

# The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

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\$1

## Council OKs \$23.8 million bond

*Funds will be used for wastewater treatment upgrades*

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

The city took the next step toward a massive wastewater treatment plant project Monday.

Portland City Council approved an ordinance on first reading for a \$23.8 million bond for improvements at the city's wastewater treatment plant.

The work at the plant will include the installation of a new equalization basin and wet weather pump station at the facility. The work is required as part of the city's agreed order with Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

Work toward the project and the related bond has been ongoing for several years, with Portland City Council approving two sewage rate increases in November 2022. (They went into effect in January and April, respectively.)

Also in November 2022, Portland Board of Works hired Indianapolis accounting and advising firm Baker Tilly to handle the issuance of a bond for the planned project.

City attorney Wes Schemenaur explained Monday that the \$23,800,000 bond will be a 35-year loan with an interest rate not to exceed 4%.

Council members Kent McClung, Don Gillespie, Janet Powers, Michele Brewster, Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker and Dave Golden unanimously approved the ordinance for the bond on first reading. See **Bond** page 2

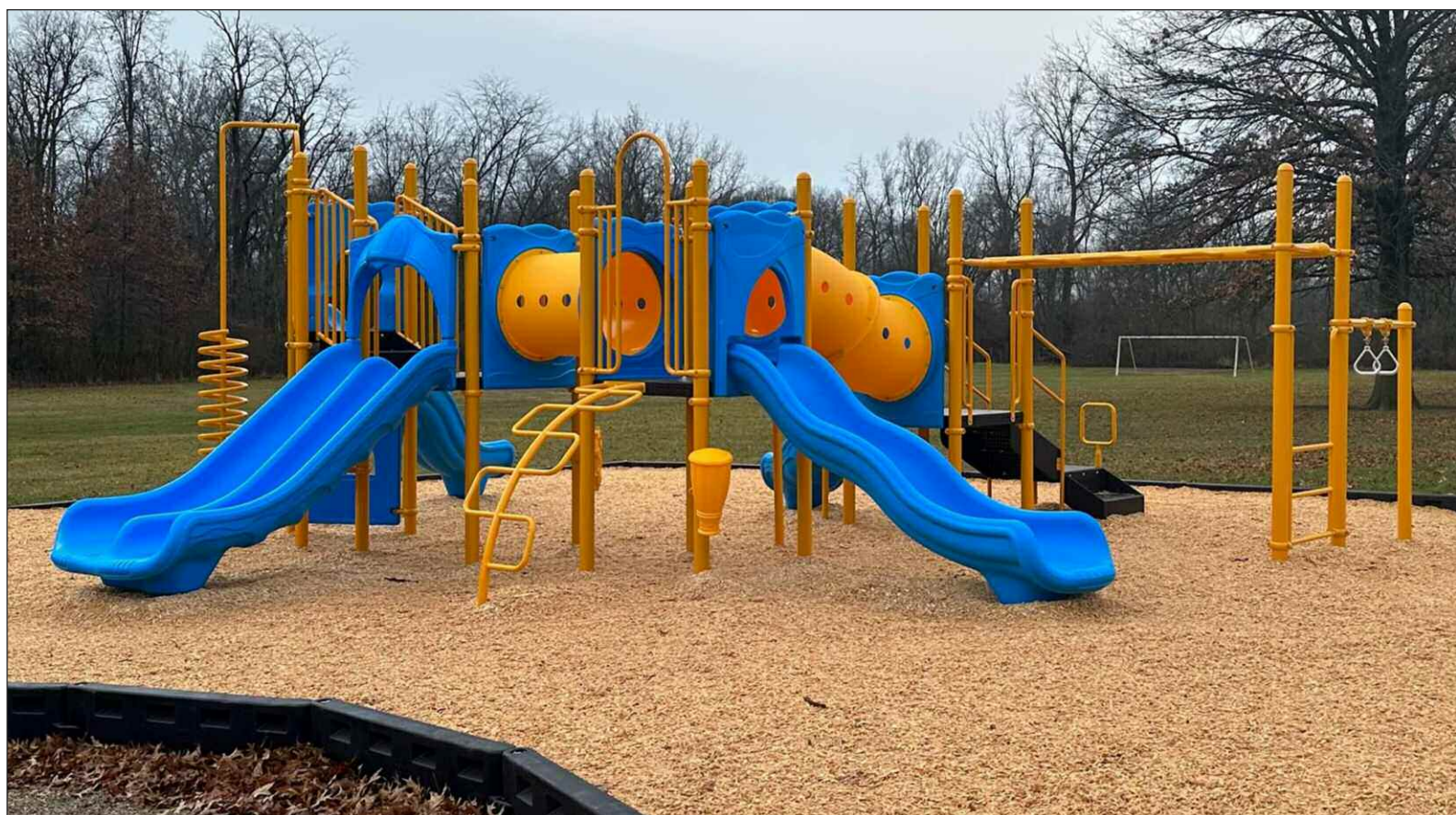


Photo provided

The installation of new playground equipment at East Elementary School in Portland is one of several improvement projects that have been completed at Jay School Corporation facilities in the last seven months. New facilities director Gary Cagles provided the school board with an update on completed projects and a look at potential future projects during its meeting Monday. Next on the list is a new heating, ventilation and cooling system for a section of West Jay Elementary School.

## Board OKs part-time officers, hears update on facility projects

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

Jay School Corporation will have a new option for increasing its police presence next month.

Jay School Board on Monday approved a memorandum of understanding to hire off-duty law enforcement officers as part-time employees.

Board members also received an update from facility director Gary Cagle.

Jeremy Gulley, superintendent of Jay Schools, presented the memorandum that had been discussed with school board members last month. It details that off-duty officers will provide school security and that any action taken is under their police powers as regulated by their full-time agency. They are not responsible for school discipline.

Off-duty officers hired by the school corporation must abide

by the regulations of both the corporation and of the law enforcement agency they work for, maintain full-time status at their law enforcement agency, attend all required training and wear a police uniform.

Gulley will be in charge of hiring the off-duty officers, who will be paid \$27.87 per hour. They will follow a similar process as substitute teachers.

School Resource Officer Cody Jessee will handle scheduling.

Board members Ron Laux, Phil Ford, Donna Geesaman, Jason Phillips, Vickie Reitz and Chip Phillips, absent Marcie Vormohr, unanimously approved the memorandum, which goes into effect Jan. 1.

Also Monday, Cagle updated the board regarding projects that have been completed since he was hired to replace Mark Myers, who retired at the end of the 2022-23 school year. See **Board** page 2

## FR council reviews '24 projects

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Several projects are on the agenda for next year.

Fort Recovery Village Council reviewed its 2024 capital improvement projects list during its meeting Monday.

Fort Recovery village administrator Randy Diller briefed the board over the list of projects and equipment purchases planned for next year.

About \$500,000 is earmarked in village funds for constructing a second water tower, and approxi-

mately \$450,000 is planned for reconstructing portions of Wiggs and Gwendolyn streets. The village has budgeted approximately \$360,500 in grant dollars for a new traffic signal, which is anticipated to arrive in the summer, at the intersection of Ohio 49 and Ohio

119 in the village. Another \$500,000 — it would likely be spent in 2025 — is set aside for reconstructing two blocks of Butler Street pending a grant from the Ohio Public Works Commission, and about \$100,000 is also included for other overlay and patching work.

