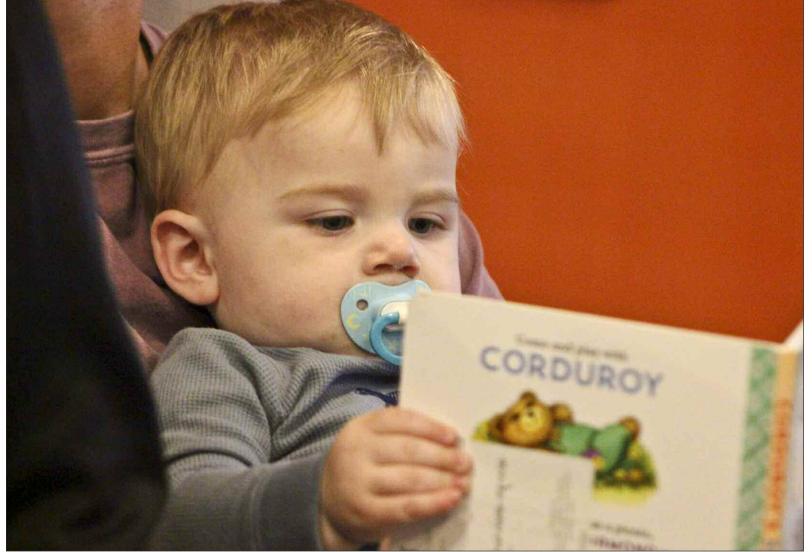
Friday, December 1, 2023

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

# **Sparking imagination**



One-year-old Knox Willmann holds up a book while mother Ashley Willmann reads to him and his siblings in November at their home in rural Portland. The family is one of many families in Jay County benefitting from the Imagination Library program handled locally by Jay County REMC.

The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## **Dolly Parton program through local affiliate REMC** provides free books to children from birth through age 5

#### **By BAILEY CLINE**

The Commercial Review If you can read, you can learn anything.

That's the mindset behind Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which is available locally through affiliate Jay County REMC.

That's also the reasoning behind why the State of Indiana is matching funds toward the program aimed at placing literature in the hands of young children.

more than 12,000 free books to children in the community.

#### How it started

Award-winning entertainer Dolly Parton started the Imagination Library in 1995 for children in her eastern Tennessee home county.

In a video posted on the organization's Youtube page in July, Parton talked about her inspiration behind starting the cause.

"Before he passed away, my daddy told me the Imagination

in her role as marketing and communications coordinator at Jay County REMC in 2020, she began looking into community outreach and children's programs. After a book landed in her hands one day, she thought of her then 5-year-old son and Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. She reached out to the organization to get the process started for Jay County.

Imagination Library as a partner in August 2021, with the first books — more than 300 for Jay County at that time — sent out two months later. "Parents knew about this program, they were just waiting on the edge of their seats for it to happen in Jay County," said Nichols.

When Carly Nichols started Nichols. "You can call me "It's really a well-oiled her role as marketing and from the hospital if you're machine," Nichols said. In the last few years, the local and have a date of birth, up until the day they turn 5. So it's going to continue to have active kids on it.'

Each child's first book regardless of their age start-ing the program is "The Little Engine That Could" by Watty Piper.

The local cooperative joined tailors books to children better tool to give a child for based on their age. Nichols their development and growth said they seem to rotate and bring in new literature regularly.

program has received grants from The Portland Foundation to keep it running. Doug Inman, president of The Portland Foundation, advocated for Imagination Library, saying plans are to continue supporting it in the future.

It puts books in the hands of From there, the program children," said Inman. "What

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has gifted more than 220 million books - more than 2 million monthly — to children across the world in the last 28 years. As of Sept. 1, for the next two years Imagination Library affiliates in Indiana only pay 50% of their local program cost, with the other half matched by the state.

The program is regularly funded by grants or donations read became my passion, and and comes at no cost to families. Jay County's affiliate read, you can teach yourself group alone has helped send anything," she continued. group alone has helped send

Library was probably the most important that I had ever done," she said. "That's saying a lot, and I can't tell you how much that means to me because I created the Imagination Library as a tribute to my daddy. Now he was one of the wisest men I've ever known, but I knew in my heart this inability to read probably kept him from seeing all his dreams come true.

'So inspiring kids to love to my mission, because if you can

#### How it works

Infants through 5-year-old children may receive free monthly books in the mail from Imagination Library.

"They can be on it from birth — literal birth," said

Jay County REMC is an affiliate of Imagination Library, handling registration and fundraising for the program. (Because REMC isn't a nonprofit organization, the funds are handled through a partnership with United Way of Jay County.) Dolly Parton's Imagination Library works with publishing houses and controls the shipping and planning which books go to which children.

than to give them a book?"

Three of those children receiving books are Lake, Summer and Knox Willmann of Jay County.

'We had to buy another bookshelf," said mother Ashley Willmann with a laugh.

Ashley Willmann started her now 6-year-old son, Lake, on the program about two years back. Although he's now aged out, his siblings, 2-year-old Summer and 1-year-old Knox, started receiving books at birth.

See Imagination page 2

# Pushing to re-open

#### By CASEY SMITH

Indiana Capital Chronicle indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana's largest teacher's union is calling for better collective bargaining, increased pay for support staff and more say over curriculum in the upcoming legislative session.

Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA) President Keith Gambill said Tuesday that Hoosier educators are also seeking new social and emotional learning support for students.

"These priorities ... reflect what educators Although Republican legneed to create better learning environments for their students, and better working environments for all budget during the short educators," Gambill said session, ISTA's latest agen-

Teachers union calling for increased pay, more input curriculum

during a news conference, da includes multiple fundunion's 2024 legislative pri- least \$540 million. orities.

The General Assembly reconvenes Jan. 8. islative leaders have said they do not plan to reopen the state

where he released the ing requests that total at

ISTA will advocate for a \$500 million increase to basic tuition support for traditional public schools in the 2025 fiscal year the second year covered by Indiana's current biennial budget.

See Pushing page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Warm tones

Jay County High School choir members sing while staying bundled up Monday during Dunkirk's Feel the Warmth of Christmas celebration. The low on Monday reached a chilly 21 degrees at night, with temperatures stuck at 32 degrees or colder throughout the day.

#### Deaths

Anita Iliff, 78, Pennington Gap, Virginia Details on page 2.

#### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 37 degrees Wednesday. The low was 19. Tonight's forecast calls for

more rain with a low in the lower 40s. Expect mostly cloudy skies Saturday with a high in the lower 50s and a 20% chance of rain in the evening. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

#### In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the shopping center at 220 Lincoln St., Portland, the parking lot east of Redkey Post Office and the parking lot south of Salamonia Fire Station.

#### Coming up

Saturday — IU Health Jay partnering with schools for public art.

Tuesday — Results from Saturday's JCHS versus FRHS basketball games.



## Local/Indiana

## **Obituaries**

#### Anita Iliff

April 18, 1945-Nov. 8, 2023 Anita June "Martin" Iliff, age 78, of Pennington Gap, Virginia, passed from this life, Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023.

Anita was born in Celina, Ohio, on April 18, 1945, to the late Earl and Martha Martin.

Anita is preceded in death by both parents, father Earl E. Martin and mother Martha Lois Schmehl Martin.



ing

spouse, Dan,

David McMurray and his spouse, Trisha, Jon McMurray and his spouse, Jolanda, Ross McMurray and his spouse, Julie, and Brad

Iliff and his spouse, Shana; 24 grandchildren; eight greatgrandchildren; and sister, Kate Rumpff and her spouse, Roger; along with a loving host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Anita was a faithful wife, warm mother and friend.

The family will accept friends for a memorial service honoring Anita on Dec. 8, 2023, from 5 to 6 p.m. with services to begin at 6 p.m. The memorial service for

Anita will be held at Wayne Street Methodist Church located at 130 N. Wayne St., St. Marys, Ohio.

A private inurnment will be held at a later date.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the National Kidney Foundation.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Thacker Memorial Funeral Home, Pikeville, Kentucky.

Thacker Memorial extends our deepest sympathy to the fam-

ily and friends of Anita June Iliff.

#### .....

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

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

#### **CR almanac** Saturday Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday 12/2 12/3 12/4 12/5 12/6 28 wil ostly

51/37	49/33	42/31	41/28	40/28
ower 50s	The fore- cast calls for a 50% chance of rain with a high in the upper 40s. More rain is possible in the evening.	mostly cloudy skies with a 20% chance	Skies will be mostly cloudy with a 30% chance of rain and a high in the low 40s.	Skies will be mostly cloudy. There is a slight chance of snow in the morning with a high around 40.

