officials were unsure when the facility where the shooting occured would re-open.

As the observance began, a small rain shower began. The rain varied during the emotional gathering. I'm sure that many of the folks there, including myself, thought of it as tears from heaven.

Stuart also noticed those in attendance along with the pets that were there. The calm and quiet that special dogs can provide their owners is invaluable, especially in times of grief.

Stuart and I were humbled to be part of the crowd that attended the observance last Sunday at City Hall as Beech Grove honored the eight victims of this senseless tragedy.

Hahn, Prather earn top honors of Class of 2021 at Roncalli

(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Roncalli High School has named Rachel Hahn, left, as valedictorian and Lauren Prather salutatorian of the Class of 2021.

Rachel Hahn is the valedictorian and classmate Lauren Prather is salutatorian of the Class of 2021 at Roncalli High School.

Hahn is an AP Scholar and member of National Honor Society. She received both a gold and silver key in the 2021 Scholastic Art & Writing awards.

She also has served the community. She has spent four years sorting and distributing food at local food pantries, two years supporting young student-athletes in sporting events and programming, and four years serving the elderly at local nursing homes and those who are homebound.

Hahn also played varsity lacrosse for two years and was academic all-state.

She plans to major in neuroscience with minors in psychology and English. She attended St. Jude Catholic School. She is the daughter of Julie and Patrick Hahn.

Prather is a member of the National Honor Society and was awarded accelerated/dual credit pre-calculus and trigonometry student of the year.

She also served her community. She is an active board member for the South Deanery dance marathon, has raised money for Riley Hospital for Children and has volunteered at the Lord's Pantry. She also volunteers as a Eucharistic minister at her parish.

She is the daughter of Kelly and Joseph Prather. She attended Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi Catholic School and plans to attend college next fall for kinesiology on a pre-physical therapy track.

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"The Lord is my light and my salvation. So why should I be afraid? The Lord is my fortress protecting me from danger, so why should I tremble?"

Psalm 27:1 NLT

God Bless America!

INSIDE

Bulletin Board 2

Classifieds 4-5
Career Connection 5
Home Connection 5
Service Directory 4-5

Columns
Personal Recollections ...2
Reminiscing 3

Entertainment
Crossword 3
Cryptoquip 3
Horoscope 4
Hocus Focus.....4

Southside Deaths ...3

Sports 6

HOMECROFT HONORS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

The Homecroft Town Board recently honored Homecroft police officer Matt Baker as the department's 2020 Officer of the Year with a Medal of Valor and Official Decree of Honor. Baker, middle, is with, Homecroft Police Chief John Ryan, left, and police Sgt. Jim Leonard. Baker was honored for his multiple actions, including but not limited to, the resuscitation of an overdose victim with no heartbeat. He administered CPR to the victim. The medal and decree were awarded for actions Sept. 18, 2020 by Baker who observed smoke from an apartment building in the Greentree complex on Madison Avenue. He saw flames from the windows and immediately notified dispatch to inform the Indianapolis Fire Department, Then, without consideration for his own safety, Baker went into the burning building to evacuate residents. He was accompanied by Capt. Whitlow of the Southport Police Department. They heroically and safely evacuated many residents and were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation by Indianapolis Emergency Medical Services. Whitlow also was awarded a commendation by the Homecroft Police Department for his involvement.

Abe Lincoln Award honors Roncalli senior Garcia

Roncalli High School senior Coby Garcia is the recipient of an Abe Lincoln Award that was presented virtually by the Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis.

His fourth-place award is a $5,000 scholarship. The Kiwanis program honors high school students who have overcome adversity while achieving success. Garcia was one of 16 area high school seniors who received an award from the organization's coveted scholarship program.

Garcia's adversity has led him to want to help other families at a Hope for Tomorrow, a nonprofit providing support and tutoring for members of the Burmese refugee community. He is a teacher there and helps young people transition to the U.S. Garcia wants to pursue a career that focuses on medical advancements that can reduce devastating diseases in developing countries.

"We are so grateful to the Indianapolis Kiwanis Club for their annual Abe Lincoln scholarship program; it is one the most rewarding events of the school year," Roncalli principal Chuck Weisenbach said. "Coby is a very bright, gifted young man. He really has a drive for success. Coby is going to be a powerful, positive, difference maker in the world."

(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Roncalli High School senior Coby Garcia is congratulated by principal Chuck Weisenbach, left, and school counsel Jessica Gattuso upon being a recipient of an Abe Lincoln Award from the Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis.

Roncalli school counsel Jessica Gattuso stated, "Coby is charismatic, hard-working, and passionate. He exudes an ambition and resilience that comes from a deep desire to make the most of every opportunity given to him. I have no doubt that Coby is going to be incredibly successful in his life."

Due to Covid-19 restrictions earlier this year, the award was announced virtually.

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Kelly's Korner

By Kelly Sawyers, publisher
kelly.sawyers@southsidervoice.com

New beginnings: God's plan

In reference to the Vineyard Community Church, which formerly was in Greenwood ...

Sir, we have left the building ... and now we're worshipping at the Baxter YMCA on Shelby Street. How we ended up here was God's plan all along.

The halls were packed with our church *(the people)* on Sunday morning awaiting both services — first at 10 a.m. and second at 11:30 a.m.