Approximately \$250,000 is projected in engineering costs in upgrading the water plant, along with \$20,000 for testing for a new well site. Another \$50,000 is budgeted for wastewater lagoon treatment. See **Projects** page 5

## EDIT loan request tabled

By RAY COONEY  
The Commercial Review

A local firm asked for help Monday toward turning a former motel into an apartment complex.

A representative from Riya Hospitality asked the Portland Economic Development Income Tax (EDIT) Advisory Committee for a \$219,573 loan Monday to help with extending a sewer line to the former Budget Inn.

Paresh Patel of Riya explained that his firm bought the property at 1411 N. U.S. 27 just north of Portland's city limits in January and has since remodeled all 22

rooms. The firm plans to shift the facility from a motel to furnished apartments.

Patel explained that the septic system that was used at the hotel in the past is no longer viable. Riya explored the possibility of running city water to the site as well, but that the cost was prohibitive. It will instead continue to use the existing well.

The total cost of the project, including property purchase, renovations and the sewage line, is \$383,000.

Committee members Kent McClung and Janet Powers both

expressed concern about the ratio of the loan being requested in comparison to the amount invested by the owners. Riya has invested about \$164,000 in the property thus far.

"I pause at a ratio where we're putting more in than the investor," said McClung.

They said they would be more comfortable at about the 25% level, which is at the same level at which loans were granted to Wheel & Spoke Antique Mall and Reclaiming Design earlier this month. See **EDIT** page 5

## Four eligible for scholarship

By BAILEY CLINE  
The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — Four local high school seniors are eligible for a state scholarship.

Fort Recovery School Board learned Monday about the district's eligibility for the Governor's Merit Scholarship, which launched Dec. 4.

Gov. Mike DeWine and the Ohio legislature started the \$20 million

scholarship program this year in an effort to "attract and retain a well-educated workforce," according to a press release from the Ohio Department of Higher Education. Between 35% and 40% of Ohio's high-achieving high school graduates attend universities out of state, the press release says, and about 66% of United States college students — or about 70% of Ohio college stu-

dents — stay in the state from which they graduate.

The program is meant to reduce financial barriers, recognize scholastic achievements and incentivize students to attend an institution in Ohio. It provides up to \$5,000 a year to high school seniors graduating in the top 5% of their class and planning to attend an Ohio university. See **Eligible** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

## Holiday Heitkamp

Seventh grader Gavin Heitkamp plays the French horn Sunday as part of the middle school band during the Fort Recovery Local Schools Christmas band concert.

### Deaths

**Jacqueline Loy**, 73, Crawfordsville  
Details on page 2.

### Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 36 degrees Monday. The low was 28 and there was a trace of snow.

Tonight's forecast calls for a low in the upper 20s. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with a high in the mid 40s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

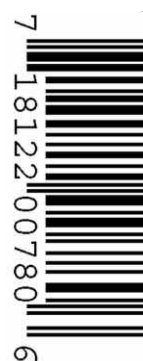
### Inside

Today's newspaper includes our Christmas Greetings special sections. It features Christmas messages from area pastors and the winner of our annual Christmas fiction contest.

### Coming up

**Thursday** — Results from Tuesday's FRHS girls basketball game against Memorial.

**Friday** — Coverage of this week's Jay County Council meeting.





# Obituaries

## Jacqueline Loy

April 21, 1950–Dec. 17, 2023  
God called up another angel.  
Jacqueline (Jacki) Matchett Loy found her peace on Dec. 17, 2023, after an extended stay at Wellbrooke of Crawfordsville, Indiana.



Jacki was born April 21, 1950, in Portland, Indiana, daughter to the late James Matchett and Ruth (Gene) Bickel Duke. She attended Noble Elementary and Portland High School; however, was a graduate of Warsaw High School in 1968. On Oct. 13, 1973, in Portland, Indiana, Jacki married Steven A. Loy of Bryant, Indiana. Steve was a recent graduate of Purdue University and together they turned the next page in life's adventures, calling Crawfordsville their home for the next 50 years. In 1981, they were

blessed with a daughter, Tiffany, who went on to graduate from North Montgomery High School and Indiana University.

Usually wearing a smile, Jacki was a spunky and snarky individual. Her motto, "laughter maketh the best medicine," set the tone for the way she lived her life. Calamities, usually with a friend, were the norm. Chuckling "just call us Lucy and Ethyl" was her response.

As a homemaker, Jacki enjoyed keeping busy. Her daughter was always top of the list, however, she was obsessed with recipes and enjoyed cooking and baking. For a period, she became interested in quilting and in cross-stitch and for several years, was heavily involved in folk art creations. Later, she became a master of "rubber stamping." She and a few of her buddies would meet regularly to share and compare ideas, along with a little laughter, for creating all sorts of

greeting cards. Each unique and always beautiful!

Jacki was a sociable person and thoroughly enjoyed getting friends together and being involved in the community. An organization that was close to her heart included the Country Cousins Home Ec Club. In the 1970s, Jeanne Ward assembled a group of young women, several being newcomers to the community with similar backgrounds and interests. Jacki was invited to attend. The bonds that were nurtured from that meeting later developed into a sisterhood of love and support between several of the women that has lasted for 50 years.

In 1990, Jacki found herself in uncharted waters of life's challenges. She was diagnosed with stage II breast cancer, which a year later metastasized to the brain. The prognosis was not encouraging; however, being a fierce fighter, Jacki defied the odds. After successful brain surgery followed by chemotherapy,

full head radiation therapy and two bone marrow transplants, Jacki was considered "cancer free." For the next 20 years, she lived a normal life and was able to be a part of her daughter's upbringing and to experience the joys of grandchildren. As a cancer survivor, Jacki channeled energies towards cancer research and was a motivated fundraiser. Unfortunately, the regimens that once saved her life also tend to accelerate the aging process of the brain. For Jacki, a passing well too young, but we, her family, are thankful for the blessings.

Jacki is survived by husband Steven Loy, Crawfordsville; daughter Tiffany Loy Vanderhoof and grandchildren Jack and Cora Vanderhoof, Lafayette, Indiana; brother Donald (Terri) Matchett, Osprey, Florida; and sisters Debbie (Chris) McCoy, Ridgeville, Indiana, and Libby (Dave) Hirshey, Dunlap, Illinois. Also, several loving and wonderful extended family caregivers

in addition to many dear friends. Also brother-in-law Billy (Ginger) Loy, Calhoun, Georgia; and sisters-in-law, Joyce (Robert) Lyons, Portland, Indiana, and Linda (Richard) Huey, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Private graveside services are planned with a celebration of life to be held later in January. Hunt and Sons Funeral Home, Crawfordsville, is handling arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Montgomery County Community Foundation at mccf-in.org or to Psi Iota Xi, P.O. Box 925, Crawfordsville, IN.

*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

Thursday 12/21	Friday 12/22	Saturday 12/23	Sunday 12/24	Monday 12/25
<b>44/33</b>	<b>45/37</b>	<b>48/39</b>	<b>53/42</b>	<b>54/42</b>
Skies will be mostly cloudy with a high in the mid 40s.	The forecast calls for a 40% chance of showers. The high will be 45, with rain continuing in the evening.	The high will be 48 under mostly cloudy skies.	Expect partly sunny skies with a high of 53.	The early Christmas forecast calls for a chance of showers. The high will be in the mid 50s.