## **Lotteries**

**Powerball** 

6-47-50-61-68 Power Ball: 4 Power Play: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$400 million

#### Mega Millions

Estimated jackpot: \$355 million

#### Hoosier

Wednesday Midday Daily Three: 7-7-0 Daily Four: 7-8-9-5 Quick Draw: 1-9-17-19-23-24-25-29-32-35-43-50-56-63-64-65-70-71-75-77Evening Daily Three: 7-7-3

Ohio Wednesday Midday Pick 3: 9-3-3 Pick 4: 2-9-7-6 Pick 5: 1-9-1-1-7 Evening Pick 3: 7-5-5 Pick 4: 0-6-6-3 Pick 5: 3-1-8-6-8 Rolling Cash: 7-9-16-36-37 Estimated jackpot:

Daily Four: 2-5-5-8 Quick Draw: 8-11-14-

16-18-23-26-35-39-40-41-42-

Cash 5: 2-9-13-14-35

Estimated jackpot:

45-46-52-57-58-67-75-80

\$152,500

## \$100,000

**Markets** 

Cooper Farms	January beans13.33
Fort Recovery	Wheat 5.56
Corn4.36	ADM
January corn4.74	Montpelier
Wheat5.16	Corn4.38
POET Biorefining Portland Corn4.36	January corn4.55 Beans13.23 January beans13.26 Wheat5.25

## Imagination Continued from page 1 Titles vary, generally focusing on

engaging readers through interactive learning or talking about real-world content, such as farming. (Their father, Michael Willmann, is a farmer.)

Each month, the Willmanns receive their books in the mail. Books come shrink-wrapped with a shipping label stating their name on it.

Now in first grade, Lake Willmann often reads to his brother and sister. Getting new books in the mail each month is helping her children to learn how to read, noted Ashley Willmann.

And once Summer and Knox Willmann age out of the program, they will each have amassed 60 free books from Imagination Library. do it," said Willmann.

the thousands of local partners and organizations who have embraced my dream and made it their own,' she said in the July YouTube video. "They raise millions of dollars each year and wake up every day with a passion to make sure the children in their communities have every opportunity to succeed."

Indiana State Library started coordinating state matching funds in September and providing money to partner organizations hoping to expand into other counties. The \$6 million effort comes as a part of Gov. Eric Holcomb's 2023 Next Level Agenda, appropriating \$2 million in the first year and \$4 million in the second year of Indiana's biennial budget cycle to establish the program statewide. It's tied in with other state initiatives "There's literally no reason not to focused on improving literacy rates for Indiana's youth, including covering textbook costs for families and strengthening early child care and education. "I learned from a very young age that reading is the key to education and opportunity," Holcomb said in an August press release. "The ability to read can transport children to places they have never been before and open doors they never knew existed. By making Dolly Parton's Imagination Library available in every zip code, we are giving Hoosier children the tools they need for literary success." According to the release, the program at that time was available in 54 counties and partially available in eight other counties.

Blackford, Delaware, Fayette, Grant, Henry, Jay, Randolph, Rush and Wayne counties currently have a partnership with Imagination Library.

"Not every county in the United States of America has an affiliate, but you know, that's their goal," said Nichols.

#### How to join

Parton encouraged individuals to get involved in the program.

"Imagine a world where every child, regardless of their background, was surrounded with books, stories and a love for reading," she said in her YouTube video.

Applications are available at Jay County REMC and Jay County Public Library. Parents or guardians can also visit imaginationlibrary.com to complete registration online or call Jay County REMC at (260) 726-7121. Nichols pointed out sponsorships are available to businesses or organizations interested in supporting the cause. The fundraising effort has a tiered system with one-month, six-month or one-year sponsorships available and has perks at different levels, including the group's name printed on mailing labels applied to all books sent out locally. "We want to keep this program as long as we can," Nichols said. "We don't intend to see this ever go away. There's always going to be new kids every year being born that are going to be put on the program."

The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Imagination Library aims to place a new book monthly into the hands of children younger than 5-years-old. Pictured, from left, are 6-year-old Lake Willmann, 1-year-old Knox Willmann and 2-year-old Summer Willmann sitting in front of a handful of books from their library.

January corn ......4.73 February corn ......4.74

The Anders Richland To	
Corn	4.16
January	4.46
Beans	

Heartland	
St. Anthony	
Corn	
January corn	4.43
Beans	12.98
January beans	13.06
Wheat	4.96

## **Today in history**

first moving assembly raise awareness about line was installed by Ford Motor Company.

In 1918, the Kingdom of Iceland was established and became a sovereign state after signing the Act of Union with Denmark. Several years later, in 1944, it shifted to the Republic of Iceland.

In 1955, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in Montgomery, Alabama. Parks was arrested, leading to a 381-day bus boycott led by Martin Luther King Jr. and a 1956 decision by the Supreme Court to ban public transportation segregation.

World AIDS Day was

held by the World Health

In 1913, the world's Organization. Meant to AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), the day is annually observed on Dec. 1.

In 2003, "The Return of the King" premiered Wellington, New in Zealand. The final film in the "Lord of the Rings" series based on the novel from J.R.R. Tolkien starred Elijah Wood and Ian McKellen. In 2021, Jay County dipped back to the "orange" category (high risk for the spread of coronavirus) in the weekly update from Indiana State Department of Health. The county had been at "red" In 1988, the first (extreme risk) for the previous two weeks. —The CR

**Citizen's calendar** 

#### Monday

City Council, council 1616 N. Franklin St. chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

7:30 p.m. — Fort Recovery Village Coun-cil, village hall, 201 S. Main St.

#### Tuesday

4 p.m. — Jay County Development Corpora-Community tion. Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland. 5:30 p.m. — Portland an St.

Park Board, council 5:30 p.m. — Portland chambers, fire station, 7 p.m. — Pennville

Town Council, town hall, 105 N. Washington St.

7 p.m. — Salamonia Town Council, Schoolhouse Community Cen-

#### Thursday

4 p.m. — Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridi-

#### How it's going

After 28 years, Imagination Library now reaches five countries — it started in Canada in 2006, the United Kingdom in 2007, Australia in 2014 and the Republic of Ireland in 2019 - and gifts more than 2 million books monthly to children across the globe. According to the program's website, 1 in 10 children younger than 5-yearsold in the United States receive ageappropriate books from Imagination Library.

Parton credited most of the organization's success to the communities involved.

"The real heroes of our story are

# Pushing

Continued from page 1 Gambill said that amounts to a boost of 7.98% compared to what schools are currently on track to receive.

Under current law, K-12 public schools are projected to see average per student funding increases of 1.7% next year. "While we recognize the

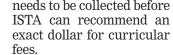
2024 legislative session is not a budget year, we are calling on legislators to reopen the budget to fix several inadequacies that require immediate attention," he said. "If we want Indiana to be a leader in the region or country, we're going to have to do right by our schools."

He emphasized, too, that the legislature needs to earmark more money in the second year of the biennium to "fully fund" the cost of textbooks and curricular materials.

State lawmakers dedicated \$160 million in the new state budget to eliminate textbook and curriculum fees, starting with the 2023-24 academic year. While the new law was championed by state officials, school districts are still on

the hook to pay for those materials.

The ISTA leader said the union is aware of "several" school districts that are "concerned" about their ability to pay for textbooks in the 2024-25 school year.



"If schools are forced to either make changes in staffing or other programming in order to fully fund Gambill said more data the textbooks, then we're



needs to be collected before not getting the best for our ISTA can recommend an students," he said. "It shouldn't be upon them – and not born on the backs of school employees — to make that happen."

### **SERVICES**

Saturday

Graber, Amos: 9 a.m., Graber residence, 7712 S. 600 East, Berne.

Gonser-Rose, Patricia: | p.m., Lawson – Miller Chapel, 1702 E. National Ave., Brazil.

Wednesday Rains, Paula: 11 a.m., Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey.

December 8 lliff, Anita: 6 p.m., Wayne Street Methodist Church, 130 N. Wayne St., St. Marys, Ohio.

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

# Family

## New members

Portland Evening Optimist Club recently welcomed two new Pictured. members. from left, are club president and new members sponsor Linda Aker and new members Jodie Mathews and Joe Mathews.



Photo provided

# Man lets others do heavy lifting

DEAR ABBY: Our son plays a college sport for which he receives four complimentary tickets for each game. It works out well because there are four of us in his immediate family.

However, my husband has been asking friends of his to join us at games by offering them free tickets. Our son then must find a teammate with unused tickets and ask for them. My husband gives no warning. He just announces a couple of days prior to a game that he has invited so and so. Then, on game day, we are responsible for getting these friends in and seated with us.