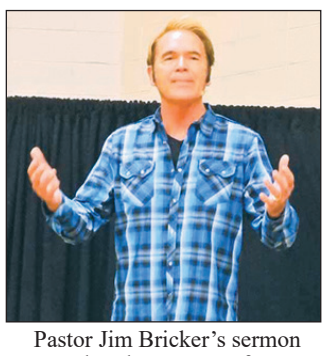
Clay Orander
Spiritual Growth Pastor

We were joyfully greeted by Outreach Pastor Elisha Hale.

Elisha Hale
Outreach Pastor

Spiritual Growth Pastor Clay Orander started the services off with a very moving prayer that brought many of us to tears, but they were thankful tears.

Worship Leader Ethan Moore, Orander, Jamie Chapman and Caleb White followed with worship and the song "I Thank God" touched us the most.



Pastor Jim Bricker's sermon was on the Three Laws of Love.

1. The best use of life is love.

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

I John 4:8 NIV

2. The best expression of love is time.

"We must show love through actions that are sincere, not through empty words."

I John 3:18b GW

3. The best time to love is now.

"Wherever we have opportunity, we should do good to everyone."

Galatians 6:10a NLT

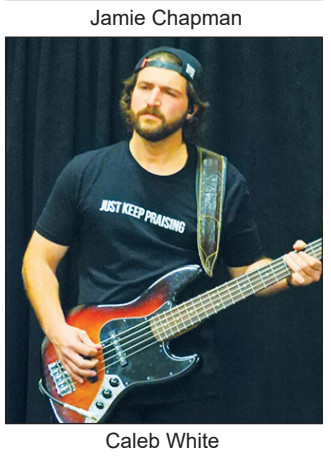
Pastor Bricker explained we, the people, are the church. It was God's plan that we ended up at the Baxter YMCA. He also thanked all of the volunteers that helped with our transition.

If you're interested in joining us Sunday at 10 or 11:30 a.m., we would love to have you. Stop in for a cup of coffee, donut and worship inside the Baxter YMCA, 7900 Shelby St., 46227.

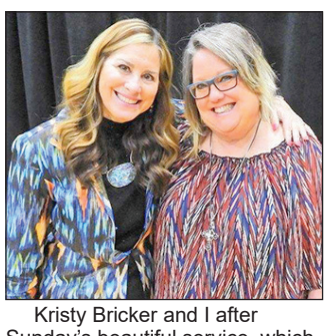
(PHOTOS BY KENNETH HERNDON)

Ethan Moore
Worship Leader

Jamie Chapman



Caleb White



Kristy Bricker and I after Sunday's beautiful service, which brought tears and smiles. It's been a challenging few years for them and myself, but our faith got us through. The excitement Sunday for me was like 20 years ago in the Big Red Barn building.

Perry Perspectives

Perry Township Schools

SMS MEDIA CENTER

Southport Middle School is the recipient of donations from the College Football Playoff (CFP) Foundation and the 2022 Indianapolis Host Committee for a complete makeover of the school's media center.

Representatives from CFP, the Host Committee, and Perry Township Schools recently gathered to celebrate the space's unveiling with students. Principal Andy Ashcraft and media specialist Lori Farnworth provided the vision for an inviting and comfortable space for their young students to learn by using a variety of media.

Two months later, they were able to see their dream become a reality with many resources donated by Lakeshore Learning. The upgrades include new low-tech offerings, including a sewing machine, button maker, and LEGO wall. High-tech additions include Android tablets, 3-D printers, and app-enabled Robot Balls to help students learn to code.

"Our students will now have access to technology and tools to help them explore new interests and build skills," said superintendent Pat Mapes to an audience gathered for the ribbon-cutting.

"They can flex their creative muscles with the new sewing machine or LEGO wall, and they can enter exciting, new virtual reality worlds," Mapes pointed out. "They can learn to code or see their designs come to life with a 3-D printer. Our students are empowered to become the architects of their own academic experience."

Eighth-grade student Sophia Bane is among Southport Middle School students who are thrilled with the additions.

"The media center has always been a great source of knowledge and information, playing a huge part in my success and growth as a student," she said. "It's the place where you go to get a good book, find resources for a research paper, or learn something new."

Following the ribbon-cutting, Sophia and her classmates were invited to test out the new features. Not surprisingly, the robot balls were a big hit.

In addition to the makeover at Southport Middle School, the CFP Foundation and Indianapolis Host Committee plan to unveil three additional media center makeovers this year at Garden City Elementary in Wayne Township, James and Rosemary Phalen Leadership Academy in Lawrence Township, and Victory College Prep in Center Township.

Each school was selected based upon the percentage of students from low-income households and the verified need for a media center upgrade. The makeovers provide resources for the schools to transform spaces with enhanced technology and creative design to meet 21st century teaching and learning demands.

Perry Township Schools is thankful to the donors for the media center transformations.

(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

At the Southport Middle School's re-imagined media center are, from left: Claire Fiddian-Green, Indianapolis Host Committee and Legacy Impact co-chair; Murray Clark, Indianapolis Host Committee; Mark Howell, 2022 College Football Playoff (CFP) – Indianapolis Host Committee Board chair; Pat Mapes, Perry Township Schools Superintendent; Sophia Bane, SMS 8th-grade student; Andy Ashcraft, SMS Principal; and Britton Banowsky, CFP Foundation.