## Lotteries

<b>Powerball</b> Monday 5-8-19-34-39 Power Ball: 26 Power Play: 3 Estimated jackpot: \$572 million	Daily Four: 0-7-3-3 Quick Draw: 6-10-17-20-22-26-27-33-38-41-49-54-59-64-66-67-70-75-76-78 Cash 5: 21-30-33-41-43 Estimated jackpot: \$214,500
<b>Mega Millions</b> Estimated jackpot: \$41 million	<b>Ohio</b> Monday Midday Pick 3: 0-5-3 Pick 4: 8-6-1-8 Pick 5: 8-5-4-8-6 Evening Pick 3: 5-3-1 Pick 4: 3-6-1-9 Pick 5: 5-0-2-3-3 Rolling Cash: 24-25-32-36-39 Estimated jackpot: \$180,000
<b>Hoosier</b> Monday Midday Daily Three: 9-3-0 Daily Four: 1-1-0-0 Quick Draw: 6-11-13-20-24-26-32-34-36-39-42-46-47-52-53-59-63-68-73-76 Evening Daily Three: 9-6-8	

## Markets

<b>Cooper Farms Fort Recovery</b> Corn.....4.53 Jan. corn.....4.63 Wheat.....5.43	Jan. beans.....12.97 Wheat.....5.83
<b>POET Biorefining Portland</b> Corn.....4.52 Jan. corn.....4.62 Feb. corn.....4.63	<b>ADM Montpelier</b> Corn.....4.27 Jan. corn.....4.44 Beans.....12.83 Jan. beans.....12.89 Wheat.....5.73
<b>The Andersons Richland Township</b> Corn.....4.47 Jan. corn.....4.57 Beans.....12.87	<b>Heartland St. Anthony</b> Corn.....4.48 Jan. corn.....4.55 Beans.....12.70 Jan. beans.....12.67 Wheat.....5.33

## Today in history

**In 1669**, the first jury trial was commenced in Delaware. Marcus Jacobson was found guilty and sentenced to flogging, branding and slavery.

**In 1803**, the United States received the territory of Louisiana from the French in the Louisiana Purchase. The agreement cost \$15 million.

**In 1905**, Jack O'Brien won the World Light Heavyweight boxing title. He beat defending champion Bob Fitzsimmons in round 13 of the match in San Francisco.

**In 1946**, "It's a Wonderful Life" premiered. The drama directed by Frank Capra and starring Jimmy Stewart went on to become a holiday classic.

**In 1996**, "Scream" was released in theaters. The classic horror film was directed by Wes Craven.

**In 2007**, Queen Elizabeth became the longest-living British monarch, surpassing Queen Victoria, who lived to be more than 81 years old. Elizabeth lived another nearly 15 years.

— The CR

## Citizen's calendar

<b>Today</b> 4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.	Board of Works, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
<b>Thursday</b> 4 p.m. — Portland	6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St.

## Board ...

Continued from page 1  
Cagle noted that many of the projects were started by Myers while he was still on the job.

Projects included:  
•Jay County Junior-Senior High— Fixing a water line, installing new exterior paneling on the upper gym area, building new softball dugouts, roof work, extensive equipment replacement at the pool and heating, cooling and ventilation (HVAC) work.

•East Jay Elementary — Interior and exterior LED lighting, resealing and re-stripping the parking lot, repairing and painting handrails, and roof work

•West Jay Elementary — Installing exterior LED lights

•East Elementary — A new retaining wall, updating playground equipment and installation of HVAC equipment

•Bloomfield Elementary — A new concrete curb and replacing doors  
•Redkey Elementary — Painting all curbs, installing some new concrete pads and refurbishing the east entrance

Planned future projects include installing a new HVAC system for the northeast wing of West Jay as it has experienced maintenance issues this

year. Architecture and engineering firm Barton Coe Vilamaa estimates the project cost will be \$480,000. The board is scheduled to select a bid at its Feb. 12 meeting.

In other business, the board:

•During the Patriot Pride moment, honored Bloomfield Elementary School students, represented by Macy DeHoff, Murphy Link and principal Ben Dues, for their annual Christmas food drive. Partnering with Bryant Wesleyan Church, which adds perishable items to the non-perishable donations from the students, the drive helps feed families in need during the holiday season.

•Briefly discussed the proposed installation of lights for the JCHS baseball and softball fields. Baseball lights had been planned for 2024 with softball lights to follow later, but Guley said he believes it makes more sense to do both at the same time. He suggested the board look at year-end financial numbers before making a decision next month. The cost of the project is \$836,583.

•Heard an update on Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund money to corporation received via coronavirus relief funds. Of the \$10,304,881 that came to Jay Schools through three rounds of

ESSER and another grant, \$8,389,854 has been reimbursed. All funds must be encumbered no later than Sept. 30, 2024.

•Increased preschool fees for the 2024-25 school year by \$15 each to \$355 for two days a week, \$480 for three days a week and \$630 for five days a week.

•Approved the following: services contracts with Nicci Littler for speech and language services and Soliant Health for virtual speech and language services; the hiring of Melissa Stephen as a bus driver; leaves of absence for special education director Annie Van Horn and teachers Angelana Carter and Jane Evans; a field trip to Italy, France and Spain for high school foreign language students in June; permission to sell metal buildings that have been used at the football field and will no longer be needed with the construction of the new locker room, concession and restroom facility;

•Accepted a donation of \$50,000 to the junior-senior high building trades program from Portland Redevelopment Commission. (The commission approved the donation last month.)

•Heard Ron Laux wish all school staff and the media members in attendance a Merry Christmas.

## Bond ...

Continued from page 1  
It will need to be approved on second reading before going into effect.

Portland Board of Works is scheduled to open bids for the project at its meeting at 4 p.m. Thursday in council chambers at Portland Fire Department. Construction is expected to begin in 2024.

Also Monday, council sent a tax abatement request to the city's tax abatement advisory committee for its review.

Travis Richards, executive director of Jay County Development Corporation, presented the abatement request. It is for a \$1.16 million investment in manufacturing equipment.

The purchase is eligible for a three-year tax abatement that is projected to save the company about \$30,500. Richards said the equipment is expected to bring in about \$91,000 in taxes over a 10-year period. The purchase is also planned to lead to nine new jobs at Sonoco.

In other business, council:

•Heard a complaint from resident Bryan Alexander regarding trees the city took down on his property. He said he was not notified as required by city ordinance. He plans to take the issue to Portland Board of Works and to retain counsel in order to "seek remedy." He also suggested adjusting the city ordinance to encourage more trees in the city.

•Responding to a question from Aker, street department superintendent Tom Leonhard said the final leaf pick-up was completed Monday.

•Heard Powers, who was in her final meeting as she did not seek re-

*Board of works will open bids for project Thursday*

election after serving two terms, thank those who reached out to thank her for her efforts. Gillespie, also in his final meeting after four terms, said he has appreciated the opportunity to serve on council.

•Heard Golden thank Gillespie and Powers for their service on council and their mentorship. McClung also offered his thanks and welcomed those who will be joining council in January.

•Heard Golden wish city employees and residents a Merry Christmas.