More than once, we haven't been able to enter stadiums and see our son before games, or the beginning of a game, because his friends are late and he must stay behind to meet them.

My take is this: These are public sporting events. Our son is given tickets for IMMEDIATE family. If a friend expresses a desire to go to a game, send them the schedule and say, "Awesome! Here's the schedule. See you there!" and recommend an online ticket vending site.

I think it's inconsiderate to me and our son that my husband turns it into a three-ring circus. He thinks "the more the merrier" and isn't con-

Dear Abby

our son or my feelings. Am I being irrational? - IRRITATED IN THE EAST

**DEAR IRRITATED: You are not** being irrational. Your husband behaves this way because HE doesn't have to bear the burden of the inconvenience he causes. If you would like to put an end to what he has been doing, make HIM responsible for buying his friends' tickets and missing the start of the game if they are late. Stop making it your problem and place it where it really belongs.

DEAR ABBY: I have a serious problem I have lived with for practically my whole life. I'm sloppy. I am incapable of keeping my surroundings clean and taking care of my belongings. Each time I resolve to get busy and clean up my house or car or whatever, I become overwhelmed with cerned about the hassle he creates for anxiety and nothing gets done. Being Los Angeles, CA 90069.

unable to keep my surroundings clean and take proper care of my possessions has led to some very unpleasant situations in the past. I can no longer afford to continue this pattern of behavior. Please tell me what to do. — SLOPPY JOE IN INDI-ANA

DEAR JOE: You have already taken the first step, which is admitting you have a problem with which you need help. You might feel less overwhelmed if you take on these projects one at a time. Start with one drawer or counter before moving on to the next.

An important next step would be to tell your doctor what has been going on, and ask for a referral to a psychotherapist who can help get to the root of your anxiety. Talking with a mental health professional and possibly taking medication could be helpful, and I hope you will consider it. I applaud you for reaching out. You are not alone in having this issue. .....

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 DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440,

# Weaver part of inaugural class

A Portland native is part of an effort to develop faculty.

M. Libby Weaver is part of the inaugural class of Center for Excellence in Education Scholars at the University of Virginia.

Weaver is one of 11 facdepartments in the university's school of medicine taking part in the program, which seeks to "advance excellence in education through development of faculty expertise in educational scholarship." Over an 18-month period, those involved will work to develop educational scholarship and work with mentors to produce an educational project.

Weaver graduated from Jay County High School in 2000 and went on to earn her bachelor's degree at Wittenberg University. After pursuing a career in music, she earned her medical degree at the University of Tennessee Health and Science Center and went on to her general surgery residency training at Johns Hopkins University and vascular surgery fellowship at the University of Florida.

She joined the University of Virginia surgery staff in summer 2022.

#### Walk opening

Minnetrista of Muncie will host its Enchanted Luminaria Walk from 5 to 9 p.m. tonight and Saturday. There is no admission fee.

In addition to the lighted walk through the Minnetrista grounds, there will also be winter craft kits. Hot chocolate, apple cider and other refreshments and food will be available.

"Enchanted Luminaria Walk holds a special place in our hearts at Minnetrista," said Minnetrista

## Taking Note

ulty members from eight associate director of expeand education rience Natalie Young in a press release. "It's our heartfelt gift to the community, offering countless opportunities for joy, family fun, and unforgettable memories. The atmosphere is alive with anticipation and delight, marking the perfect start to the holiday season."

> For more information, visit minnetrista.net or call (765) 282-4848.

#### LifeStream leading

LifeStream is hosting its AngelWish program to provide gifts to senior citizens who are alone for the holidays.

Those interested in taking part in the program can donate money or volunteer to deliver gifts.

To donate, email ajenkins@lifestreaminc.org or call (765) 748-6994. To learn about volunteer opportuniemail ties. lbray@lifestreaminc.org

or call (765) 759-1121.

More information is also available at lifestreaminc.org/angelwish.

#### Updating passport

Indiana Destination **Development Corporation** and Indiana Arts Commission announced recently that they are updating and relaunching the Indiana Arts and Culture Passport.

Those who currently hold passports will need to sign up for a new one at visitindiana.com. The passports encourage visitors to discover new creative places in Indiana.

# **Community Calendar**

Notices will appear in Swiss Village in Berne. Community Calendar as For more information, call former W.E. Gaunt Jewelspace is available. To sub- (260) 589-3173. mit an item. email news@thecr.com.

DUNKIRK HISTORI-CAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on JESUS — Wi

day of each month in the ry building, 113. S. Main ROAD RIDERS FOR



#### Today

PAST RECOVERY SERV-ICES — Peer Addiction mer W.E. Gaunt Jewelry Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 Dunkirk. a.m. and 5 p.m. each Friday at the Jay County Drug Prevention Coalition office at 100 N. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.

SOFT SHOULDERS — A support group for anyone suffering from memory loss, will meet at 10:30 a.m. the first Friday of each month in the Fireplace Room at Edelweiss Place at the first and third Satur-

the first and third Friday of each month in the forbuilding, 113 S. Main St.,

#### Saturday

ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 251-3336 or (260) 729-7000.

DUNKIRK HISTORI-CAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on

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

#### Level: Advanced

#### Thursday's Solution

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

_	11	nu	rso	la	y's	50	olu	UI	n
	8	7	1	9	6	3	5	4	2
	2	6	5	8	1	4	3	9	7
	4	9	3	2	7	5	1	6	8
	3	1	7	4	8	6	9	2	5
	6	2	4	5	9	1	7	8	3
	5	8	9	3	2	7	4	1	6
	9	3	6	1	5	8	2	7	4
	7	5	2	6	4	9	8	3	1
	1	4	8	7	3	2	6	5	9

JESUS — Will meet at 10 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month in the West Walnut Church of Christ fellowship hall, 204 W. Walnut St., Portland. (Please enter from the door facing the alley on the north side of the building.) For more information, call (260) 726-8463

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

#### Sunday

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 Sunday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

#### Monday

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

PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — Will meet at 1 p.m. the first Monday of each month at Portland Place, 430 W. Lafayette St. For more information, call (800) 589-1121.

EUCHRE -Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.

TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

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# Opinion

# Supreme Court needs a real code

Bloomberg Opinion

Tribune News Service Holding judges to high ethical **Guest** standards is essential to the US legal system. The Supreme Court's recent adoption of an ethics code is an overdue acknowledgement of this reality. But the court's failure to include any enforcement provisions reduces the code to a paper tiger. The public shouldn't fall for it.

Where ethics are concerned, the high court has long taken the approach of adopting "rules for thee but not for me" — requiring all other federal judges to adhere to high standards while exempting itself. Not surprisingly, the justices have exhibited a series of embarrassing ethical lapses, including failing to recuse themselves despite owning stock in

# **Editorial**

companies appearing before them; failing to disclose lavish vacation gifts; using public employees to help promote and sell books; and accepting free accommodations for themselves and guests.

These breaches have led to a public outcry, and rightly so. They stain the court's reputation and reduce public confidence in its authority and independence.

democratic institutions is low, history of imposing require- mount importance to democrasuch failures are all the more intolerable.

Yet the court's new code could well breed more public cynicism, by continuing to allow its members to sit as their own judge and jury, a standing invitation for misconduct. As one example, the justices have long claimed that disclosure rules mandated by Congress in 1978 didn't apply to valuable gifts they received; such gamesmanship is likely to doom any new self-policing system.

Since the court has refused to take enforcement seriously, Congress should do so.

The Constitution provides law-makers with broad latitude in regulating the judicial branch, At a time when public trust in and the legislature has a long

ments on the high court, including mandating recusals in cases where justices' impartiality could be questioned, and requiring disclosure of their financial holdings and outside income.

Because their judicial decisions are not subject to review, the justices seem to think their recusal decisions shouldn't be either. There's no constitutional basis for such a view, and no reason why federal judges who review recusal judgments could not also consider the high court's.

At the least, the chief justice should be empowered to review and rule on recusal judgments made by other members, and they on his.

Judicial ethics are of para-

cy. It doesn't speak well of the justices that they've failed to grasp the obligations this imposes on them — and it was an insult to claim, as they did in a patronizing statement, that the new code is merely a matter of clearing up the public's "misunderstanding" about the court's rules.It is now up to Congress to hold the justices accountable.

In drafting legislation, law-makers should strive for bipartisan consensus — which shouldn't be hard, given the bipartisan nature of the court's ethical breaches. They should also take care not to allow ethics enforcement to become politicized. But they can't let the court's blindness to its own injustice continue unchecked.

