

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Mobile unit target is Dec. 2

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

Students displaced by the Sept. 22 tornado will have a new classroom space soon.

Jay Schools superintendent Jeremy Gulley told Jay School Board on Monday that plans are on track for Jay County Junior-Senior High School students to begin using mobile classrooms Dec. 2.

The board also approved spending related to the tornado recovery and discussed upcoming roof and parking lot maintenance plans.

The tornado that hit the jun-

Students displaced by tornado will begin using temporary classrooms next month

ior-senior high on the evening of Sept. 22 caused severe damage to the junior high/IMC (library) wing of the building. Students were out of the building for a week while the damaged area was sealed off. When they returned, junior high stu-

dents were shifted to other underutilized spaces including the choir room and breezeway.

The school corporation was approved via insurance for mobile units to serve as temporary classrooms. They arrived last month and have been in the

process of being installed on the north side of the school stretching from the sidewalk into the parking lot.

Gulley noted that staff is in the process of installing computer boards and other equipment.

"They look nice," he said. "I think the kids and staff will appreciate them. ..."

"Pretty much everything that is in the school is in that building."

Also, board members Ron Laux, Phil Ford, Donna Geesaman, Jason Phillips, Vickie Reitz, Chip Phillips and Marcie Vormohr approved expenditures related to the tornado response. The total thus far is \$2.03 million, with a \$789,697 roof replacement as the most expensive of the new items approved Monday.

See **Mobile** page 2



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

Community carry-in

Judy Alig (left) of rural Bryant chats with rural Portland resident Linda Deaton and others during the Thanksgiving carry-in Tuesday at Jay Community Center.

Sewer waiver ordinance clears 1st reading

Measure would allow bills to be stopped for up to 6 months

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

The city plans to provide some relief for those who experience a natural disaster.

Portland City Council approved an ordinance on first reading Monday to waive sewer fees for users whose property cannot be used following first, floods, wind or other "act of God."

It will need to be approved on second reading before going into effect.

City council members agreed at their Nov. 4 meeting to review the ordinance following a request from rural Portland resident Kyle Love, whose home was severely damaged in the Sept. 22 tornado. He asked that his sewer bill be waived until he is able to rebuild his home on Indiana 67 near Jay County Junior-Senior High School.

The ordinance would allow the city's board of works to waive monthly sewer fees in such situations. A user would need to apply to the board of works to have its fees waived.

The board would consider the cause and extent of the damage, the intent to rebuild, the time period estimated to rebuild or repair and the extent to which utilities would be unavailable during that time. When granting a waiver, the board could also impose conditions.

Waivers could be made for up to six months, and any extensions would also be considered by the board of works.

City council made one change to the amendment Monday, agreeing to a suggestion from Dave Golden to make the ordinance retroactive to Sept. 1. (The tornado that damaged Love's home occurred on Sept. 22.)

Council members Kent McClung, Michele Brewster, Matt Goldsworthy, Mike Aker, Ashley Hilfiker, Ron May and Golden approved the ordinance unanimously on first reading.

See **Clears** page 2

Financial outlook remains strong

By BAILEY CLINE

The Commercial Review

FORT RECOVERY — The school district's finances continue to look positive.

Fort Recovery Local School Board heard its five-year financial forecast Monday.

Projections shared Monday by treasurer Deanna Knapke estimate the school district will finish fiscal year 2025 — it ends June 30 — with a budget surplus of more than \$2.73 million, bringing its year-end cash balance before encumbrances to \$14.7 million. That's up roughly \$900,000 from projections made in May.

Fort Recovery Local Schools' budget surpluses have become a trend for the school district and are expected to continue throughout the next five years. Surpluses are projected at \$1.75 million, \$1.1 million, \$557,400 and \$149,400 at the end of fiscal years 2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029, respectively.

Knapke pointed in the forecast to changes in inflation rates and the potential for a recession in coming years, with inflation expected to continue impacting school districts through fiscal year 2025.