## SERVICES

**Today**  
Rogers, Ruth: 2 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

**Thursday**  
Moore, Tonia: 6 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

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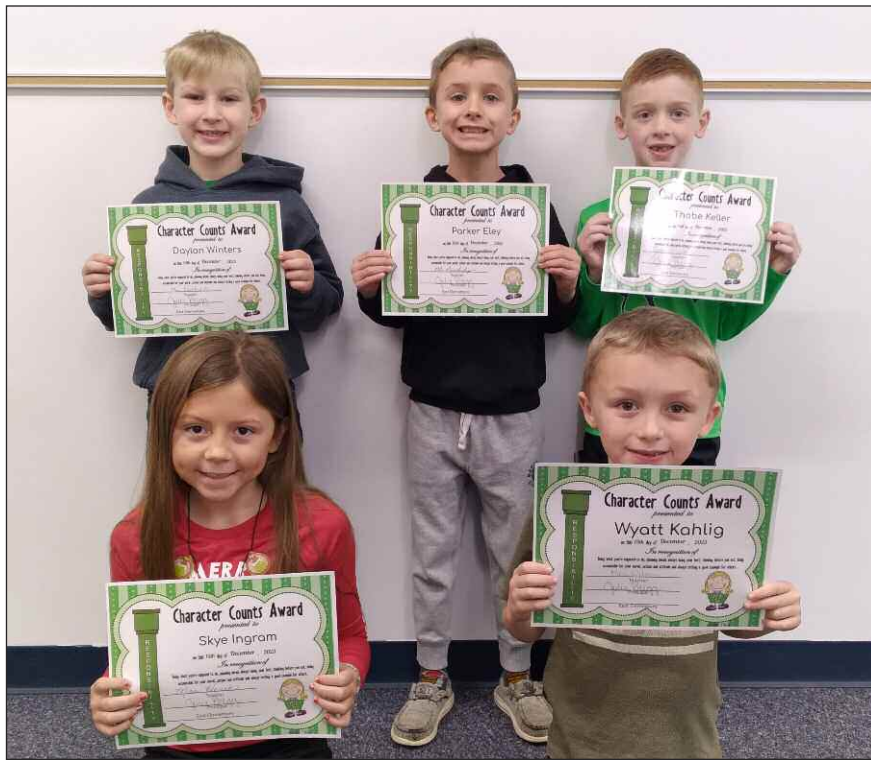


## Character Counts

East Elementary School recently awarded several students for demonstrating responsibility.

Pictured at top right are kindergarteners (front row) Drayden Brown, Bryson Berry and Griffin Spoonmoore and (back row) Lucy Edmundson, Jaynee Wallischek, June Fennig and Hayden Guggenbiller.

Pictured at bottom right are first graders (front row) Skye Ingram and Wyatt Kahlig and (back row) Daylan Winters, Parker Eley and Thobe Keller. Not pictured is Olivia Bihn.



Photos provided

## Husband's vibe unsettles partner

DEAR ABBY: My husband is desperate for women's attention, and I'm sure he'd cheat on me the instant he had the chance. We have been together for 12 years. When we met, he was 24 and I was 31. I realize now that while I have had four long-term relationships and a fair share of sexual partners, my husband has had little sexual experience outside of our relationship.

Any time he's around women, whether I am there or not, he makes it a point to strike up a conversation or gain their attention. It doesn't matter if they're young or old, attractive or not. He has fostered many "friendships" with women I don't know, like gas station attendants or his employer's office staff.

He swears he has never cheated, and I have never found any solid proof other than pornography. I just can't shake this feeling that he needs or wants to experience other women, and I don't know what to do. Please help. — MORE EXPERIENCED IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Dear Abby



DEAR MORE EXPERIENCED: If you haven't talked with your husband about this, do it now. Your husband may not be a wannabe philanderer as much as a plain old-fashioned flirt. People of both sexes need validation, particularly if their self-esteem isn't the highest. You won't know what's really driving him unless you can discuss it. If necessary, a marriage and family therapist may be able to help the two of you communicate on a non-threatening level.

\*\*\*\*\*

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, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

## Community Calendar

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

### Today

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB** — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend. Includes activities and devotional time.

**PING PONG** — Will be played from 11 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays at West Jay Community Center.

**PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB** — Will meet at noon each Wednesday in the cafe at John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

**AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP** — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Wednesday at Redkey United Methodist Church, 122 W. Main St. Come early for a meal. For more information, call Pastor Randy Davis at (765) 369-2085.

### Thursday

**STITCH AND CHATTER QUILT CLUB** — Meets from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at Jay Community Center. Show and teal is at 1 p.m. The club is open to all ages and is for anyone who wants to sew. Bring unfinished projects and a sewing machine. For more information, call Nan Weesner (260) 766-9334.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** — A 12-step Christian recovery program meets at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each Thursday at A Second Chance At Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St. in Portland. For more

information, call Brenda Eads at (260) 726-9625 or Dave Keen at (260) 251-8792.

**EN AVANT CLUB** — Meets at 1 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month.

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

**JAY COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY** — Will meet at 5:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at Jay County Public Library. The public is welcome.

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

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

### Friday

**PAST RECOVERY SERVICES** — Peer Addiction Support Team recovery support group meets at 10 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.

### Saturday

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — 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.

### Sunday

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based 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. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

### Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS

**AND CHAPLAINS** — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.

**BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE** — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday.

**JAY COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** — Will meet from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in conference room C at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital. Open discussion for cancer patients, survivors, family members or anyone interested in helping with the group. For more information, contact Linda Metzger at (260) 726-1844.

**A BETTER LIFE - BRANNA'S HOPE** — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS** — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.

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## Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

### Tuesday's Solution

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

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

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# Christmas trip was frosty adventure

*Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Dec. 17, 2008. We often hear stories of harrowing holiday travel, usually involving busy airports, canceled flights and lost luggage. Jack's story here is a little bit different. Here's hoping all of your holiday travel is safe and uneventful this year.*

**By JACK RONALD**  
The Commercial Review

It will always be the Christmas trip that should not have been made.

It was, as I recall, 1983.

The year had been a rough one. My father had died that March, and Connie's father had suffered a series of strokes that had him at death's door in August. By December, he hung on. But it was an open question whether this would be his last Christmas.

That fact alone convinced us to make the trip.

## Back in the Saddle



Normally, it takes about six hours to drive from Jay County to Jacksonville, Illinois, my wife's home town.

But the weather when we awoke the morning of Christmas Eve was anything but normal.

Even today, the temperatures are astonishing. We'd survived a rough winter in 1977 and the great blizzard of 1978.

But that morning temperatures were lower than I've ever seen them. It was something like 24 below zero.

That wasn't the wind chill. It was the temperature.

Wind chills were in the neighborhood of 60 to 80 below zero.

The high temperature both that day and Dec. 23 was about 11 degrees below zero.

We are talking cold, a time when anyone with a lick of sense would pull up the covers and go back to sleep.

But it was Christmas Eve and family beckoned, so good sense went out the window.

Miraculously, the car started. And the heater worked.

Bundling up the twins and tossing all the gifts in the back of our little Chevy Cavalier station wagon, we headed off.

By the time we had driven a block, I was convinced that we had made a mistake.

By the time we reached the highway, I questioned my own sanity.

By the time we reached the outskirts of town, the idea of turning around was just as

frightening as the idea of continuing. So we continued.

Along the way, we counted dozens of cars and trucks abandoned by the side of the road or dumped in ditches.

There were radio reports of semis driving down the interstate that had the diesel fuel freeze in the fuel lines, bringing them to a halt.

The pavement was covered with about 4 inches of frozen ice and snow. It shook the little car until our bones rattled, but if you were careful with your speed, there was no great chance of sliding out of control.

Instead, the risks were stopping and freezing to death. If you kept moving, no matter how slowly, you were as safe as possible under the circumstances.

From Indianapolis on to Illinois, traffic was all single file.