# **Economy is** hurting Biden

**By TOM PHILP** The Sacramento Bee

Tribune News Service There are ominous signs for both California Gov. Gavin Newsom and President Joe Biden that voters are rating them based on their personal pocketbooks and not the leaders' policies and efforts. That spells trouble for both of their futures.

California is souring on Newsom: His approval rating has plummeted this year, from a 55% positive rating in February down to only 44% earlier this month.

Granted, the slip comes just after his spring campaigning in southern states and his recent trip to China, ventures that were controversial to some. But that's just Gavin being Gavin. He was no cloistered hermit when he had the stamp of approval of most Californians at the beginning of the year.

What is worsening is California's affordability crisis.

Numerically, there is no more important Demstronghold ocratic than Los Angeles County, Californians. There, under Trump, with suronly 11% of families can veys consistently finding afford a median-priced home. Sacramento County is more affordable, but not by much. Only 23% of Sacramento County families can afford a medianpriced home in this market. And locals are getgrouchier and ting grouchier. poll of likely Sacramento County voters, 59% said that the county is heading down the wrong track. In 2020, only 40% felt that way. Gasoline, meanwhile, has been cheaper in Hawaii than in California. The governor has expressed outrage at the feel in the gut matters profits of oil companies and has supported litigation against them for and the nation look allegedly hiding oil's contribution to climate and rate their leaders change. Yet his words have proven to be of little itics, whether it is clitonic to the paying public. mate change or internaboat. A recent New York Times survey showed the facing both Newsom and president now trailing Biden could change. But Republican Trump in several swing two leaders must overstates. One reason cited come a public blaming its by respondents was their leaders for their econombelief that Trump is bet- ic anxiety.



... numbers *matter only* so much. What people feel in the gut matters more.

ter at handling the economy than Biden.

A renowned numbers cruncher, Karen Petrou of Federal Financial Analytics, recently explained why in The Times: Wage growth by Americans grew faster than inflation for most of Trump's years. The opposite began happening under Biden after the Ukraine war led to higher global energy prices.

The nation's financial



# **Eyewitnesses are unreliable**

#### **By ZACH STOCK**

Indiana Capital Chronicle

indianacapitalchronicle.com Perhaps my earliest memory - I

could not have been more than five involves Santa Claus. The memory is dark, lit only by a single porch light. It was probably Christmas Eve.

I recall coming home with my parhome of nearly 10 million sentiment was positive ents and coming out of or around the detached garage within sight of front door. Suddenly, in my mind's eye, I see a man in a red suit burst from the door, laughing, "Ho, Ho, Ho," and ringing a bell. Then, I see my mom lean down, point, and say excitedly, "Look! It's Santa!" Kris Kringle then runs out of sight, and the memory fades to black. Although I have sometimes been convinced it was all a dream, my parents confessed to the conspiracy long ago. An uncle played the starring role of Jolly St. Nick. In other words, the event is actual. I'm less confident about the details. It might have been broad daylight, and it could have been December 2 or 17. It may have been my dad pointing out his Santa-impersonating brother. The presence of a bell is questionable, and I'm far from positive that I heard anything at all, let alone the classic Santa laugh. My parents set up the ruse to reinforce my belief. It had the desired effect. I was committed to the myth long after my elementary school peers, and I even remember arguing with friends in school, citing my eyewitness account as exhibit A. This only reinforced my resolve and possibly kept a few third-grade classmates in the agnostic camp a little longer. That your author — a bonafide (skeptic and committed pragmatist was above average in childish optimism might (or might not) surprise friends and coworkers, but it would not surprise a psychologist. The scientific literature indicates skepticism grows, and belief in Santa begins dwindling around seven or same time, having the wrong person talchronicle.com.



eight years old. However, one key

locked up while potentially dangerous perpetrators roam free diminishes public safety. Most importantly, wrongfully convicted men and women across the country have lost nearly 30,000 years of freedom while locked away for crimes they did not commit.

Fortunately, there is a way to minimize memory corruption and reduce the risk of wrongful conviction. Four key reforms, often called the Core Four, have been vetted in more than 30 states and supported by over 30 years of peer-reviewed research. •First, when an eyewitness is brought in for a live lineup or to examine a photo array of suspects, there should be a blind administration of the lineup to minimize taint through suggestion. •Second, the witness should be told that the perpetrator may or may not be present in the lineup and that she is not required to make an identification •Third, the fillers in the lineup should be selected based on their resemblance to the description of the suspect provided by the witness. •Fourth, immediately following the lineup procedure, the evewitness should provide a statement, in his own words, that articulates his confidence in the identification made. Indiana can join the majority of red and blue states that have codified or otherwise adopted these procedures into law. Logic and scientific testing have nothing to do with Santa Claus. They're everything in a criminal investigation. The Core Four can bring objectivity and reliability to a process fraught with subjectivity, and it would be a nice present for every Hoosier.

a higher percentage saying they are better off than being worse off. That sentiment began to flip in 2022 and the trend is worsening. The bottom 50% of the nation owns only 2.5% of the wealth, and they are not happy about it.

There is plenty of data According to a recent to support the fact that Biden and the Federal Reserve have done an admirable job taming inflation in a way that did not kill the economy, with a 4.9% gain in the gross domestic product last month as proof. But numbers matter only so much. What people more.

If voters in California beyond their pocketbooks based on policies and pol-Biden is in the same tional diplomacy, the growing unpopularity Donald for that to happen, the

variable in the length of this decline appears to be a child's exposure to Santa facsimiles. It may be that the more a child encounters a whitewhiskered man in a red suit, the longer that child is likely to believe. My parents orchestrated a natural experiment that seems to confirm this finding.

There is, however, a dark side to this Rockwellian tale of childhood whimsy. It shows both the malleability of memory and the power of the testimonial recollection of events. The wrong mixture of these two features of the human mind has dramatic implications for our criminal justice system.

Under proper circumstances, eyewitness testimony is valid and valuable. When people accurately recount acts of violence to investigators, the appropriate perpetrators may be caught and deterred. However, when an eyewitness's memory is corrupted (often unintentionally), the tainted memory is dangerous. Hardened with repetition and publicly recounted to a jury, we are halfway along the road to wrongful conviction.

Interestingly, there is no dispute that unreliable eyewitness memory significantly contributes to the intolerable problem of wrongful conviction. More than a third of all wrongconvictions ful in Indiana involve mistaken identification, and wrongful convictions have led to millions of dollars in legal settlements and payments from the Indiana Exoneration Fund. At the

#### .....

Stock is an appellate public defender and serves as legislative counsel for the Indiana Public Defender Council.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapi-

**The Commercial Review** 

US PS 125820

The Commercial Review is published daily except Sundays, Mondays and four holidays (New Year's Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving and Christmas) by The Graphic Printing Co. Inc., 309 W. Main St., Portland, Indiana 47371. Periodical postage paid (USPS 125820) at Portland, Indiana. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Commercial Review, 309 W. Main St., P.O. Box 1049, Deutlend Indiana 47871. Portland, Indiana 47371 or call (260) 726-8141.

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VOLUME 150-NUMBER 142 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

"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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# Agriculture

# **Rehabilitation through ag**

# Farmer-to-Farmer program seeks to improve life skills

**By OLIVIA DEYOUNG** Purdue Ag News

Gardening and poultry care are sometimes seen as trendy hobbies in the U.S., but in Trinidad and Tobago, Vision on Mission clients view these agricultural skills as a source of livelihood and hope for the future.

Vision on Mission is a nongovernment organization that works to rehabilitate and reintegrate ex-inmates, deportees, delinquent youth and socially displaced persons in Trinidad and Tobago.

"Our mission is to transform the lives of individuals who have been incarcerated and to increase public safety," said Giselle Chance, CEO of Vision on Mission.

For the past four years, the Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Trinidad and Tobago program has partnered with Vision on Mission to improve the organization's ability to provide for itself and its clients.

F2F Trinidad and Tobago is co-led by Purdue University and the University of West Indies - St. Augustine, and it is funded by USAID. The program pairs U.S. volunteers with people across Trinidad and Tobago, like those at Vision on Mission, who selfidentify what needs they have.

One of Vision on Mission's goals is to give marketable and practical skills to "clients," or participants in the program. Clients can learn a range of skills from agriculture to barbering to other life skills, like anger management, money management and building better relationships with loved ones. Through trainings from F2F Trinidad and Tobago volunteers, Vision on Mission has been able to expand its ability to serve clients and to improve the skills training it offers.