Discussing revenue, she explained this year is the first time she has seen local funding account for more of Fort Recovery Local

Budget surpluses projected through 2029

Schools' revenue than state dollars. She pointed out real estate and income tax and other local contributions amount to 51% of the district's annual revenue as opposed to state funding making up 49%.

"We are seeing an increase in our local funding due to our increases in property taxes, and also a large increase in income tax," she explained, noting the 2023 tax year reappraisal in Mercer and Darke counties led to a 44% (\$52.9 million) increase for residential and agricultural assessed values.

Fort Recovery Local Schools' funding from property taxes has increased nearly \$1 million from fiscal year 2023, she continued. It also received significantly more from income taxes, receiving \$3.2 million last year, or a 12% increase from fiscal year 2023. Knapke also

said the district received a 23% increase in July payments.

Also Monday, school board heard about a new Ohio School Report Card component for high schools to meet moving forward.

High school principal Ryan Steinbrunner explained the state's College, Career, Workforce and Military Readiness Component requires graduating students meet one of 11 requirements demonstrating they are prepared for post-secondary education, the workforce or the military. Steinbrunner noted 62 out of 66 students who graduated from Fort Recovery High School in 2023 met those requirements.

In other business, school board members Mitch Fullenkamp, Sean Kahlig, Greg LeFevre, Nick Wehrkamp and Don Wendel:

•Learned sophomores Tyler Dues, Cameron Muhlenkamp and Carter Fortkamp were selected as finalists for the annual \$1,000 Carson scholarship.

•Approved the following: hiring Casey Steinbrunner as a substitute, Heather Addington as a van driver and Troy Grieshop as a substitute bus driver; hiring Carrie Schoen as high school varsity softball coach, Lauren Day as high school varsity assistant softball coach, Ben Homan as high school

varsity baseball assistant coach and Ben Will as high school reserve baseball coach; several additions and revisions to Fort Recovery Local School's policies, specifically related to Ohio legislative changes, such as Ohio House Bill 250 setting rules on student cell phone usage in schools; transferring \$1 million from the general fund to the permanent improvement fund for building repairs and maintenance and \$100,000 from the general fund to the termination benefits fund for fiscal year 2025; a memorandum of agreement for Fifth Third Bank to serve as the district's public depository from Jan. 1, 2025, to Dec. 31, 2029.

•Learned from elementary principal Laura Brandt that students raised \$8,775.67 during the school's Cents for Sawyer fundraiser recently, with the dollars going toward developing Sawyer Overman Ninja Park.

•Rescinded approval from April for Scott Dilworth to serve as a volunteer high school basketball coach and agreed to hire him as high school boys basketball varsity assistant coach.

•Accepted high school boys basketball varsity assistant coach Darien Sheffer's resignation for the current school year.

See **Strong** page 2

Deaths

Elwood Huntsman, 98, Redkey
David Martyne, 63, Portland
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 63 degrees Monday. The low was 52.
Tonight's low will be around 30 with a chance of rain and snow showers and winds gusting up to 30 miles per hour. Skies will be mostly cloudy Thursday with light snow accumulation expected. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Public Library and Jay County Farm Bureau will team to host a Farm-to-Table Thanksgiving Dinner for Children on Thursday. Sessions are available at 4 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. To sign up, call (260) 726-7890 or visit the library at 315 N. Ship St., Portland.

Coming up

Thursday — Preview of the Fort Recovery High School girls basketball season.
Friday — Coverage of this week's Portland Board of Aviation meeting.
Saturday — Results from the JCHS girls basketball game against Belmont.



Obituaries

Elwood Huntsman

March 12, 1926-Nov. 17, 2024
Elwood "Woody" Norris Huntsman, age 98, of Redkey passed away on Sunday, Nov. 17, 2024, in Pine Knoll Rehabilitation in Winchester.



He was born in Scottsville, Kentucky, on March 12, 1926, the son of Joseph H. and Florah Ann (Mitchell) Huntsman. He was married on Aug. 11, 1950, to Patsy Roberts and she passed away on May 17, 2021.

Elwood worked as a supervisor at Aluminum Foundries in Winchester. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and bluegrass music.