We used the shoulder because the ice was less jarring there.

At Crawfordsville, we stopped for gasoline.

As I stood at the self-serve pump I exchanged glances with other fools who were crazy enough to be out on the highway during such miserable conditions.

There was a hearty camaraderie among us, even if it was the camaraderie of madmen.

My recollection is that the trip took more than 10 hours. Perhaps it was 12.

I know we started early in the morning — when things were at their coldest — and arrived after dark.

But we made it.

Tough as it was, I figure that not making the trip would have been even tougher.

And Christmas? Well, Christmas was as memorable as ever. And significantly warmer.

## Redistricting ruling is a partisan disgrace

**New York Daily News**  
Tribune News Service

New York State Chief Judge Rowan Wilson has used his center seat on the seven-member Court of Appeals, the highest bench in the state, to try to help the Democrats win some congressional contests.

While we, like Wilson, want the Democrats to take over enough of the 11 districts that elected Republicans last year and make Hakeem Jeffries the House speaker, our preference is for Jeffries and his allies to field better candidates and run better campaigns.

Wilson, aided by Associate Judge Caitlin Halligan skipping a crucial case and going into hiding based on the flimsiest of excuses (that she is friendly with a pro bono lawyer for the League of Women Voters, which isn't even a party to the case) may not help the Democrats, but Wilson absolutely damaged the court, making it look foolish and divided and partisan.

With Halligan out of the way, Wilson brought in an accomplice, lower court Justice Dianne Renwick, to tip the high court to his 4-3 decision yesterday that undoes the high court decision from last year that correctly and properly decreed that the congressional and state Senate maps had to be drawn by an outside non-partisan expert, since the hopeless and hapless bipartisan New York State Independent Redistricting Commission and Democratic Legislature both bungled the task.

The IRC couldn't agree on anything, so the Legislature shoved the IRC aside and produced ridiculously gerrymandered maps. The Court of Appeals said no and a Carnegie Mellon cartographer made the maps, which everyone agrees are very fair, allowing voters to decide who wins.

But wait, said the Dems, while that was fine for 2022, shouldn't the IRC and Legislature get another chance in 2024? No, and the Court of Appeals majority from 2022 was clear, says the judges who made up the majority of the majority. They meant for the new lines to last for 10 years, not just two.

But there are only three of those judges now and Wilson, who was the main

## Guest Editorial

*... our preference is for Jeffries and his allies to field better candidates and run better campaigns.*

dissenter last year, aided with Renwick's handy vote, now has four.

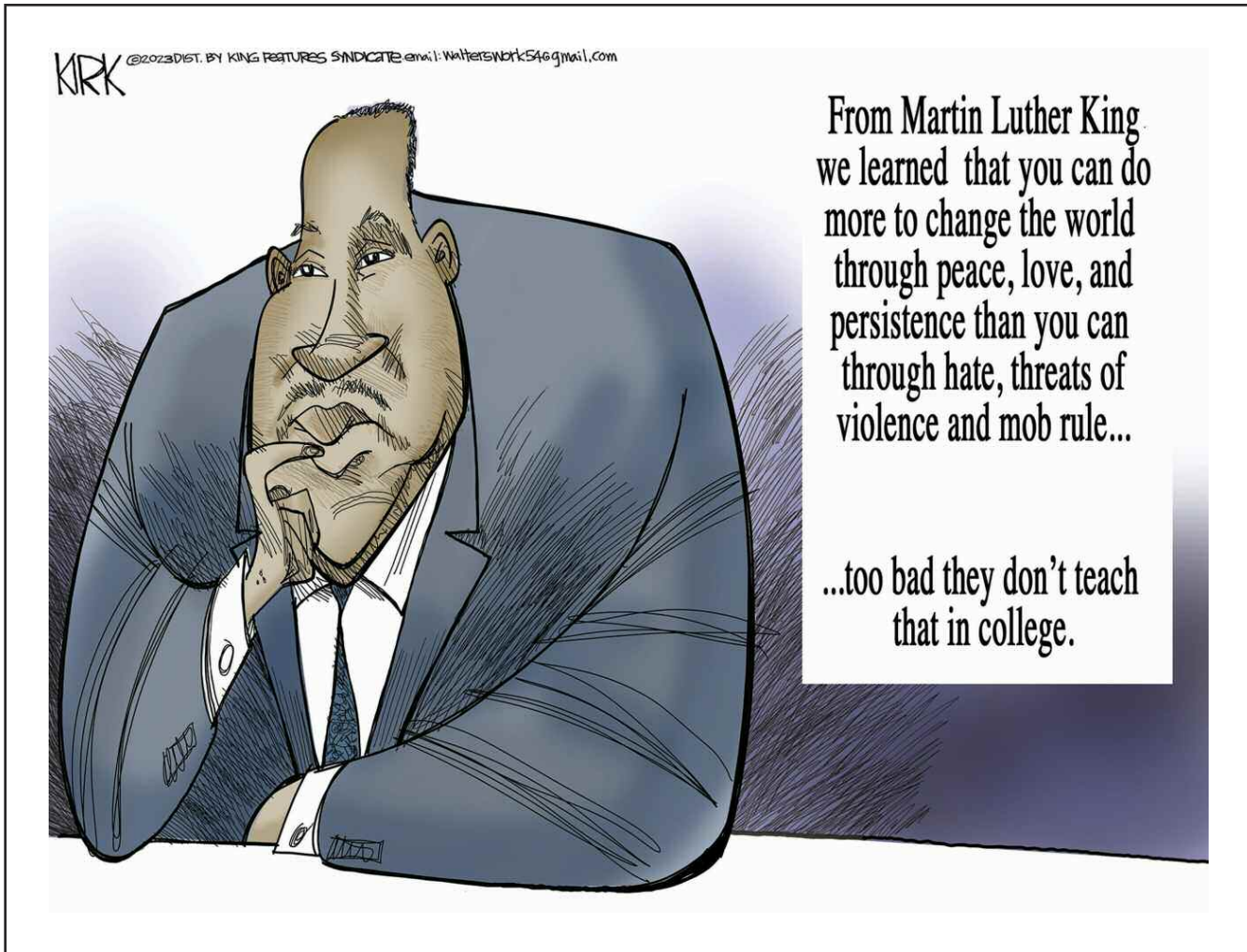
"The majority is able to reach this result 'for one reason and one reason only: because the composition of this Court has changed,'" wrote Judge Tony Cannataro, quoting the U.S. Supreme Court three dissenters from the outrageous overturning of *Roe v. Wade* last year.

But at least every justice from the 1973 *Roe* ruling was long gone by the time that their successors jammed it into the paper shredder. In this circumstance, it is almost the exact same court makeup, with the difference of one person. Chief Judge Janet DiFiore left and was replaced by Halligan-cum-Renwick. Everyone else is the same and everyone else voted as they did last year. But last year's ruling is the one that should have mattered under the principle of *stare decisis*.

In his opinion, Wilson offered a history lesson about redistricting every decade, starting in 1982, but he left out his own court's history on this from last year.

In fact, he dismissed it, writing that "reading the [2022 decision] tea leaves — which all parties have attempted to do, each claiming something in that writing supports one position or the contrary — is meaningless given our holding today."

So Wilson has taken his revenge from losing last year and he is shameless about it.



From Martin Luther King we learned that you can do more to change the world through peace, love, and persistence than you can through hate, threats of violence and mob rule...

...too bad they don't teach that in college.