One F2F training Vision on Mission received was sheep rearing and management. Clients learned how to handle about better methods of feed- identification and manage-



Purdue Ag News/Kelci Getzir

Client Reginald Lestage displays a pepper grown in Vision on Mission's garden. F2F Trinidad and Tobago is co-led by Purdue University and the University of West Indies – St. Augustine, and it is funded by USAID.

signs of distress. Chance noted that caring for another life had a therapeutic value for clients, who showed improvement in their overall mood, enthusiasm and attitude toward work.

Vision on Mission also received training on poultry and egg production.

"One of the objectives of our farm is to provide produce for our kitchen," said Chance. "We use vegetables, seasonings and locally grown chicken and eggs, so the training we received in poultry and egg production was invaluable to us."

the organization and its clients

poultry. These new methods increased the number of chicks born and increased egg production by almost 50%.

F2F volunteers additionally hosted training for food preservation, which further supported Vision on Mission's kitchen. Volunteers taught about making marmalades and pepper sauces, products that increase the value of raw goods. With the training, Vision on Mission hopes to not only add pepper sauces to in-house food production, but they also hope to sell it to consumers.

Finally, F2F volunteers The F2F volunteers taught trained Vision on Mission sion, I'm going to make a lot of clients on pest and disease

sheep, feed sheep and identify ing, lighting and heating for ment. Reginald Lestage, one of have the experience, know-how the clients, was particularly excited to receive the training.

> Vision on Mission first exposed Lestage to gardening, and it has since become a passion for him.

> 'I came from a concrete jungle, and I never had the chance to garden," Lestage said. "Now that I'm here gardening, I love it."

> F2F volunteers gave Lestage the skills and confidence to pursue crop production as a main source of income rather than just a pastime. Lestage said.

"When I leave Vision on Misand energy on planting. Now, I our internal capacity.'

and skill to plant."

Other clients who participated in the F2F training have similar confidence in future careers. For example, many local farmers, recognizing the skills Vision on Mission teaches, have begun employing former clients as agricultural laborers.

"The training was a great opportunity for our clients to learn some practical skills in agriculture and to receive world-class certification in various areas of agriculture and animal husbandry," Chance said. "It was a great opportunitv to partner with an internamoney by investing my time tional organization to increase





THE FAMILY CIRCUS **By Bil Keane** 12-1 JEFF KEANE

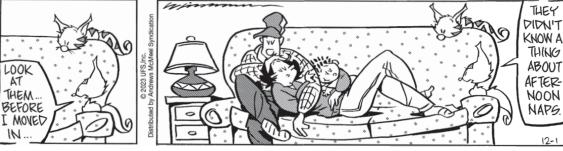
"I was a big help to Miss Johnson today. She wanted to know how to spell 'bat,' so I told her."

I'M HOPING YOUR

OLD WALKMAN

STILL WORKS.





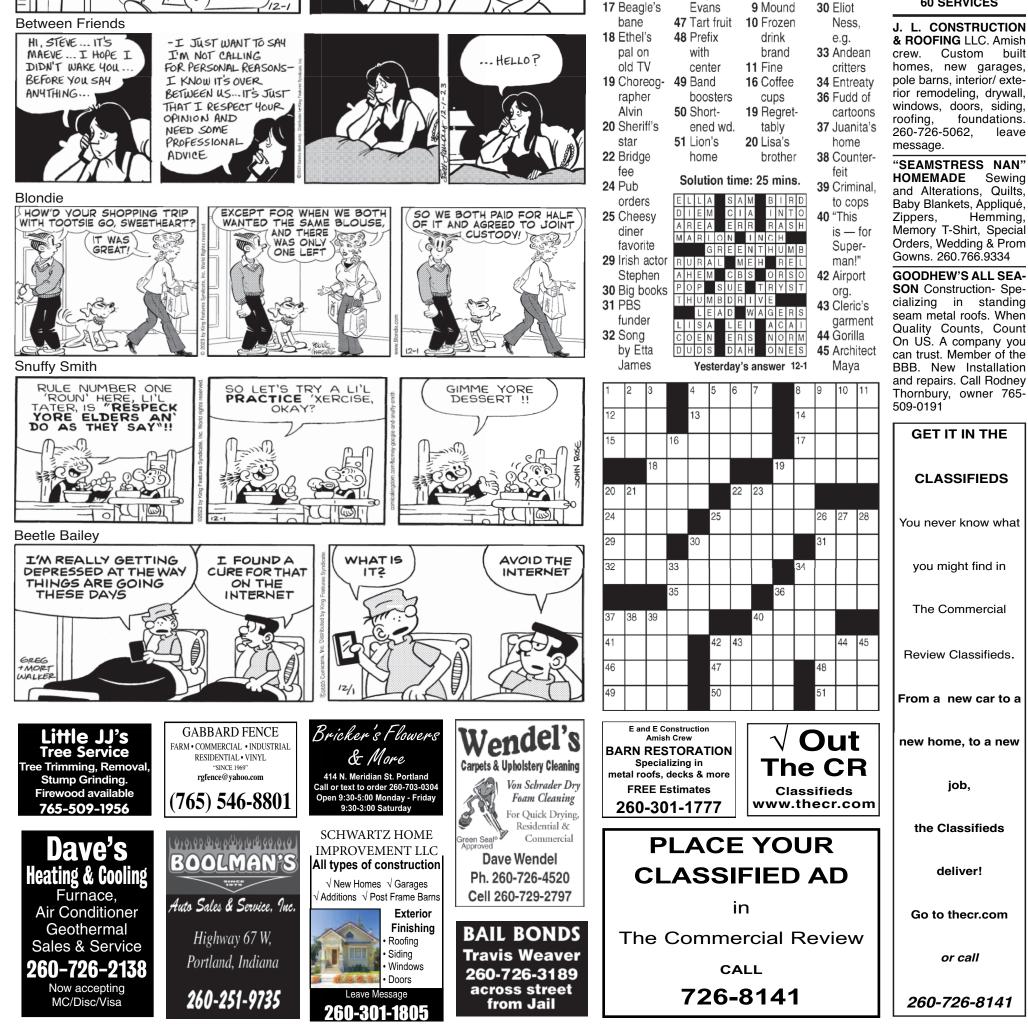


#### Hi and Lois



HI, STEVE ... IT'S MAEVE ... I HOPE I DIDN'T WAKE YOU . BEFORE YOU SAY ANYTHING ..

I'M NOT CALLING I KNOW IT'S OVER



#### – Contract 🔶 Bridge 楶 By Steve Becker Bridge

### **Bidding quiz**

he should carry on to game), he

should have a good play for 10

tricks. A raise to two hearts would be too pessimistic, while four hearts

would be too optimistic. Three is

**3. Two hearts.** Again you have 16 high-card points, but they're not distributed as well as in the preced-

ing hand. There's no singleton club

difference. Furthermore, the raise

to two hearts is a positive move

forward; it tells partner you had

more than a minimum double, as

well as a trump fit, which is really

all you have. Three hearts would be

overstating your values a bit too

4. One notrump. Again, this

might seem very conservative, but as before, you have no guarantee

that partner has anything at all. If

you were to jump to two notrump

instead, which is admittedly tempt-ing, you'd be single-handedly

undertaking to make 62% of the

tricks with only 45% of the high-card points. Your one-notrump bid

indicates at least the strength for an

opening notrump bid; if partner has what you need to make a game,

he will surely bid again.

re, and that makes a world of

just about right.

much.

You are South, and the bidding has gone South West North East ÷ Dble Pass

Pass What would you bid now with each of the following four hands? 1. ♠ AKQ62 ♥ J74 ♦ AJ6 ♣ K8 2. ♠ AJ98 ♥ QJ86 ♥ AKJ2 ♣ 10 3. ♠ AJ6 ♥ KQ93 ♦ AQ52 ♣ 74 4. ♠ AQ54 ♥ JŠ ♦ KQJŠ ♣ AJ8

1. One spade. This might appear to be an enormous underbid, but it isn't, since partner's one heart response to your takeout double does not guarantee anything at all. By doubling one club and then bidding one spade, you've told partner that you were too strong for a simple one spade overall of one club. Your delayed one-spade bid also tells him that game is possible if he has something to contribute. If partner passes one spade, it's extremely unlikely that there's a game in the combined hands.