Surviving are three sons, Lattie Huntsman (wife: Deb) of Salamina, David Huntsman of Portland

and Monte Huntsman (wife: Tina) of Salamina; three daughters, Virginia Harrison of Redkey, Debbie Briggs (husband: Cris) of Winchester and Cheryl Sill of Portland; sister Bertha Pelton of Winchester; 18 grandchildren; 65 great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren

He was preceded in death by a son, Marvin Huntsman; and a daughter, Susan Huntsman.

Funeral services will be Friday, Nov. 22, 2024, at 11 a.m. in the Collett Nazarene Church with Pastors Billy Stanton and Justin Simos presiding. Burial will be in the Mercer Memory Gardens in Celina. Visitation will be from 9 to 11 a.m. at the church.

Memorials can be made to Jay County Cancer Society.

Baird-Freeman Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

Condolences may be expressed at bairdfreeman.com.

David Martyne

Dec. 7, 1960-Oct. 25, 2024
David Alan Martyne, born on Dec. 7, 1960, in Dayton, Ohio, passed away with great sorrow on Oct. 25, 2024. He was a cherished husband, father, brother, friend who touched the lives of many.



Martyne

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, at the Portland American Legion Post 211 from 3 to 6 p.m. A meal will be served.

David dedicated several years to serving in the National Guard, showcasing his commitment to duty and service. His easygoing nature and warm heart were the foundation of the comfortable life he shared with his beloved wife, Cheryl, whom he married on

July 22, 2005. Their bond was notably characterized by laughter, as David loved to make Cheryl smile. Together, they enjoyed a wonderful life surrounded by their cherished dogs and cats.

Beyond his devotion to his wife, David embraced Cheryl's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He is survived by his loving daughter, Angelina Koenig (Darrell); stepdaughter Kathrina Horine; and grandchildren Owen, Olivia, Ebany, Alexander and Kaidynce; and Ivy Rose, his great-granddaughter. He also leaves behind his brother, Matt Martyne (Bonnie); his sister, Christy Campbell; and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He loved playing the guitar and enjoyed tinkering around the house. He was also an avid fan of the Pittsburgh Steelers.

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Cheryl Martyne; his son Isaiah Martyne; his mother, Jean Penrod; stepfather Dean Penrod; brother John Martyne; brother Tony Martyne; and grandmother Genevieve Martyne.

David will be remembered for the love he shared and the laughter he brought into the lives of those around him. His gentle spirit and caring heart will remain in the memories of all who knew him.

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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 11/21	Friday 11/22	Saturday 11/23	Sunday 11/24	Monday 11/25
34/31	44/39	44/35	51/45	56/38

Lotteries

Powerball
Monday
27-31-41-52-69
Power Ball: 26
Power Play: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$155 million

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$420 million

Hoosier
Monday
Midday
Daily Three: 9-7-2
Daily Four: 9-6-8-1
Quick Draw: 3-8-14-17-19-21-25-31-32-38-45-48-54-56-57-64-69-70-72-73
Evening
Daily Three: 7-8-3

Daily Four: 8-9-6-0
Quick Draw: 1-13-14-17-21-22-24-26-28-29-36-50-53-54-61-63-72-76-77-78
Cash 5: 10-24-33-34-35
Estimated jackpot: \$202,500

Ohio
Monday
Midday
Pick 3: 7-4-5
Pick 4: 4-7-1-5
Pick 5: 5-3-0-2-0
Evening
Pick 3: 8-3-2
Pick 4: 1-3-4-9
Pick 5: 9-4-7-3-6
Rolling Cash: 9-26-28-30-34
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery
Corn.....4.43
Dec. corn.....4.35
Wheat.....4.52

POET Biorefining Portland
Corn.....4.48
Dec. corn.....4.48
Jan. corn.....4.39

The Andersons Richland Township
Corn.....4.36
Dec. corn.....4.36
Beans.....9.88

Dec. beans.....9.88
Wheat.....5.