DME NIET CHECKS

(SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Representatives of the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) attended Perry Township Schools' regular board meeting and a special reception to present Douglas MacArthur the $50,000 Founders Award. Individuals involved at the school are, from left, Suzy Hall, master teacher; Nicole Blackley, master teacher; Kyle Scaringe, assistant principal; Pat Mapes, superintendent; Star Hardimon, principal; with Dr. Candice McQueen, CEO of NIET, foreground, at podium, and NIET Indiana director Jenn Oliver, background. The Founders Award schools for excellence in educator effectiveness and student academic growth. The funds will be invested into professional development.

SOUTHPORT HIGH SCHOOL'S MUNOZ ACADEMIC ALL-STAR

Southport High School senior Marissa Munoz is a 2021 Regional Academic All-Star as honored by the Indiana Association of School Principals. She was selected from among 270 nominees from the state's private and public accredited schools. Academic all-star distinction recognizes seniors who excel in the classroom and are actively involved in their schools and communities while taking on leadership roles in those activities. The program is produced by the Indiana Association of School Principals, with DePauw University, Indiana University Bloomington, and Purdue University, along with corporate partners. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Personal Recollections

By Fred Shonk

LONG AND CRAZY WEEK

It has been a long and crazy week. I was up and having coffee around seven o'clock last Thursday. I turned on the television and could hardly believe what I was hearing and seeing.

Lyn and I know people that are employed by FedEx and also had family members that have been employees. It took me a little time to understand the difference in the two FedEx facilities on the westside near the airport. None of our friends were involved in the tragedy.

I was impressed with the news coverage and follow-up. Lots of people have much healing to accomplish. I know that there already is help standing by. If you know someone that could use some assistance, I was reminded yesterday that people can simply dial 211 and get started.

On Saturday afternoon, I heard about someone firing a gun inside the Walmart near Beech Grove. That is the Walmart that I have generally visited over the past years especially during the years when I was working at Beech Grove City Schools.

I was once again stunned to hear about something like this happening on the Southside. No one was seriously hurt, but I am still very concerned about people carrying guns in public. I have also noticed a large increase in the amount of aggressive driving, and it sorta scares me when I think of those drivers who might be armed.

We have noticed that our dog, Stuart, has been acting quite differently during the FedEx and Walmart incidents. Many dogs, including Stuart, can notice quickly when their humans are sick or upset. I'm sure he noticed when Lyn and I were getting information about the shootings. He wasn't eating normally, leaving his food sitting for hours and sleeping a lot. He had his yearly physical last week and was given a couple of injections.

Last Saturday afternoon, Stuart and I were invited to Manor Care Nursing Facility to have a second short visit in the last couple of weeks with his "girlfriend" Christi. Stuart was perfectly calm with Christi. Stuart sat on my lap with Christi in her chair next to us so she could pet him. The visit seemed to help Stuart, too.

When we got home, Stuart gobbled down some of his food, sat up on his couch, looked around, and enjoyed the afternoon. And then he came over and sat on my lap, as usual.

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Reminiscing

By B. Scott Mohr
A retrospective glance at the Southside
From *The Spotlight* and *The Southsider Voice* archives

60 Years Ago This Week - 1961

Every customer who placed a $2 dry-cleaning order at Minnesota Alteration Service and Cleaning, 1704 Minnesota St., received a free six-pack of Coca-Cola.

* * *

Look what $1.81 bought at Kroger during its grand opening in Southern Plaza: two half-gallons of milk, two heads of lettuce, a pound of ham, two bottles of ketchup and 5 pounds of sugar.

50 Years Ago This Week - 1971

Kathy Walter and Phil Hotle were among the junior winners in a piano competition at Indiana Central College.

* * *

A brand-new and fully loaded Mercury Marquis Brougham was advertised for $4,784.

* * *

The Perry Perkers Homemakers Club met at the home of Mrs. Thomas Bowman.

40 Years Ago This Week - 1981

St. Roch students Todd Cunningham, Barb Schmall, Jill Lucid, Jimmy Pinna, Jennifer Brown, Steve Welch, Dana Brancheau and Denise Schafer were promoting their school's annual open house.

* * *

Julie Breeden and Tim Burke were named drum majors for Southport High School's marching band.

* * *

Faith Fellowship Baptist Church broke ground for its worship center in Greenwood. On hand for the spadework were Cliff Connerly, Pastor Ed Schaefer, Bob Rollings and Don Jones.

* * *

Marien Pro Hardware, 3604 Madison Ave., was holding its annual spring sale.

30 Years Ago This Week - 1991

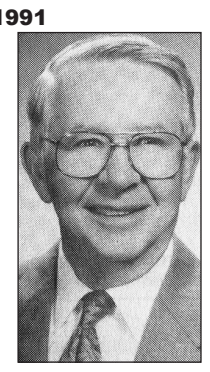
Airmen Norman L. Nevins II and William F. Stewart Jr. graduated from Lackland Air Force Base in Texas.