2. Three hearts. With a good trump fit plus excellent distribution, you don't need much from partner to have a reasonable chance for game. If partner has as little as K-10-x-x-x of hearts (with which

12-1

Tomorrow: Accidentally on purpose. ©2023 King Features Syndicate Inc

#### **CRYPTOQUIP**

T C	G O R X	СКҮНW	SVUTSV	D K
W D	ΟΖD	WYVV	FTRN	KR
UKZ	ZSIZKX	K FTYYK	KAW, AK	IYS
		VEVOS	VTDVW9	

DEOD GOHV EVOS YTRVW? Yesterday's Cryptoquip: BIG CONTEST TO SEE WHICH OF THE PIGS WOULD ROOT UP BURIED ITEMS THE FASTEST: A SNOUTING MATCH. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals H

## **CROSSWORD** By Eugene Sheffer

encoso		2, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 2	
ACROSS 1 Armed	<b>34</b> Prudish <b>35</b> —	DOWN 1 Humorist	21 Out of the storm
conflict	Godiva	2 Boxer	22 Kid's
4 Be slack-	36 Inventor	Laila	belly
jawed	Howe	3 Genuine,	23 Draft
8 Akron's	37 Senate	with	status
state	broad-	"the"	<b>25</b> Frog's
<b>12</b> Land in	caster	4 Dinner	kin
la mer	<b>40</b> Sir	prayer	26 Forti-
13 Mob	Guinness	5 Ethereal	fied
scene	41 Throat	6 Luau	27 "Star
14 Shaving	clearer	dish	Wars"
mishap	<b>42</b> Agra	7 Greek	royal
15 Coffee-	landmark	vowel	28 High-
flavored	46 Country	8 Video-	land
liqueur	singer	taped	hats
17 Beagle's	Evans	9 Mound	30 Eliot
bane	47 Tart fruit	10 Frozen	Ness,
18 Ethel's	48 Prefix	drink	e.g.
pal on	with	brand	33 Andean
old TV	center	11 Fine	critters
19 Choreog-	49 Band	16 Coffee	34 Entreaty
rapher	boosters	cups	36 Fudd of
Alvin	50 Short-	19 Regret-	cartoons
20 Sheriff's	ened wd.	tably	37 Juanita's

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#### **60 SERVICES**

# NASCAR

Continued from page 8 In addition to the five races it broadcasts, Prime Video will stream practice and qualifying for most races during the first half of the season. After TNT Sports begins its coverage with the next five midseason races, which will also stream on the B/R Sports Add-On on Max, it will stream practice and qualifying for the remainder of the season on Max and broadcast it on TruTV.

### Sports Business Journal reported that the seven-year deals will generate \$7.7 billion.

"Working with them for a long period of time, there's going to be a certain amount of innovation," NBC Sports President Rick Cordella said at the press conference. "Over the last 10 years, stage racing, tweaks to the playoffs — all of that really

Financial terms of the agree- plays into why we want to be exclusively on a streaming plat- year-plus partnership," ments were not disclosed, but partners with NASCAR. And form is a first for NASCAR, it Marine, Prime Video's vice then you look at the product follows trends by other profesitself. It's exciting racing, a sional and collegiate sports young crop of drivers hitting the circuit."

> NASCAR's current 10-year deals with Fox and NBC, which generated a record \$8.2 billion, are set to expire after the 2024 season. These new deals will take NASCAR through 2031.

While Cup Series races airing

leagues. The NFL solely streams Thursday Night Football on Prime Video, MLB puts select Friday night games on Apple TV Plus, the Big Ten has been airing certain football games on Peacock, among others.

Jay president and global head of sports, said at the press conference. "That's how we want to invest — so we can innovate for the long-term. And we're excited to do that. We're excited to reach a younger audience who may have cut the cord and not be watching as much, as we've been able to do with Thursday "We look at this as a seven- Night Football."

# Group

Continued from page 8 Along with Rammel, the Indians graduated Landon Post and Daniel Patch as well, and Riggs Tobe did not come out this season after suffering an injury early in the football season.

They combined for 15.7 points per game, meaning Fort Recovery lost 70.7% of its scoring from last season when it finished 15-10 and was seventh in the Midwest Athletic Conference.

The seven returners from last season are Alex big things for us," he Dues, Gavin Evers, Reece Guggenbiller, Rex Leverette and Briggs Overman. Homan and Rex Leverette boast the most experience of the Homan (guard) and Rex type players all the way

group, having starters during the 2022-23 campaign, but the latter is the only returning player who scored more than three points per game.

Add in senior Gavin Faller to the mix and Bob Leverette has what he roughly expects to be his main rotation.

Despite not playing since middle school, Bob Leverette expects Faller to be a key addition to the team.

"I look for Faller to do said. "I think people will Troy really be surprised, for Homan, Eli Lennartz, not playing the last three vears, how good he really is going to be for us."

been Leverette (forward) to across the board." Bob reprise their roles as starters and be joined by the other three seniors, Guggenbiller (guard), Dues (forward) and Faller (forward).

While the offensive end will be a work in progress, the Indians' defense can take a jump this year with the versatility of their rotation.

season, Fort Last Recovery had the secondbest scoring defense in the MAC behind Marion Local, which edged past Fort Recovery 35-34 in the district opener.

"I think we'll be better defensively because of our style of defense with the kids being able to For now, he expects kind of be cookie cutter

Leverette said. "So, we lose that size, that muscle per se, but I think overall, we're probably longer and lengthier."

The Indians will rely their defensive on prowess, and if the offense starts to come along, then Bob Leverette thinks they can reach the level they were last year while at improving their overall record.

"Hopefully it's better than last year," he said. "I think we can win two or three more games and win another sectional. I think that's a great year for us. I think that's realistic. And if we go further then, wow, that's fun.'

Date Seturday, Dec. 2	Opponent	<u>Time</u>		
Saturday, Dec. 2 Saturday, Dec. 9	Jay County Bradford	6 p.m. 6 p.m.		
Tuesday, Dec. 12	Fort Loramie	6 p.m.		
Friday, Dec. 15	Parkway	6 p.m.		
Saturday, Dec. 16	Ansonia	6 p.m.		
Friday, Dec. 22	South Adams	6 p.m.		
Thursday, Dec. 28	Marion Local	7:30 p.m.		
Friday, Dec. 29	St. Henry	7:30 p.m.		
Saturday, Dec. 30	Lincolnview	6 p.m.		
Tuesday, Jan. 2	Arcanum	6 p.m.		
Friday, Jan. 5	Versailles	6 p.m.		
Friday, Jan. 12	St. John's	6 p.m.		
Friday, Jan. 19	Coldwater	6 p.m.		
Friday, Jan. 26	Marion Local	6 p.m.		
Saturday, Jan. 27	Mississinawa Valley	6 p.m.		
Friday, Feb. 2	St. Henry	6 p.m.		
Friday, Feb. 9	Minster	6 p.m.		
Saturday, Feb. 10	Newton	6 p.m.		
Friday, Feb. 16	New Knoxville	6 p.m.		
Saturday, Feb. 17	Tri-Village	6 p.m.		
Friday, Feb. 23	New Bremen	6 p.m.		
Home games in bold				

Rutgers (BTN)

5:30 p.m. -

Penn State (BTN)

7:30 p.m.

at Georgetown (FS1)

## Sports on tap

#### Local schedule

Today - Boys basketaball (including Jay County freshmen) vs. Woodlan – 6 p.m.; JV boys wrestling – 5:45 p.m.

#### Saturday

Jay County - Boys wrestling at Western - p a.m.; Swimming Celina Sprint at Jay County - 11 - 12 a.m.; Girls basketball vs. Fort Recovery p.m.; Boys basketball (including freshmen) at Fort Recovery – 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Swimming Celina Sprint at Jay County - 9 a.m.; Girls basketball at Jay County - 12 p.m.; Boys basketball (including freshman) vs. Jay County - 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball vs. Mississinawa Valley - 10 a.m.