ADM Montpelier
Corn.....4.28
Dec. corn.....4.29
Beans.....9.86
Dec. beans.....9.86
Wheat.....5.02

Heartland St. Anthony
Corn.....4.31
Dec. corn.....4.31
Beans.....9.63
Dec. beans.....9.70
Wheat.....4.92

Today in history

In 1789, New Jersey ratified the Bill of Rights for the United States. It was the first state to pass the measure.

In 1805, "Fidelio," Ludwig van Beethoven's opera, premiered at Theater an der Wien in Vienna.

In 1985, Microsoft released Windows 1.0, its first operating system.

In 2015, Portland celebrated the opening of Indiana 26 (Water Street) with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in front of East Jay Middle School after a \$4.2 million construction project started in May. At completion, the road featured 11-foot wide lanes, grass buffer strips and 4-foot wide sidewalks on both sides of the road, as well as adding new water and sewer lines and 16 LED street lights.

— The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
4 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District Board, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, airport, 661 W. 100 North.
5 p.m. — Jay County Redevelopment Commission, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Jay County Council, park cabin, 50 Council, Jay County

Commissioners and Jay County Redevelopment Commission joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Thursday
6 p.m. — Jay County Plan Commission, Community Resource Center, 118 S. Meridian St., Portland.
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 50 Council, Jay County

Mobile ...

Continued from page 1
Gulley also reported that insurance firm The Chubb Corporation has approved the scope of damage related to the tornado. The 44-page document details all of the damage including to masonry, windows, doors, walls, the roof and other items.

The next step in the process is to determine a cost estimate for the damage.

The insurance firm is also having a mechanical, electrical and plumbing assessment done. It will be shared with architectural firm Barton Coe Vilamaa.

Facilities director Gary Cagle updated the board on capital project plans unrelated to the tornado. They call for replacing sections of the roof at the junior-senior high, Bloomfield Elementary School and East Jay Elementary School in 2025. Bloomfield, East and East Jay elementary schools are slated for parking lot work next year.

The board also approved the purchase of five buses at a cost of \$739,625. Business manager Shannon Current noted that delivery of the buses could take 12 to 18 months.

In other business, the board:
•During the Patriot Pride Moment, learned about Clean Freaks Car Service. The business is a branch of the Jay County Junior-Senior High School LifeSkills classes. It offers interior car cleaning services for \$20 for faculty and staff at the junior-senior high school and will begin cleaning the school corporation's vehicles as well. Money raised will go toward an annual LifeSkills trip.
•Approved a resolution in support of pursuing Indiana Purple Star School Designations for schools in the corporation. The designation from the Indiana Department of Education honors schools that have displayed a significant commitment to service members, veterans, and students and families connected to the military
•Approved the following: field trips for junior-senior high German students to Chicago to visit the German Christmas Market and to Germany, Switzerland and Italy; implementing the option of a supplemental payment of up to \$5,000 to help attract special education teachers; allowing

Clears ...

Continued from page 1
In other business:
•Council discussed the ongoing Meridian Street (U.S. 27) construction project that involves paving, new traffic signals, Americans with Disabilities Act compliant sidewalks and bump outs at some intersections. Mayor Jeff Westlake noted that he has heard complaints from some business owners regarding parking spaces that were lost via the bump outs and new striping. He said he has a meeting with Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) officials Thursday to discuss the issues.
•Golden asked if all of the city's federal coronavirus relief funds via the American Rescue Plan Act have been spent. (Rules require the money to be allocated by the end of the year and spent by the end of 2026). Clerk-treasurer Lori Phillips confirmed that the funds were used for the Meridian Street storm sewer project.
•The mayor provided updates, including:
—Christmas trees will be sold at the fire department beginning Friday. The department is also seeking quotes for a new tanker truck.
—Painting the guide railings of the new Indiana 26 bridge on the east edge of Portland blue in memory of the steel truss bridge that previously stood there would have to go through the Indiana Department of Transportation approval process.
•Council approved a one-year tax abatement for Joyce-Dayton on \$229,000 in new manufacturing equipment. The abatement is projected to save the company \$2,748 in taxes while resulting in \$21,296 in tax payments over a 10-year period.
•May brought up various issues, including:
—The amount of a resident's utility bill. Phillips said rate studies have set the rates at the level required to maintain the utilities.
—Trash pick-up for city sewer customers who live outside of the city limits. Customers in the city

Strong ...