## Court should make a statement

**By NOAH FELDMAN**  
Bloomberg Opinion  
Tribune News Service

Should former president Donald Trump be immune from federal criminal prosecution for his conduct in the run-up to Jan. 6? He's argued both that his position as president should make him immune from prosecution and that because the Senate did not convict him after he was impeached, criminal charges would amount to a kind of double jeopardy. A federal district court has already thrown out those arguments. The special counsel, Jack Smith, has now asked the Supreme Court to fast track a decision.

It would be unusual but not unheard of for the justices to decide the issue before the court of appeals has ruled. But the high court should agree to decide the case now — and rule quickly that no such immunity exists under the Constitution.

The legal questions in this case aren't close calls. The president is not above the law. Impeachment is not a criminal trial that would preclude subsequent prosecution. And Trump isn't even in office, so there is no risk that his trial would disrupt the functioning of government.

The Supreme Court long ago ruled, in *Clinton v. Jones*, that even a sitting president may be subject to civil suits for conduct committed before entering office. The core principle underlying the court's decision to let Paula Jones sue Bill Clinton is that the president is not above the law. He is not a king but a citizen like any other. Even a delay in Jones's case until Clinton left office, the court ruled, would deny her justice.

The same principle of legal accountability applies even more strongly to criminal conduct. When a

## Noah Feldman



president commits crimes, it's not just one injured party who has an interest in seeing justice done. It's all of us. Federal crimes are, legally and morally, crimes against the United States.

The fact that Trump's alleged crimes were committed while he was president is also no reason to grant him immunity. Quite the contrary. The president is required by the Constitution to take care that the laws be faithfully executed. Any criminal act committed by a president is necessarily a violation of his oath of office, committed outside the legal bounds of his authority. Put another way, if the president is committing a crime, he isn't, by definition, acting within his authority as president. He's acting outside that authority, beyond the scope of his powers.

Trump has also argued that his impeachment, followed by the Senate's failure to convict him, is an independent reason for immunity. This argument is also obviously faulty.

An impeachment isn't a criminal trial. It's a unique constitutional tool for removing a president from office. If a president is convicted after impeachment, he doesn't go to prison. He simply loses his job. And if an impeached president isn't removed, he hasn't been acquitted like a defendant found not guilty by a unanimous jury. He just hasn't met the high bar — a two-thirds vote in the Senate —

for removal from office. So Trump cannot claim that a criminal trial now would subject him to double jeopardy.

In any case, it makes no constitutional sense that an impeachment, a political process effectuated in Congress, would block a judicial process, which takes place in the courts. The legislature and judiciary are separate and coequal branches of government.

So the big question is the timing. The court could agree to consider the issue expeditiously, allowing the trial to begin on time in March 2024. Or the justices could say the question must wait, in which case Trump might be able to delay the proceedings until the height of the presidential campaign or even after the election. This would be a way for justices to help Trump without saying anything in his favor.

Time is of the essence. Trump's goal is to thwart justice by delaying the trial as long as he can. If he wins and is inaugurated, he can almost certainly dismiss the charges against himself. (Yes, I said "almost." That's for another column.) In general, it's good for the Supreme Court to wait for the courts of appeals to rule before the justices weigh in — the idea is that the higher court benefits from the wisdom of lower courts' arguments. But in recent years, the court has preempted the appellate courts some 19 times. This case is more important than any of those.

If the justices let Trump delay, they will be doing a disservice to the rule of law. That's something they all say they care about. Here's a chance for them to prove it.

*Feldman is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist and a professor of law at Harvard University.*

# The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

## Holiday tunes

West Jay Elementary School students perform during their annual Christmas concert Thursday in the school's gymnasium.

## Felony arrests

### Unlawful firearm

A Dunkirk woman was arrested Sunday for unlawfully possessing a firearm.

Stephanie R. Williams, 58, 318 E. North St., was preliminarily charged with two Level 4 felonies for unlawful possession of a firearm by a serious, violent felon. She was being held on a \$15,000 bond in Jay County Jail.

### Nonsupport

An Albany man was arrested Friday for nonsupport of a dependent.

Wesley K. Nottingham, 37, is charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony for the alleged crime. He was released on a \$500 bond from Jay County Jail.

## EDIT ...

Continued from page 1  
At that ratio, Richards said, a similar loan would be about \$96,000.

Following a question from McClung, Richards said the city's EDIT loan program allows for loans for between \$15,000 and \$200,000.

McClung also expressed hesitancy for such a large loan since the property sits outside city limits.

"I know the benefit to Portland would be good, but it's also a tax base that is outside of our jurisdiction," said McClung. "And so any investment we make, we're not really going to recoup through property taxes."

Richards suggested that the city could look at partnering with the county on loans for the project.

Committee members agreed it would be a good idea to look into whether the county would be willing to contribute toward the project as well. They ultimately voted to table the request in order to gather more information from Riya and to talk with county officials.

## Projects ...

Continued from page 1  
As for high-dollar equipment purchases, the village has budgeted \$55,000 for replacing 200 water meter heads, \$50,000 for a new brush chipper, \$30,000 for a leaf vacuum, \$25,000 for street light replacement and \$25,000 for replacing a dump truck bed.

"(We've) got a lot going on in the next year, which is good," Diller said.

The village's 2024 budget is estimated at just over \$3.79 million next year. (Council will make final amendments at its next meeting at 11 a.m. Dec. 27, which will include swearing in re-elected board members Scott Pearson and Al Post as well as Mayor Dave Kaup.) Village council approved the capital improvements list along

with other budgetary items Monday.

Also Monday, Diller announced he recently submitted a grant application for \$4 million through the Ohio Department of Development in hopes of securing the funds to pay for switching to a new water softening process in the village.

Officials are looking into switching from lime and caustic soda treatment to reverse osmosis membrane softening, which involves pumping water under pressure through reverse osmosis membrane elements (tube-shaped filters with about 15 layers). The new softening process would decrease the village's chemical costs by an estimated \$210,000 annually, according to a study conducted by PMG Consulting and Shoaf Consulting. Initial construction costs — plans include installing 56 reverse osmosis membranes as well as locating and drilling a third well — are estimated at \$4.35 million.

"(The grant) would obviously be a huge plus for us," said Diller. "We'll see what happens."

Diller plans to submit another grant request through the same program with Ohio Department of Development for sludge removal from at least one of the ponds at the wastewater lagoons. He noted he's waiting on cost estimates before requesting the funds.

In other village updates, Diller said he reviewed preliminary plans for the new 205,000-gallon water tower recently. Hopes are for the \$1.65 million project — the village received a \$1.25 mil-

lion grant from the Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure program for the work — to go out for bid in mid January. The village is considering placing it along Ohio 49 near the Cooper Farms facility. (If installed at a higher elevation on the north side of town, it wouldn't need to be as tall as the existing tower.)

Diller also noted buyers of a property east of the village have expressed interest in selling land to the village for future development. The village could see up to 10 acres for expansion in coming years.

In other business, Luke Knapke, Cliff Wendel, Erik Fiely, Greg Schmitz, Post and Pearson:

- Learned Kaup will announce winners of the annual Christmas contest tonight at the Fort Recovery Radio Christmas Gala,

which runs from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Cooper Brothers Community Pavilion at Community Park.

- Canceled its meeting set for 7:30 p.m. Jan. 1 and planned to meet at 11 a.m. Dec. 27.