* * *

The Rev. Fred B. Oaks was installed as pastor at Southport Baptist Church.

* * *

Indianapolis Fire Department Capt. Phil Ochs served as master of ceremonies for the dedication of Fire Station 29, 602 E. Pleasant Run Parkway North Drive.



Manual High School honored William R. Kniptash as its Alumnus of the Year.

Reminiscing is voted #1 among *Southsider Voice* readers!

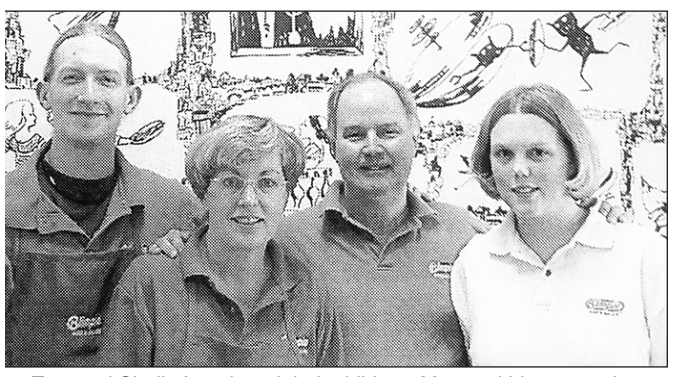
20 Years Ago This Week - 2001

Kate Kiefer-Andrew, daughter of Jim and Karen Kiefer and a graduate of St. Roch School and Roncalli, made the dean's list at IUPUI.

* * *

William Bryan was appointed to fill the vacated seat on the Perry Township School Board.

* * *



Tom and Shelia Lauck and their children, Matt and Liz, opened Blimpie Subs & Salads at 5905 Madison Ave.

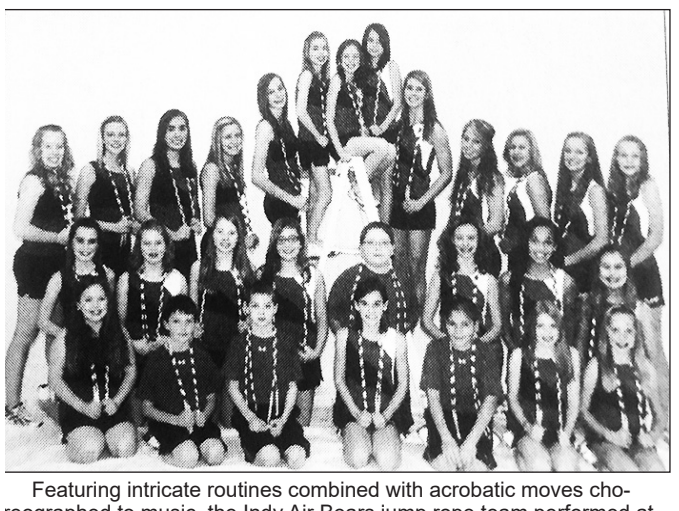
10 Years Ago This Week - 2011

The Blue Lonesome Bluegrass band, featuring Joe Davidson, Dolly Mae Bradshaw, Hank Cawthorne and Natalie Grimes, played monthly at the Southport Community Center.

* * *

Sister Sharon Bierman, administrator of St. Paul Hermitage in Beech Grove, presented Ave Maria Guild President Vicki Spicuzza with a Certificate of Appreciation for her service to the nursing home.

* * *



Featuring intricate routines combined with acrobatic moves choreographed to music, the Indy Air Bears jump rope team performed at Franklin Central High School.

SOUTHSIDE DEATHS

MICHAEL E. ALEXANDER, 55, wife, Carolyn Alexander; children, Brandon, Sophia and Lydia Alexander; parents, James and Sharon Alexander; siblings, Michelle Threet, Shawn Alexander.

DEBORAH "DEBBY" ANN BALLARD, 67, widow of Jervis; children, Mary Radford, James Covey, Amanda Disney; 11 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; siblings, Gary Covey, Mark Covey-Robbins, Tammi Mena.

WILLIAM ARTHUR BICK, 80, wife, Judy Bick; children, Jeff and John Bick, Ronald Williams, Tammy Davis; sister, Margaret Cosby; seven grandchildren; several great-grandchildren.

MARY FRANCES "FRAN" BRICKEY, 87, widow of Philip Brickey; children, Laura Hart, Stephen Brickey; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; brother, David Myers.

BARBARA BUTCHER, 62, siblings, Lisa and Robert McKinney.

THOMAS J. CARSON, 75, wife, Mary Carson; children, Gretchen Miller, Gina Hansen, Frank Carson and Nancy Hermann; 10 grandchildren; brother, Jim Carson.

THOMAS J. "TOM" CHARLES, 88, widower of Josephine; children, Michael and Robert Charles, Mary Carroll, Diana Mayfield, Terri Hamilton and Angel Woolever; 11 grandchildren.

ROBERT "BOB" E. CLAY, 85, wife, Shirley Clay; daughters, Cheryl Mullin and Cheri Clay-Brewster; four grandchildren; one great-grandson.

JOSEPH JAMES "JOE" CLEMENTS, JR., 76, children, Christina Himes, Tony and Steven Clements; siblings, Pam Rosier, Janice Woods, Teri Furr, Thomas Banta and Darlene Abplanalp.