Continued from page 1
•OK'd the following to serve as volunteer coaches: assistant softball coaches Valerie Stammen, Haley Knapke, Kasey Froning and Ryan Thien, and assistant reserve baseball coach Ethan Schoen.
•Gave permission to not evaluate full-time teacher Karen Klosterman during the current school year. Klosterman plans to retire from Fort Recovery Local Schools in May after working for the district for 27 years.
•Reappointed Jose Fallar as Fort Recovery Local Schools' representative on Fort Recovery Park Board for another five-year term from Jan. 1, 2025, through Dec. 31, 2029.
•Agreed to hold 20 meetings next year and keep board members' pay at \$80 per meeting.
•Accepted several donations, including \$1,600 from Fort Recovery Athletic Boosters.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

**THANKSGIVING DAY
NOVEMBER 28, 2024
1:00 P.M.
ASBURY U. M. CHURCH
PORTLAND, INDIANA**

ALL OF JAY CO. WELCOME
FREE...but bring a dish IF YOU WISH

Turkey, dressing, ham, beverages and table service provided through donations from individuals and organizations in the community. Those wishing to make a donation may call:

Carol Smith 260-726-9049
or
Caren Huey 260-729-1239

For those who are homebound have a special need or require transportation to Asbury, please call:
Asbury U.M. Church 260-726-8464
Zion Lutheran Church 260-726-8832 (Mornings)
Home delivery requests due by Noon Wednesday
Carry-in dishes may be brought to Asbury the afternoon before or Thanksgiving Day morning.

Do NOT put this flyer in mail boxes
34th Year of Caring and Sharing

SERVICES

Thursday
Howell, Martha: 11 a.m., Grace Community Church, 5513 Indiana 18, Montpelier.

Friday
Huntsman, Elwood: 11 a.m., Collett Nazarene Church, 4525 S. 100 West, Portland.

Saturday
Wilkins, Riginia: 11 a.m., Downing & Glancy Funeral Home, 100 Washington St., Geneva.

Martyne, David: 3 p.m., American Legion Post 211, 211 W. Walnut St., Portland.

Dec. 14
Compton, Gall: 2 p.m., Portland Elk's Lodge, 126 W. High St., Portland.

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

50th anniversary

Sharon and Lloyd Wright

The Wrights are celebrating 50 years of marriage next week.

Lloyd Wright and Sharon Prescott of rural Portland wed Nov. 29, 1974, at Fort Recovery Church of Christ.

Their children are Holly (Shane) Pryor of Portland, Andrew (Rita) Wright of Portland and Cathy (Rex) Pinkerton of Portland. They also have seven grandchildren.

Lloyd Wright retired from working in maintenance at US Aggregates. Sharon Wright retired from working as a bank teller at Old National Bank.

Lloyd and Sharon Wright plan to celebrate with a party from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, at Bryant Wesleyan Church.



Lloyd and Sharon Wright - 2024



Sharon and Lloyd Wright - 1974

Partner continues to enable son's behavior

DEAR ABBY: I've been living with someone for four years. When we started living together, his son "Byron" was incarcerated. Byron is 33 and has been in trouble since he was 15. His dad keeps bailing him out. I used two of my credit cards to help raise the \$11,000 bail to get him out of jail. In exchange, Byron agreed to put on a new roof for us and help around the house.

Byron has completed none of the tasks that were asked of him, and his dad keeps helping him anyway. We had to pay Byron's rent at the rehab so he wouldn't be kicked out. This has created a rift between me and my boyfriend, who thinks I'm being selfish and greedy.

Am I wrong for no longer wanting to help financially? We got along great until this happened. — DOING TIME, TOO, IN ALABAMA

DEAR DOING TIME: Byron is the person he is because his father has enabled him since he was a child. You are neither

Dear Abby



selfish nor greedy for refusing to give more money. Forgive me if this seems harsh, but unless you want to continue to be emotionally blackmailed by your boyfriend, get out now before you are drained financially.