**TV** sports

**90 SALE CALENDAR** 

24" and other steel

- Friday 6:30 p.m. - Men's college basketball: Hous ton at Xavier (FS1)
- 7 p.m. Men's college basketball: Maryland at Indiana (BTN); St. John's at West Virginia (ESPN2)
- 7:30 p.m. NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at Boston Celtics (ESPN)
- 8 p.m. College football: Oregon at Washington (ABC) 8:30 p.m. - Men's college basketball: Iowa
- State at DePaul (FS1) 9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Con-
- necticut at Kansas (ESPN2); Purdue at Northwestern (BTN)

10 p.m. - NBA basketball: Denver Nuggets

#### at Phoenix Suns (ESPN) 10:30 p.m. - Men's college basketball: Boise State at Saint Mary's (FS1)

#### Saturday

- 10 a.m. Soccer: Premier League Wolverhampton at Aresnal (USA) - College football: Miami - Ohio at Noon
- Toledo (ESPN); Oklahoma State at Texas (ABC) Noon — Men's college basketball: Syracuse
- Virginia (ESPN2); Bucknell at Penn State (BTN)
- 12:30 p.m. Men's college basketball: Marquette at Wisconsin (FOX)
- 12:30 p.m. Soccer: Premiere League -
- Everton at Nottingham Forest (NBC) 1:30 p.m. Women's college basketball:
- 2 p.m. Men's college basketball: Memphis at Mississippi (ESPN2) 2:30 p.m. Golf: PGA Tour – Hero World
- Challenge (NBC) - College football: Boise State at 3 p.m.
- UNLV (FOX) Soccer: Premier League – Man-3 p.m.
- chester United at Newcastle United (USA); International Friendly – China vs. United States (TNT) 3:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Michigan at Oregon (FS1)
- 4 p.m. College football: Georgia at Alabama (CBS); Prairie View A&M at Florida A&M (ESPN2); SMU at Tulane (ABC); Appalachian State at Troy (ESPN)
  - 10 p.m. College football: Southern Illinois at Idaho (ESPN2) 10 p.m. Men's college basketball: USC at 4 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Illinois at Gonzaga (ESPN)

#### **250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

Men's college basketball: TCU

- Men's college basketball:

6 p.m. — Men's college hockey: Minnesota at

7 p.m. - Mixed martial arts: UFC - Punahele

8 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at

8 p.m. — College football: Louisville at Flori-

Soriano at Dustin Stoltzfus (ESPN)

Rhode Island at Providence (FS1)

da State (ABC); Michigan at Iowa (FOX)

Miami Heat (Bally Indiana)

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**PUBLIC AUCTION** SATURDAY, DECEM-BER 9TH. 2023 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN or 3 ½ miles west of Portland at the corner of Hwv 67 and County

**90 SALE CALENDAR** 

wheels. Several items not mentioned. TERMS All items sell as-is. Full settlement day of the sale. OWNER: Ramona J. Lee SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 Check AuctionZip for more photos. PUBLIC AUCTION TUESDAY DECEMBER 19TH, 2023 TIME 5:00 P.M. LOCATED: 4023 S 800 W. Redkey IN 296 ACRES - 10,000 HEAD HOG CONFINE-MENT 296 Acres offered in tracts and combinations. Tract 1: 116 Acres in section 7 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 74.83 acres tillable balance being confinement buildings, shop buildings, house, and wooded. Tract 2: 120 Acres in section 7 Jefferson Township, Jay County with 90 acres tillable balance being wooded and road frontage. Tract 3: 31 Acres in section 8 Jefferson Township. Jav County with 30.4 acres tillable balance being road frontage. Tract 4: 27.5 Acres in section 11 Richland Township, Jay County all tillable. Note: Open House Dates: Saturday Nov 25th from 1-4pm, and Friday Dec 1st from 3-5pm. Or for private showing phone auctioneers. COURT ORDERED AUCTION SHAWVER AUCTION-EERING AND REAL ESTATE AC31800004 Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040

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The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland 260-726-8141.

## Public Notice Public Notice

Public Notice of Petroleum Release, Spill or Overfill Local health departments are required by statute (IC 13-23-16) to inform the public of the discovery of released regulated substances at an under-

#### NOTICE OF RIGHT OF REDEMPTION Notice is given (pursuant to IC 6-1.1-25-4.5) to Great Future LLC, any unknown heirs and any person who has a substantial interest in the following de-

STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY, SS: IN THE JAY CIRCUIT/ SUPERIOR COURT SITTING AT PORTLAND, INDIANA FIRST FINANCIAL BANK

**250 PUBLIC NOTICE** 130 MISC. FOR SALE

## **250 PUBLIC NOTICE**

Bowling Green at Iowa (FS1)

Road 200 South. FARM TRACTORS-FARM EQUIP.-CON-STRUCTION EQUIP. -TRUCKS-TRAILER-VEHICLES- RIDING MOWERS-ATVS-ATTACHMENTS-MISC. NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS UNTIL 5p.m. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023. Statements made sale day take precedence over written ad. **TERMS: CASH OR** GOOD CHECK NOT **RESPONSIBLE FOR** ACCIDENTS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NO SHOWS AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Indiana Sales Tax will be collected at this auction. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com Auctioneer ID #4243

**PUBLIC AUCTION** SATURDAY DECEM-BER 2nd. 2023 TIME 10:00 A.M. LOCATED: 4 MILES WEST OF HWY 27 ON CR 200 N, Portland, IN TRACTORS - BACK-HOE - CRAWLER -COMBINE 1954 Allis Chalmers WD 45 Wide front duals and weights. 1949 Farmall M Wide front clam shell fenders. Case 530 Loader backhoe with 18 and 36 inch buckets. 1930's Farmall T-20 Crawler with straight blade. FARM EQUIPMENT -FARM ITEMS 20' 10,000 lb Trailer. Int. 311 pull-type rotary mower. 1 bottom walking plow, EZ-GO gas golf cart. Platform scales. Cement mixer mounted on steel wheels. Brass grain tester.

job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489. **110 HELP WANTED** 

CDL OTR DRIVER-FLEXIBLE home times, home 3 out of 4 weekends. FLT Coronado 13 spd. Can get \$91000 yearly/ \$.70/Mile including drop wages. 3 yrs. CDL exp. req. RGN, SD exp. helpful. All miles, drops, downtime, and weekends are paid if out. Interested? 260-273-1245

PORTLAND POLICE **DEPARTMENT** is taking applications for a full time Dispatcher. Now til Dec 1 at 5pm. Start date will be Jan 1, 2024. benefits: vacation pay after 1 year, holiday pay, sick pay and insurance benefits. Applications can be picked up at the Portland Police Department.

THE TOWN OF RED-KEY WILL be accepting applications for a Town Marshal position. Requirement, must have Applications training. may be picked up at Redkey Town Hall by 765-369-2711 calling during business hours to make an appointment for pick up. Office Hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and Wednesday 8 am to 12 noon.

**ADMINISTRATIVE** ASSISTANT Part Time-15 hours per week Monday-Friday. 9 Hours per week in the summer Monday/Wednesday/Friday. If interested call 260-726-5751

#### 130 MISC. FOR SALE

PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information.

#### **190 FARMERS COL-**UMN

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

WANTED FARMLAND TO RENT 4th Generation Geneva farmers looking for farmland to cash rent near Geneva/Bryant/Berne. You decide payment dates. Don't wait, last year we filled up. Call Steve at (419) 376-4456

#### 200 FOR RENT

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

www.sycamorespace.co m

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

#### **TWO-BEDROOM**

APARTMENT 712 N Main. Dunkirk. Stove/refrigerator furnished. Total electric. \$450 plus deposit. 765-748-2379.

#### 230 AUTOS, TRUCKS

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



ground storage tank site or in the surrounding area under 329 IAC 9-4-1 (1) or a spill or overfill under 329 IAC 9-4-4 (a). The Indiana Department of **Environmental Management** 

(IDEM) was notified on November 21, 2023, of such an incident from the owner or operator of the Jay County Highway facility located at 1035 East 200 North in or near Port-

land, IN in Jay County For further information on the Leaking Underground Storage Tank program, please go to www.in.gov/idem/tanks/2333.htm. Or contact the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (317) 232- 8900 or by e-mail at

LeakingUST@idem.IN.gov. CR 12-1-2023- HSPAXLP



scribed real property located in Jay County, Indiana that it was sold at the Jay County Tax Sale on September 7, 2023 pursuant to judicial order for non-payment of property taxes and assessments: Legal Description: 105.5" x

130' BLK 29 OP ADDRESS: 320 N. Indiana Dunkirk, IN 47336 Parcel Number: 38-09-08-101-113.000-014

Tax ID Number: 382300009 The name of the purchaser is **REBECCA ELY.** A petition for tax deed will be filed on or after September 7, 2024. The purchaser is entitled to receive a tax deed for the real property if it is not redeemed before SEPTEMBER 7, 2024. The owner or person with a sub-stantial interest of public record or any person is entitled to redeem the real property. The real property has not been redeemed. The amount required to redeem the real property includes delinquent taxes, title search costs, attorney fees and interest and the total shall be determined by the Jay County Auditor. The purchaser is entitled to reimbursement for additional taxes or special assessments on the real property paid subsequent to the tax sale and before redemption and any additional costs incurred. The date of expiration of the period of redemption is SEPTEMBER 7,2024 and if the real property is not redeemed by that date then the owner of record at the time of the tax deed is issued may have a right to any tax sale surplus. The attorney representing the purchaser is Joshua A. Atkinson, 940 N. Meridian