RICHARD "DICK" DUANE CRIBBS, 77, widower of Joann Cribbs; children, Susan Cribbs Croissant and David Cribbs; six grandchildren; brother, Philip.

MARSHA ANN CRIST, 78, widow of Philip Crist; son, Jon Crist; one grandson; one great-grandson; brother, J. Steuerwald; half-siblings, Mark Steuerwald, Paula Tomson, Teresa White and Penny Followell.

MARION W. CUNNINGHAM, 88, widow of Dr. Gene Cunningham; son, Charles Christie; three granddaughters; two great-grandchildren.

RICHARD ALLEN "RICK" DALTON, 72, wife, Patricia Angel; children, Sabrina Huddleson, Richard Dalton, Jr.; sister, Evelyn "Bebo" Dalton; six grandchildren.

ROBERT R. ESKRIDGE, 82, wife, Carol Eskridge; children, James and Mark Comer, Brian Johnson, Brent Eskridge; 10 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren.

EVELYN EVERETT, husband, Herb Everett; children, Peggy, Mark, Karen and Dean; sisters, Alice and Sarah; four grandchildren.

HOYT ESTIL FOSTER, 89, wife, Mary Foster; children, Hoyt Hogan, David Foster, Connie Parr and Jill Perry; eight grandchildren; six great-grandchildren.

RICHARD W. GIBSON, 86, daughters, Cheryl Wilcox, Mary Gibson and Lisa Howell; three grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; brother, Harry Gibson.

MILDRED IRENE GREGORY, 78, widow of Malcolm Gregory; daughter, Teresa Gregory Clayton.

JIMMY LEE HART II, 62, mother, Sue Hart; children, Jeremy and Ashley Hart; sisters, Connie Young and Tammy Pratt; four grandchildren.

CHANCE ANDREW HERALD, 24, fiancé, Alauna Lowe; parents, Kris and Sarah Herald; siblings, Dylan and Londyn; grandparents, David and Francis Sawyer, Kenneth and Pamela Herald; great-grandmother, Barbara Adkins.

RUTH W. JACKSON, 99, widow of M. Gene Jackson; son, Julius Somoya; one granddaughter; stepdaughters, Sondra Danner and Betty Ruth.

AIMEE R. JOHNSON, 50, husband, Eric Johnson; daughters, Paris and Ariel Johnson; parents, Bridget and Jerry Lahrman; siblings, Todd Lahrman, Mary Ann Schoettle and Jill Nelson.

DANIEL "DANNY" LEON JONES, 67, daughter, Amanda Jones; siblings, Linda Kojetin, Kathy Gore and Scott Arthur; five grandchildren.

JEFFREY A. LEFFLER, 53, father, Gene Leffler; brother, Harry Leffler.

JEANNIE ELIZABETH BUFF MERKLER, 81, widow of Norman Merkler; daughter, Susan Merkler; one grandchild.

HERBERT ORTEGA, 69, children, David and Marjorie; five grandchildren; brothers, Tyrone Ortega and Michael Olives.

MICHAEL TODD PARKS, 52, wife, Jennifer; children, Dalton, Austin, Abigail and Emma Parks; parents, Kennith and Marilyn Parks; stepchildren, Caleb and Tyler Montgomery, Talea Troxail, Stephen Thompson, Logan Wendell; brother, Richard Parks.

THEODORE "JOE" PENNYCUFF, 81, wife, Iva Pennycuff; children, Beth Meyers, Bryan Pennycuff; eight grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild.

JOHN ALLEN POOLE, 62, significant other, James "Jimmy" Freeman; sister, Dorothy Wilkins.

PAUL MEREDITH REED, 78, wife, Peggy Reed; daughters, Paula Kizzee and Penny Foster; four grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; siblings, Edward Reed and Jeannie Wilson.

TERRY HAROLD REESE, 70, siblings, Kathy Larson, Ron and Rob; mother of his children, Pamela Robbins; children, Karen and Brandon; two grandchildren.

RITA KAY RICE, 77, widow of Lee Roy Rice; son; Victor Rice, five grandchildren; siblings, Shirley Sanders-Gambrel, Vonnie and Roy Sanders Jr.

VALERIE SISSLE-SIMPSON, 68, widow of Deacon Charlie Simpson; daughters, Nadine Pina and Joy Williams; siblings, Robert and Nathan Sissle, Jimmy, Jean and Venice Thompson, Hans Derrick, Janet McCants, Joyce Burton, Karen Spicer, Alfreda Thompson-Clark, Sondra Gentry, Crystal Walker.

ZACHARY DOUGLAS SPOONER, 30, mother, Mary Ellen Spooner; father, Douglas Spooner; grandparents, Jim and Judy Kelley; siblings, Bill Spooner, Sarah Latham.

D. ELDON TOW, 79, wife, Marilyn Tow; children, Sherri Smithey, Dale "Butch" Tow, Jr., and Melanie Carmack; five grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; siblings, Dave Tow and Lorine Boyd.

RICHARD ANDREW "DREW" TRAUTMAN, 29, father and stepmother, Richard and Connie Trautman; biological mother, Tammie Richerson-Inzinna; girlfriend, Kimberley Kennebrew; grandparents, Daniel and Carmela Trautman.