.....

DEAR ABBY: I have no problem driving at night, but I prefer to stay home rather than go out. Truth be told, I don't like to be out after 4 or 5 p.m. Yes, I miss a lot of social activities, but I don't mind.

The problem is friends and acquaintances who, when they find out I'm not going out at night, instantly offer to pick me up because they are kind and gra-

cious. No matter how many times I explain that it's not the driving, it's that I prefer not to be out at night, it falls on deaf ears.

I know I'm lucky to have sweet friends who volunteer to drive me, but I'm tired of explaining myself. Because I don't want to insult anyone, can you suggest a polite way to turn these folks down? Nothing I've said so far has worked, including saying, "It's not the driving. I don't go out at night." — HOMEBODY IN FLORIDA

DEAR HOMEBODY: Perhaps you should state your message a little more emphatically by saying, "I don't think you UNDERSTAND. It's not the driving, it's that I am uncomfortable going out after dark. PLEASE don't ask me again because my answer isn't going to change."

.....

DEAR ABBY: My wife's family has a history of breast cancer. She has had several MRIs and biopsies, which have caused a

great deal of discomfort and stress. She is now going in for a lumpectomy. I'm beginning to think it may be better to have her breasts removed. I didn't marry her boobs; I married the woman behind them. What do you think? — PROACTIVE IN CONNECTICUT

DEAR PROACTIVE: I'm sure you love her, but I think you should support your wife emotionally and let this decision be something that's decided between her and her doctors.

DEAR ABBY: I recently got engaged, and I am thrilled to be marrying such a wonderful man. We communicate well and have never argued until now. Weddings are expensive, and we agreed on a budget. We will be paying for this on our own. Once we started getting into all the costs, we quickly realized we will have to lower the number of guests or increase the budget.

I am completely against increasing the budget to accom-

modate family members my fiance hardly talks to. I wanted a small wedding anyway. He feels obligated to invite all his extended family members, and I don't understand it. I love him, but why are we obligated to overextend ourselves for people who won't be a major part of our lives going forward? — FRUGAL FUTURE BRIDE IN FLORIDA

DEAR FUTURE BRIDE: Be glad you are having this argument with your fiance early in your engagement. I say this because questions about priorities and how money is spent are among the chief reasons marriages break up. Although this may add to the expenses attached to your wedding, it could head off many problems down the road if the two of you get pre-marital counseling. There may be other ways to cut costs rather than shorten the guest list, particularly if your fiance feels his family members might feel slighted if they aren't invited.

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.

COMMUNITY REINFORCEMENT AND FAMILY TRAINING — A non-confrontational, evidence-based intervention

for helping families affected by addiction meets at 4 p.m. each Wednesday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw 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 — BRIGANNA'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

SMART RECOVERY — A group for those struggling with addiction that focuses on motivation, coping with cravings, managing thoughts, feelings and behavior, and living a balanced life meets at 11 a.m. each Thursday in the IU Health Jay Outpatient Behavioral Health Center, Entrance C, 510 W. Votaw St., Portland.

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.

MISSISSINEWA CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION — Will meet at Jay County Historical Society at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21. Regent Kathy Selman will present program. For more information, call (260) 251-1694 or (260) 726-2678.

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 (765) 964-6075 or (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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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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GRAPHIC PRINTING
NEWSPAPERS

The Commercial Review

Company celebrates 75th birthday

Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Nov. 18, 2009. With each year that passes, our pages continue to offer more nostalgia. Progress and change continues. After 75 years though, the words in that first editorial still ring true.