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF GREGORY L. DOTSON, MICHELE D. DOTSON, UNKNOWN OCCUPANT, AND NICHOLAS FINANCIAL, INC. Defendants. CAUSE NO: 38C01-2311-MF-000025 PUBLICATION Comes now the Plaintiff, by ANDERSON & ANDERSON, P.C., Attorneys, and files its In Rem Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage herein, together with an Affidavit of a competent person showing that the residence of the Defendants, UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF GRE-GORY L. DOTSON, are un known and all persons and corporations who might assert any interest claim or title in or lien on the real estate described herein, the names of who are

unknown to the Plaintiff are to be served by publication, and this action is one to foreclose a mortgage on the following described real estate to-wit: LOT NUMBER SEVEN

TEEN (17) AND EIGHTEEN (18) IN BLOCK NUMBER THIRTY-FOUR (34) IN THE TOWN, NOW CITY OF DUNKIRK, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK A, PAGE 120 IN THE OFFICE OF THE RECORDER OF JAY COUNTY, INDIANA More commonly known as

215 E. Commerce Street, Dunkirk, IN 47336

Said Defendants must answer the In Rem Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage in writing, in person, or by attorneys, within thirty (30) days commencing the day after final publication of this notice, or judgment may be entered against the Defendants as demanded in the In Rem Complaint on Note and to Foreclose Mortgage in the Courthouse, in said County and State, and said action will be heard and determined in defendants' absence. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and affix the seal of said Court on 11/27/2023

CLERK OF THE JAY CIR-CUIT AND SUPERIOR COURTS BY: Jon Eads Deputy Clerk Michael E. Anderson, #26001-45 Anderson & Anderson, P.C. 9211 Broadway Merrillville, Indiana 46410 Phone: (219) 769-1892 Email: manderson@andersonandersonpc.com Attorney for Plaintiff CR 12-1,8,15-2023-HSPAXLP



**Jay County High School** graduate increases role, see Collegiate checkup

Friday, December 1, 2023

**Sports** 

Jay County boys basketball opens ACAC play today, see Sports on tap

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www.thecr.com

The Commercial Review

# **Group effort**

## FRHS boys basketball will need seniors to step up

#### **By ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review Cale Rammel was a workhorse for the Indians.

He did everything. He scored, rebounded, assisted and defended.

His graduation will force others to step up and a collective effort for the Indians to be successful.

Fort Recovery High School's boys basketball coach Bob Leverette will look to his group of seven seniors to replace Rammel's production for the 2023-34 season.

"We've got five seniors, four of them are letter winners, two were starters and they're just a good blue color group of kids," Leverette said. "They've had success on every level

so far. So I'm excited about having them come in."

Leverette will need that group to step up to replace Rammel. The 2023 graduate led FRHS in scoring, rebounding, assists, blocks and steals last year. He averaged 23.2 points — 42.2% of Fort Recovery's scoring.

'We'll have to figure out how to score as a team," Leverette said. "We don't necessarily have a kid that can go get 23 a game, but we can have four or five guys get (10 plus) points, which will make up for that.

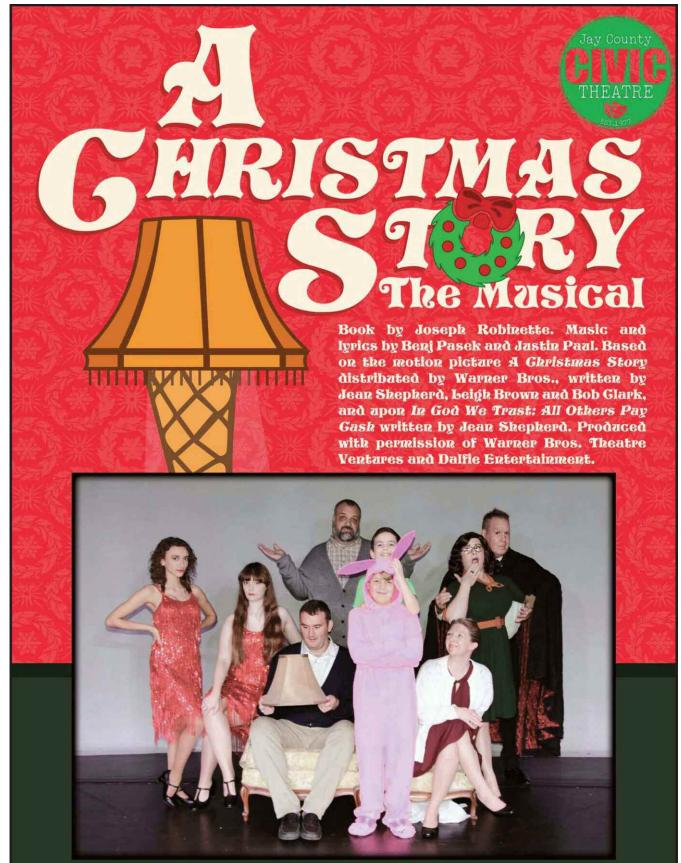
"It's a big void to fill, but I think we'll be fine. It's a different style of ball than we played last year but I think it will resonate with the community."

See Group page 7



Photo provided

Pictured is the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team. Front row from left are Colson Post, Mason Diller, Briggs Overman, Troy Homan, Reece Guggenbiller, Gavin Evers and Hayden Siefring. Back row are assistant coaches Scott Dilworth and Toby Metzger, Eli Lennartz, Alex Dues, Gavin Faller, Rex Leverette, coach Bob Leverette and manager Garrett Siefring.



# **Schwieterman** earns 1st start

Renna Schwieterman had a slow start to the season.

She didn't see much time in the first game of the season. Then she started to see minutes and got to scoring. Her playing time is only increasing.

The 2023 Jay County High School graduate earned her first start for the Purdue Fort Wayne women's basketball team Nov. 24 against the Iowa Hawkeyes and kept the spot for the next two games as well.

Schwieterman played 23 minutes in her first start, shooting 1-for-3 from beyond the 3-point arc. She also had two rebounds, two assists and one steal in the 98-59 loss to Iowa

## **Collegiate** checkup

by IUPUI.

Bader swam the 100yard butterfly and the 100 backstroke.

The top 32 finishers made finals heats, with the top eight in the championship, 9-16 in the consolation, 17-24 in the 'bonus" and 25-32 in the "D" final. She made the consolation final in the butterfly with a 12-place finish. In the consolation, she placed seventh in the heat for 15th overall with a time of 57.96 seconds.

A 32nd-place finish earned her the final spot in the "D" heat of the backstroke. She swam 59.72 second time to finish second in the heat and 26th overall.

## Dec. 7, 8, 9, 15 & 16 @ 7pm and Dec. 17 @ 2pm www.myartsplace.org ~ 260-726-4809 Arts Place ~ 131 E. Walnut St. Portland, IN



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The next day, Schwieterman improved to be 4-for-7 from the floor for nine points in only 15 minutes as she dealt with foul trouble. She scored the first seven points for the Mastodons (4-2) in the 88-74 victory over Delaware.

She scored her career high against another division I school on Sunday against the Western Kentucky Hilltoppers. The freshman shot 2-for-6 from deep and 5-for-6 at the free throw line to end with 15 points. She also pulled down four rebounds, three of which came from the offensive glass, in the 90-77 win.

#### Eliza Bader Jay County — 2021

for the Ball State Univer- women's sity swim team that took team's 77-53 win over first place in the field of 13 teams at the House of Champions Invite hosted shot in the game.

She also swam in two relays that didn't qualify as Ball State's top relay.

#### **Whitley Rammel** FRHS - 2022

Got on the court for two sets of East Tennessee State University's 25-18, 27-25, 25-21 loss to The Citadel on Nov. 17.

Rammel didn't have a kill on seven attacks.

The FRHS grad had one dig in the match.

#### **Olivia Patch** FRHS — 2020

Played five minutes in Competed in two events the Hillsdale College basketball Lake Superior State on Nov. 21. She did not take a

### **NASCAR** makes new media deal By SHANE CONNUCK Wednesday. "We are

The Charlotte Observer Tribune News Service

CHARLOTTE, N.C. -NASCAR announced historic media rights deals on Wednesday.

Cup Series races will be exclusively streamed on Amazon Prime Video. The bulk of races will continue airing on Fox and NBC networks, while TNT Sports will also broadcast five races.

"We want to meet race fans where they are," NASCAR president Steve Phelps said in a press conference inside Bros. the Music City Center on

super excited about what 2025 is going to bring to us, because we are the distribution that we now have across here, which is obviously a combina-Starting in 2025, five tion of broadcast, cable and streaming."

Fox Sports and NBC Sports will each carry 14 races in the 38-race season. The other 10 - inthe middle of the season, with Fox continuing to broadcast the Daytona 500 and beginning while NBC has the playoffs — will be split between new partners Amazon and Warner

See NASCAR page 7