JESSICA BLANKENSHIP TURPIN, 68, widow of Carl Turpin; children, Michael Turpin, Ronnie Qualls and Stephanie Whitten; stepson, Carl Turpin, Jr.; siblings, Janice Willoughby, Brenda Arnold, Peggy, Ruby and Vicky Hamilton, Jessie Blankenship; 13 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren.

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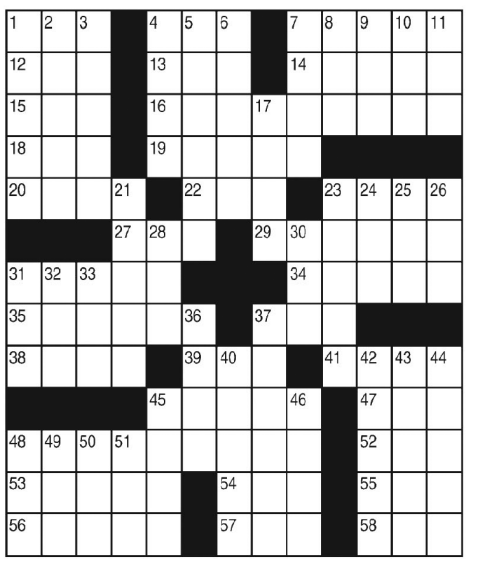
The Stilley Families

King Crossword



ACROSS
1 Chances, for short
4 TV watchdog org.
7 Obliterate
12 Shell game need
13 Under the weather
14 Started eating
15 Take a whack at
16 Scrabble or Parcheesi
18 "Monty Python" opener
19 Wander off
20 Hack
22 Pilgrimage to Mecca
23 Prayer ending
27 Rhyming tribute
29 Burning
31 Magician's cry
34 Cow catcher
35 Triangular home
37 Total
38 Constellation component
39 Eccentric
41 Unctuous
45 Twine fiber
47 Payable
48 Indiana university
52 Literary collection
53 "Drops of Jupiter" band
54 "Golly!"
55 Owns
56 Villain in a Christmas tale
57 Halves of 25-Down
58 Scrap

DOWN
1 Vision-related
2 Australian city
3 Permission
4 Wee whoppers
5 Dress
6 Barton or Bow
7 Vortex
8 Carpet
9 Khan title
10 — card (cellphone chip)
11 Away from WSW
17 Hindu royal
21 On top of the world?
23 Memorable mission
24 More, to Manuel
25 Type squares
26 Ultramodernist
28 Weir
30 Swine or bird —
31 Anatomical duct
32 Frequently
33 Glass of NPR
36 Oklahoma city
37 Pistil counterpart
40 Grammarian's concern
42 Coeur d'Alene's home
43 Moon-related
44 You'll get a rise out of it
45 Fax
46 Dregs
48 To the — degree
49 Raw rock
50 Pitch
51 "Flying Down to —"

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: **F** equals **T**

QI R UPPJ DPYMQEK UQDV

WRBP IYSB R WPYFRQE QFRZQRE

JYSMQEWP, SEP BQKVF UPPB

QF R FOYQE FOYPPE.

Southsiders' Bulletin Board

VACCINE MILESTONE FOR FRANCISCAN HEALTH

Franciscan Health recently surpassed the milestone of administering more than 100,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines. The official count was 115,293 doses as of Monday. Franciscan Health clinics began inoculating frontline healthcare workers in late December 2020. Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines have been utilized in the massive effort. As of April 15, the Indiana State Department of Health reported that more than three million eligible Hoosiers had received vaccinations. The Center for Disease Control also announced that persons 16 years and older can receive the vaccination. Registration continues online at ourshot.in.gov, or calling 211.

PERRY SENIORS EUCHRE AND BINGO

Upcoming activities at Perry Senior Services in Southport include Thursdays, April 22 and 29 at 2901 Derbyshire Road, with euchre club at 10 a.m., pitch-in lunch at noon, exercise class at 1 p.m., with Through the Ages Fitness, and a healthy snack at 1:30 p.m., sponsored by Greenwood Healthcare Center. Bingo, sponsored by Advise, is Wednesday, April 28, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Health protocols in effect. Advance reservations required; call, 317-783-9231.

VFW POST 5864 SILENT AUCTION

A silent auction is scheduled Friday, April 30 at VFW Post 5864, 1842 Veterans Way, Greenwood. Doors open for viewing of items at 6 p.m. with bids ending at 8 p.m. with highest bids for items announced. Info: steve.milbourn@aol.com.

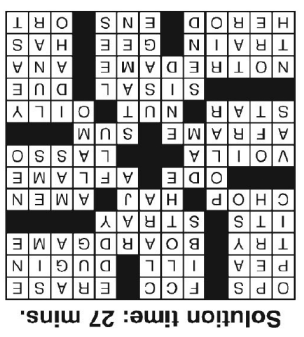
FLICKS AT VICTORY FIELD

Spring brings movies outdoors at Victory Field with the showing of "42" Friday, April 30. Fittingly to be shown at one of the most beautiful professional baseball parks, "42" details the real-life struggles and challenges that all-time great Jackie Robinson endured on and off the field. Robinson is played by the late Chadwick Boseman. The second "Flicks at Victory Field" features "Star Wars: A New Hope," is to be shown Tuesday, May 4. Picnic blankets and lawn chairs permitted. Gates open at 6 p.m., with "42" at 7 p.m. Info and tickets: milb.com/Indianapolis/ballpark/events, or call 317-269-3545.