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

Tuesday was a birthday. Sixty years ago, on Nov. 17, 1949, the first edition of a weekly newspaper called The Graphic hit the streets in Jay County. The paper — launched by my parents, Hugh and Sara Ronald, and a handful of friends — was in direct competition with The Commercial Review. It would be for nine years, until the weekly bought out the daily paper in 1959. Today, for much of Jay County, turning the pages of an old

Back in the Saddle



copy of The Graphic is an exercise in nostalgia, complete with rose-colored glasses, a trip down memory lane when life seemed simpler. The Jay County Historical Society's book of vintage Graphic photos by Frank Kenyon captures that feeling perfectly. So what was in that first issue of The Graphic? And were times really that much simpler back then? The cover — The Graphic

adopted a magazine-style design with a full page photo on most front pages — was a high school basketball action shot with players from Pennville and Redkey battling for control of the ball. That's no surprise. High school sports coverage has always been a staple for community journalism and continues to be today. But turn the page, and you find not so much has changed. A murder was in the news; a local man who ran a concession with a carnival had been found beaten to death in Louisiana. So much for nostalgia about the good old days. The Portland City Council, meanwhile, was trying to pass an ordinance controlling "privies" in town. That's right, we're talking about outhouses. It seems that in 1949 indoor plumbing hadn't

completely taken hold in the county seat. At least there's been some progress on that front in the past 60 years. And the changes are indisputable. Among the advertisers who have since disappeared are names that resonate in the memories of local readers over a certain age: Weilers, Smith's Department Store, Ramsey Men's Shop, Shambarger's Restaurant, the Hines, the Princess, Armstrong Book Store, Haffner Hardware Store, Hart's Music Shop, Mi-Lady's Shoes, and on the back page Aunt Molly's Bread. On the editorial page, which featured a half-page "photo editorial" about a downtown traffic accident, The Graphic attempted to introduce itself to readers. "Based on the wisdom of the

old Chinese proverb to the effect that a single picture is more effective than ten thousand words, The Graphic will feature pictures and news of Jay County people and places," that first editorial said. "Editorially your new publication will be pledged to those causes which will assist and promote good schools, good churches, good business and good government here at home. We will be outspoken in our support of these things which will contribute to a better community and a better county, and just as outspoken in our opposition to those things which are contrary to the best interests of the community and county." Art Graham, the first editor, probably wrote those words. But I detect my father's fingerprints on them as well.

Russian withdrawal is the only just way

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

The week after he won the White House, Donald Trump announced his national security advisor. It was 2016 and the pick was Mike Flynn, a man with an oddly pro-Russian worldview who only would last three weeks in the role, having lied to the vice president about talking to the Russians. Flynn was also under investigation for being an unregistered foreign agent. Later convicted of crimes, Flynn was ultimately pardoned by Trump.

This time, a week after he won the White House, Donald Trump announced his national security advisor. It's another Mike, Mike Waltz, a Florida congressman. Unlike Flynn, Waltz is no pal of the Kremlin, or the Chinese or the Iranians, all our rivals on the global stage. A serious man, Waltz also has a more sound understanding of America's place in the world and why we must stay engaged and not withdraw.

Waltz knows the value of standing up to bullies and standing in solidarity with friends, even if Trump sometimes doesn't. We mean Russia and Ukraine. Trump talks about America First, but his adopting the name of a dangerous and discredited isolationist organization of the 1930s and 1940s shows his lack of understanding of the history.

During a March 2016 interview, New York Times reporter David Sanger in asking candidate Trump about his foreign policy, compared it to the America First ideas espoused by Charles Lindbergh that held that both the British and the Germans should be viewed with suspicion in 1940 and 1941, as England fought alone against the Nazis.

From the interview transcript it doesn't seem that Trump knew anything of the historical movement, but liked the catchy name and adopted the phrase.

The isolationism and avoiding foreign commitment of Lindbergh and America First was also the editorial policy of the Daily News in the 1930s and 1940s, having been traumatized by the mass death of the First World War.

These editorial columns argued to stay out of other people's fights; we opposed FDR's Lend-Lease plan to aid Britain. It was not our business, went the think-

Guest Editorial

Trump and Waltz both want our NATO partners to increase their military funding, as do we. The U.S. cannot carry the entire burden.

ing. It was a terrible mistake. The "pro-peace" position allowed tyrants in Germany and Italy and Japan to swallow up their neighbors in Europe and Asia as long as we stayed out of the fray. But the tyrants always want more. It wasn't until Pearl Harbor that The News changed course.