- Adopted the following legislative items on third readings: setting pay schedules for village personnel — employees are getting at least 4% raises in 2024 — renewing a two-year contract with village solicitor Erin Abels and authorizing and establishing publication requirements as Fort Recovery's website and Facebook page.

- Transferred \$375,000 from the general fund to the street construction maintenance and repair fund.

- OK'd a request to transfer a liquor permit from Trusty Woods to Jaime and Ana LLC.

## Eligible ...

Continued from page 1  
High school principal Ryan Steinbrunner explained the top four Fort Recovery seniors meet the criteria this year, but at least two of them have already committed to schools outside of Ohio. Steinbrunner added that in subsequent years, DeWine hopes to have the scholarship announced by Sept. 1, basing the rankings on students' class standing at the end of their junior year.

Steinbrunner confirmed the scholarship program isn't eligible to other seniors, even if one or more of the top four students aren't able to accept it.

Steinbrunner also noted that

unlike other schools in the surrounding area, Fort Recovery Local Schools bases its class rankings on several factors. (It includes cumulative GPA, the number of honors courses taken with a maximum of 10 applied, ACT scores and total credit earned with a maximum of 36.)

Also Monday, Steinbrunner pointed out plans to begin seeking quotes in January or February for new curricula. Hopes are to receive new materials in the spring so teachers can begin creating lesson plans.

In other business, board members Anne Guggenbiller, Don

Wendel, Nick Wehrkamp, Sean Kahlig and Jake Knapke:

- Agreed to host an organizational meeting at 6 p.m. Jan. 8 in the community room at Fort Recovery High School with the regular meeting to follow.

- Elected Don Wendel as president pro-tem for the organizational meeting.

- Recognized outgoing members Guggenbiller and Knapke for their time on the board as well as former superintendent Larry Brown, whose last official day working for the school district was Tuesday. (Effective July 31, he worked as the district's director for several months to help

with the transition to current superintendent Tony Stahl.)

- Accepted several donations, including \$3,875 from various sources to the Adopt-a-Family program.

- Retroactively approved an overnight field trip for FFA members to attend the Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster, Ohio, from Dec. 6 to Dec. 7. The group placed fourth in its division.

- OK'd reappointing Fort Recovery Library trustees including Abby Schmitz, who will serve a seven-year term without compensation on the Fort Recovery Public Library Board.

- Changed Kate Timmerman's work assignment to part-time cook at the high school, morning crossing guard and evening bus route driver retroactive to Dec. 14. Clint Kremer's work assignment to full-time building maintenance engineer and morning bus driver retroactive to Dec. 14 and Susan Pugh's work assignment to part-time cook effective Jan. 3.

- Approved hiring Lindsey Bruggeman as a non-teaching employee with a one-year contract.

- OK'd renewing a membership with Ohio School Boards Association for \$3,977.



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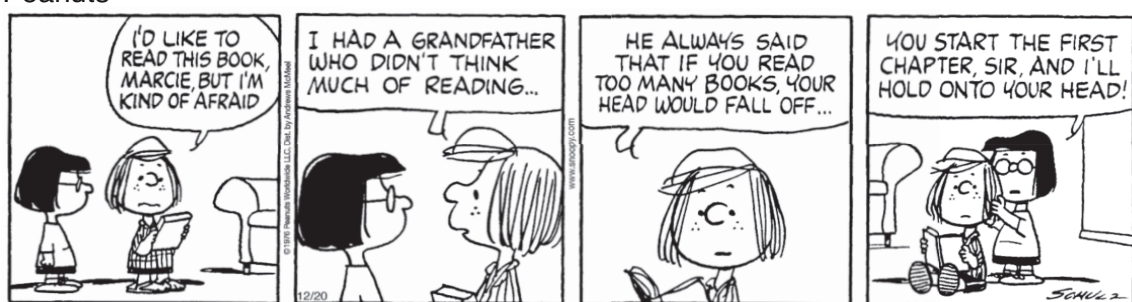
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



12-20
'Wow! Morrie was born on December 24th! He missed bein' Baby Jesus by that much!'

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



Hi and Lois



Between Friends



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge

By Steve Becker

The art of slam bidding

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12-20 CRYPTOQUIP

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: DELICATE, WHIPPED PIE TOPPING THAT CERTAIN SHORT-TAILED RODENTS WOULD ADORE: LEMMING MERINGUE. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals P

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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# LA28 CEO Carter steps down before Olympics

By DAVID WHARTON

Los Angeles Times  
Tribune News Service

LOS ANGELES — With the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics just over four years away, local organizers announced Monday they would be seeking new leadership.

Kathy Carter, who had been LA28's chief executive since the fall of 2021, will be switching to a new role as senior adviser.

The move was framed as a

planned transition, with organizers shifting gears after the Paris Olympics this summer.

"As anticipated, because LA28 is moving from a commercial and planning phase to an operational and delivery phase, now is the right time for me to pass the torch," Carter said in a statement.

After years of focusing on securing corporate deals with the likes of Nike and Delta Air Lines, the committee recently

finalized its sports lineup — adding events such as lacrosse, cricket and baseball — and is pursuing contracts with venues throughout Southern California.

The most-recent budget for the 2028 Summer Games forecasts an overall cost of \$6.9 billion. Organizers have vowed to pay all expenses through sponsorships, ticket sales and other revenue streams.

Balancing the budget will be crucial because city and state

legislators have agreed to serve as a financial backstop, pledging taxpayer dollars to pay for cost overruns.

During the bid process, LA28 estimated \$5.3 billion in costs based on 2016 dollars. That number has been adjusted upward twice so far to account for inflation.

Carter was the committee's second chief executive since it was awarded the Games in 2017. The previous leader, Gene Sykes, is now chairman of the

U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee.

On Monday, organizers did not give any details about how or when a new chief executive would be selected.

"I am deeply grateful for Kathy's leadership and many contributions to the Olympic and Paralympic movement," LA28 chairman Casey Wasserman said. "She will always be a defining part of our success at LA28 and I will continue to rely upon her advice during this transition and beyond."

JCHS senior Joseph Dow anchors the 400-yard freestyle relay at Adams Central on Monday. Dow made up ground for the Patriots to win the relay. Dow also added two individual victories, but the Patriots couldn't pull off the win, falling to the Jets 93-70.



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

## Close ...

Continued from page 8

The girls team (4-3, 3-0 Allen County Athletic Conference) got a strong performance from Aubrey Millspaugh, who had a pair of victories in the 200 individual medley (2:44.96) and 500 freestyle (6:30.31).

"That was the fastest 500 I've had all season," Millspaugh said. "That was the first time I've been a double event win-

ner. So just having that confidence boost going into the rest of the season I think was really great."

The girls had two other first-place finishes, coming from the 400 relay team and Naroa Zugasti in the 1-meter diving (93.3 points).

The boys team's (1-6, 1-2 ACAC) top performers were Dow and Clamme. The JCHS sophomore put

out top performances in the 100 freestyle (1:02.2) and the 100 breaststroke (1:23.11).

"When I'm in the water, I always just have to keep telling myself to just keep going," Clamme said. "Having that self confidence really helps me get through the races."

Along with Dow's comeback in the 400 freestyle relay, he won

the 200 freestyle with a time of 2:12.23 and the 500 freestyle in 6:09.96.

Slavik said he was happy with Dow's improvements and where he is sitting at this time of the year to prove he can be a competitor when the postseason rolls around.