HORNET PARK FITNESS CENTER HOURS

The Hornet Park Fitness Center is open weekdays at the Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Weekend hours vary. Fitness classes are available Tuesdays, Zumba fitness with Valerie, and Thursdays for a Pound Rockout Workout, each session, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., classes $5 each. Registration required. Space is limited. Info: www.hornetparkcommunity-center.com/fitness.

"Encourage your children and grandchildren to read"



Solution time: 27 mins.

— King Crossword —
Answers

If a deep serving dish came from a certain Italian province, one might deem it a Turin tureen.

CryptoQuip
answer

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HOROSCOPE: It's in the stars!

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Taking advice isn't always easy for self-assured Rams and Ewes who think they know what's best. But it wouldn't hurt to listen to what close colleagues have to say.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You know how to balance life's practical aspects with the poetic. This gives you a special edge this week in both your professional endeavors and your personal life.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Focus on keeping a balance between your home-related activities and your workplace responsibilities. Be mindful of both without obsessing over one or the other.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A change in plans is likely as you discover more facts about a possible commitment. Continue to ask questions and, if you're not sure about the answers, demand proof.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Be careful not to let that Leonine pride keep you from seeking wise, experienced counsel before making an important decision. A family member once again seeks your help.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) That surge of Virgo energy drives you to take on more work assignments. Be careful you don't overdo it, or you might find yourself overdone: i.e., burned out.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your decision to be upfront with colleagues on a touchy matter causes some consternation at first. But in the end, your honesty wins their trust and admiration.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) As in the past, someone again wants to share a secret with you, knowing it will be safe. But do you really want to be this person's confidante? Think about it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) As one of nature's straight shooters, you seek to correct misconceptions about a project. Do so, of course, but without giving away too much too soon.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Creative pursuits continue to be strong in the gifted Goat's aspect. New friendships can come from sharing these experiences with like-minded art aficionados.

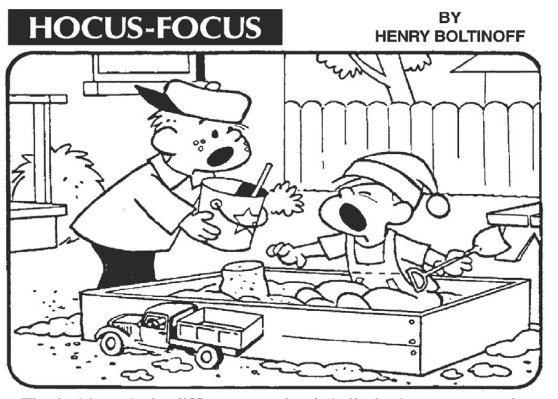
AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Resolve lingering grumblings over your way of doing things by keeping your mind open to suggestions while continuing to show how your plans will work.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) The perceptive Piscean might find that changing course in midstream isn't as workable as it would seem. Explore this option carefully before making a decision.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your willingness to share your love of life's good things brings joy to many, including, of course, yourself.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Railing is lower. 2. Sleeve is shorter. 3. Truck is missing. 4. Fence top is different. 5. Cap is missing. 6. Shovel is missing.

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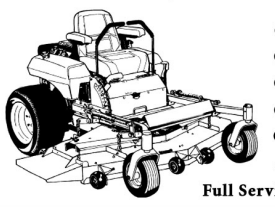

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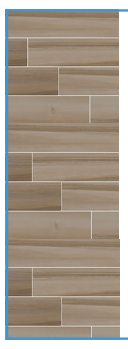
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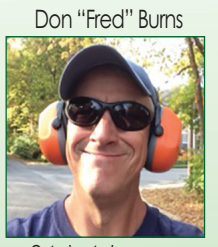
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Cards go 2-0 on diamonds after Falcons take volleyball thriller in Battles of Perry

By **Al Stilley**
Editor

Southport captured two of three Battles of Perry Township against rival Perry Meridian last week.

After Perry Meridian's boys' volleyball team edged host Southport in a five-set thriller April 14, Southport came from behind and defeated the Falcons' baseball team, 10-6, and the Cardinals downed PM's softball team, 13-6, Friday on the Holder Field diamonds. It was only the second time that Southport won in the last 11 baseball games against its township rival.

The rivalries began mid-week with the Falcons defeating the host Cardinals in boys' volleyball for the first time in historic Southport Fieldhouse, 3-2, with a decisive fifth-set win, 15-9 in front of a boisterous rivalry crowd.

"This was a rewarding win for the boys and myself," said fifth-year Falcons' coach Zach Ridener, who previously coached the Cardinals and at Lawrence Central. "I appealed to their emotions and told them I had never won as an opposing coach at Southport. The boys finally earned bragging rights."

The tension-filled match saw the Falcons win the first and third sets, 25-22 and 25-17 but drop the second and fourth sets, 25-20 and 25-23, after the Falcons trailed 24-18. The Falcons prevailed by six points in the decisive set for their 10th straight win after losing the first match of the season. Southport dropped to 6-5.

"Volleyball is such a mental game, but our boys never got flustered," Ridener recalled. "We practiced for this match by working on mini-games of five-point segments in each set. It really helped because the sets were so close."

With diverse high school populations, the Falcons and Cardinals have many players from Myanmar, where kids of all ages grow up playing soccer. Ridener has enjoyed seeing them progress from recreational leagues to high school competition.

"When they first start, they want to kick the ball," Ridener said of the transition from soccer to volleyball. "High-school volleyball takes a far different mindset."

Players from both teams are friends on and off the court.

CARDS COME FROM BEHIND

Perry Meridian scored six runs in the second inning for a 6-1 lead, but Southport rallied for a 10-6 win against the Falcons for only the second time in the last 11 rivalry games. Southport pushed across five runs in the fifth on only one hit and four runs on three hits in the sixth.

"We came up to the plate ready to hit late in the game; for some reason, we couldn't score early," Southport first-baseman Max Shelburn said. "It looks like our hitting is starting to come around."

(SUBMITTED PHOTOS)

Perry Meridian captains Moses Cung, Bawibawi Thang, and Set Bolden lead the Falcons in pre-game ritual before Battle of Perry boys' volleyball match at Southport.

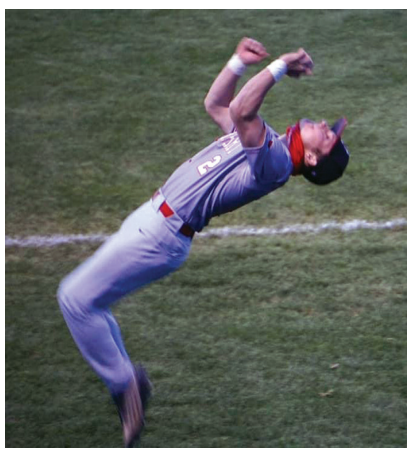
Freshman Simon Hmung is the libero for Perry Meridian.

Southport left seven runners on base in the first four innings, including the bases loaded in the third as the last two batters struck out.

Down 6-1, the Cardinals went to the plate 10 times in the fifth, reaching base on three walks, two hit batters, a throwing error, and a base hit by Carson Moore. The floodgates opened as lead-off hitter Landon Godsey walked and then reached third on a throwing error to second on a failed pick-off attempt.

Shelburn drove in the first run in the sixth and Moore drove in two runs as the Cardinals took command.

The Falcons pushed across six runs early after six straight players reached first with one out. Pitcher Luke Genier had the big blast with a bases-loaded double to centerfield.



(SUBMITTED PHOTOS)

Southport senior Carson Moore does a backflip Friday to celebrate Cardinals' 10-6 win against rival Perry Meridian.

Southport pitcher Zach Shepherd got the win by lasting five innings, giving up five earned runs on five hits, four strike outs, and four walks. Dante McDonald finished the seventh with three strike outs and three walks with the potential tying run at the plate.

"We were able to battle back and win," veteran coach Phil Webster said. "We held them without a run for the last five innings when it counted. We've had a lot of games in a few days, so I'm looking to four straight days of practice with this group."

Genier pitched four and one-third innings with Mason Rohlman in relief.

Southport is 4-4; Perry Meridian is 5-5.

SOFTBALL DUEL

With senior Johanna Bear on the mound for six innings, Southport defeated the Falcons, 13-6, on the softball diamond.

Bear had two hits and drove in five runs. Teammate Haley Matlock added four hits, scored five runs and stole five bases. Nevaeh Pender added to the party at the plate with four hits and four RBIs.

Southport is 5-6 and has won three games in a row; Perry Meridian has dropped six straight games after winning its season opener against Warren Central.

Southport's Cardinals rush to the field Friday after coming from five runs down to defeat Perry Meridian in the baseball Battle of Perry at Holder Field.

HORNETS OPEN NEW FIELD

(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY)

Beech Grove High School officially opened its new artificial turf softball field Saturday. Newly appointed BG schools Supt. Laura Hammack addresses the crowd with dignitaries to her right, front, first-ever BGHS softball coach Jill Weaver, left, former player Audra Pickett, who caught the first pitch, middle, and former Indiana softball All-Star Lyndsey Buckley Lemasters, who threw the first pitch. They are in front of former players and coaches. Current BGHS softball coach Kacy Ferrell, right, chats with Weaver, lower photo. The Hornets defeated Crawfordsville, 15-0, and Eastbrook, 10-0.

FCHS HONORS COACH KATHY STRICKER

(SOUTHSIDER VOICE PHOTOS BY AL STILLEY)

Franklin Central High School's only softball coach Kathy Stricker stands in front of the 2021 Flashes team April 14 during the official naming of the Kathy Stricker Softball Complex. She is in her 42nd season as the Flashes' coach. Before the ceremonies began, she is greeted by former athletic director Larry Hanni, left photo. Stricker is hugged by longtime New Palestine coach Ed Marcum, right photo. The visiting Dragons won, 10-8, as the Flashes scored four runs in the seventh.

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