The Patriots will take part in Thursday's Celina Sprints — the meet, which is held at JCHS,

was postponed from its original Dec. 2 date — before a diving-only meet at Homestead on Dec. 27. Their next dual meet will take place after the new year at Bellmont, giving Jay County time to train and refine some of the areas Slavik has noticed could use improvement.

"We found a few key areas that we need to get some improvement on,

which is a good time of year for it because we are going into training for the next two weeks," Slavik said. "We need to increase our speed, arm speed turnover rates, and turns. We've just got to get quicker on the walls."

"We spent a lot of time focusing on power. We are hoping that muscle memory will hold that so we can transition to speed training."

## Sports on tap

### Local schedule

**Thursday**  
Jay County — Girls wrestling at Findlay — 12 p.m.; Swim at Celina Sprint at Jay County — 5 p.m.  
Fort Recovery — Swim at Celina Sprint at Jay County — 5 p.m.

### TV sports

**Today**  
6:30 p.m. — Women's college basketball:

Florida at Michigan (ESPN2)  
7 p.m. — NBA: Charlotte Hornets at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)  
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Oakland at Michigan State (BTN)  
7:30 p.m. — NHL: New York Islanders at Washington Capitals (TNT)  
10 p.m. — NHL: Seattle Kraken at Los Angeles Kings (TNT)

**Thursday**  
6 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kentucky

at Louisville (ESPN)  
6:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Jacksonville at Purdue (BTN)  
8 p.m. — College football Boca Raton Bowl: South Florida vs. Syracuse (ESPN)  
8 p.m. — NBA: Indiana Pacers at Memphis Grizzlies (Bally Indiana)  
8:15 p.m. — NFL: New Orleans Saints at Los Angeles Rams (FOX)  
8:30 p.m. — Men's college basketball: North Alabama at Indiana (BTN)  
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Georgia

Tech vs. UMass Amherst (ESPN2)  
11 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Portland vs. Hawai'i (ESPN2)

### Local notes

**Tryouts scheduled**  
Tryouts for A League of Our Own Independent Baseball League is hosting a tryout at the Mojo-Up Sports Indoor Complex in Noblesville on Jan. 30.  
Anyone 19-years-old or older that is looking

for the opportunity to continue playing baseball can try out.

The league begins play on Aug. 31 and runs through Oct. 19, playing 50 games in 50 days.

To sign up or for more information on the league, visit [www.aloo0247.com](http://www.aloo0247.com), call (205) 264-1468 or email [411@aloo0247.com](mailto:411@aloo0247.com).

To have an event listed in "Sports on tap," email details to [sports@thecr.com](mailto:sports@thecr.com).

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### 30 LOST, STRAYED OR FOUND

**ATTENTION! LOST A PET** Or found one? The jay county humane society can serve as an information center. 260-726-6339

### 40 NOTICES

**PLEASE NOTE:** Be sure to check your ad the first day it appears. We cannot be responsible for more than one days incorrect copy. We try hard not to make mistakes, but they do happen, and we may not know unless you call to tell us. Call before 12:00 pm for corrections. The Commercial Review, 309 W Main, Portland, Indiana 260-726-8141.

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### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**  
Wabash Valley Power Alliance (WVPA), located at 6702 Intech Blvd., Indianapolis, Indiana 46278 is submitting a Notice of Intent to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) of our intent to comply with the requirements of Construction Stormwater General Permit INRA 00000 to discharge storm water from construction activities associated with the Trinity - Mount Zion Temporary Laydown Yard project. The project is located at 40°30'46.64"N Latitude and 84°51'17.01"W Longitude in Jay County, Indiana. Storm water runoff from this project may discharge into Limberlost Creek. Questions or comments regarding this project should be directed to Scott Beery of WVPA at the above address or at 1-317-481-2926 or [info@wvpa.com](mailto:info@wvpa.com). CR 12-20-2023- HSPAXLP

### 250 PUBLIC NOTICE

**Public Notice**  
In the Matter of the Estate of Larry G. Teegarden, Sr., deceased.  
Notice is hereby given that Layna K. Byrge and Lori A. Wymer were on 12/4/2023 appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Larry G. Teegarden, Sr., deceased, who died on August 24, 2023, leaving a Last Will and Testament. All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Dated in Jay County, Indiana, on 12/5/2023  
Jon Eads, Clerk  
John B. LaRue 14018-18  
4910 N. Wheeling Ave.  
Muncie, IN 47304  
765-287-1717  
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### Public Notice

**Public Notice**  
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IN THE MATTER OF THE UNSUPERVISED ESTATE OF: LARRY G. TEEGARDEN, SR., DECEASED.  
NOTICE OF UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION  
In the Jay Circuit Court: In the Matter of the Estate of Larry G. Teegarden, Sr., deceased.  
Notice is hereby given that Layna K. Byrge and Lori A. Wymer were on 12/4/2023 appointed Co-Personal Representatives of the Estate of Larry G. Teegarden, Sr., deceased, who died on August 24, 2023, leaving a Last Will and Testament. All persons having claims against said estate, whether or not now due, must file the same in said Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Dated in Jay County, Indiana, on 12/5/2023  
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# Sports

## Close competition

*Patriot girls pull out win as boys lose competitive battle with Adams Central*

By **ANDREW BALKO**

The Commercial Review

MONROE — Tristen Wurm was already nearing the far end of the pool when Joseph Dow dived off the starting block. The senior had two laps to make up a 25-yard deficit.

The second he hit the water he was working to make up ground. By the time he had finished his first lap, the crowd started to believe.

By the time he swam 75 yards, he had caught up to Wurm. They were neck-and-neck as they raced towards the wall, but Dow was too much for Wurm.

Just before, three girls competed in a heated battle for the 100-yard breaststroke. The Jets' Savannah Hendricks and the Patriots' Morgan DeHoff and Zion Beiswanger never got more than a foot ahead of each other.

All three hit the panel at what looked like the same time to the naked eye. It was only when looking up at the scoreboard that one could know who won.

Despite Dow earning the victory for the Patriots boys in the 400 freestyle relay, it wasn't enough for the team to overcome the Jets, while Hendricks edged out DeHoff and Beiswanger but couldn't pull her team ahead of the Patriots.

The Jay County High School swim teams came out on opposite sides of close finishes Monday against the host Adams Central Jets. The depth of the girls team led it to a 101-68 victory while the boys were too short handed, falling 93-70.

"We had a good meet," JCHS coach Matt Slavik said. "Happy with where most of the kids are at right now. ..."

"The girls came away with a nice win tonight. The boys came up short. We're down a few people right now, so I was hoping we could sneak it out without them but that's the way it goes."

There were a handful of tight races, but none more dramatic than the boys 400 freestyle relay and the girls 100 breaststroke.

The team of Lincoln Clamme, Matthew Fisher, Max Klopfenstein and Dow finished in 4 minutes, 36.97 seconds, to complete the come-from-behind victory, beating the Jets relay team by 2.85 seconds.

The finish between Hendricks, DeHoff and Beiswanger was within 0.17 seconds of each other.

The Adams Central swimmer pulled off the win at 1:21.22, while DeHoff just behind at 1:21.25 and Beiswanger clocking in at 1:21.39.

See **Close** page 7



The Commercial Review/Andrew Balko

Morgan DeHoff of Jay County High School swims in the 100-yard breaststroke in the meet at Adams Central on Monday. DeHoff missed first place by 0.03 seconds, but the girls still pulled out the win over the Jets 101-68.



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