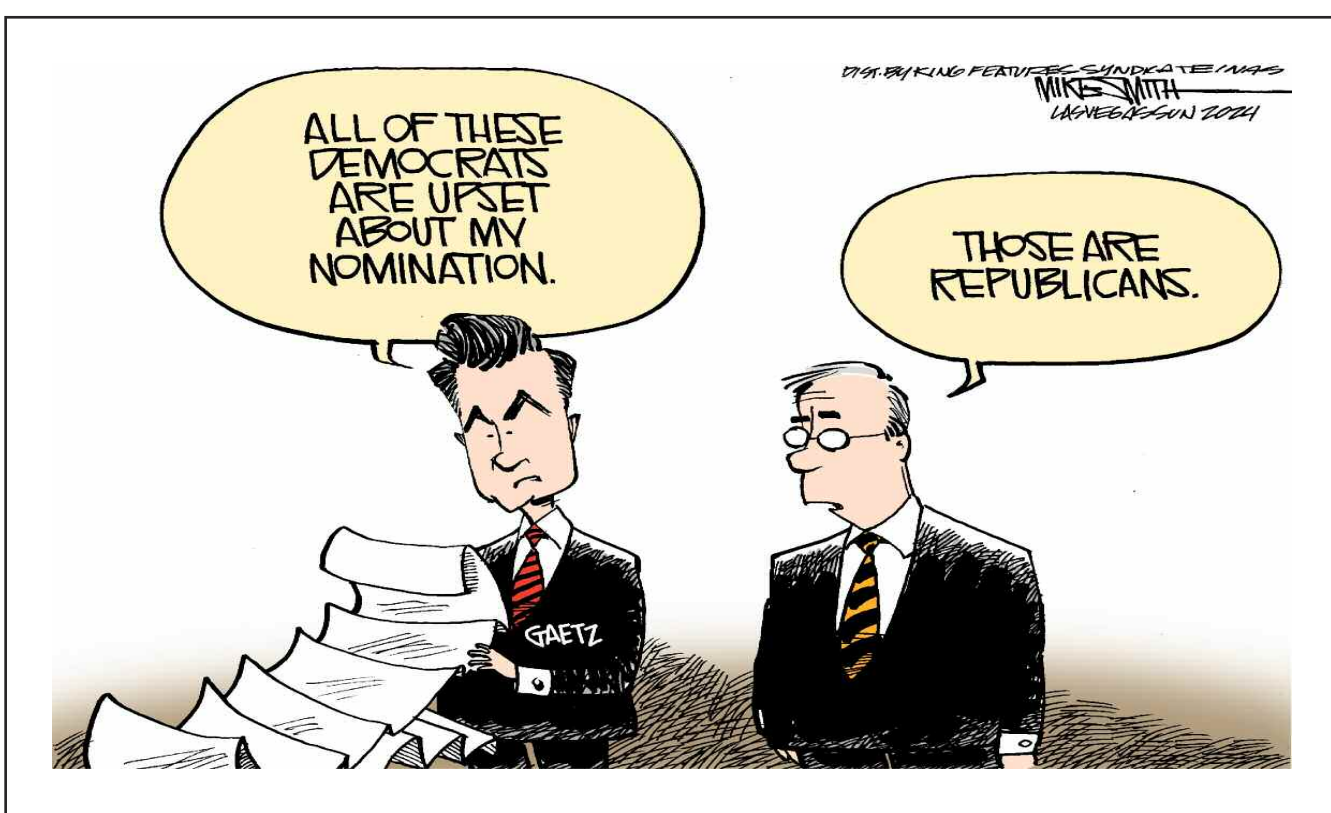
That fatal mistake after WWI, when America withdrew from the world, was not repeated after WWII, when NATO was created. Collective security works.

France and Germany fought three major wars in the 75 years between 1870 and 1945, each more destructive than its predecessor (Franco-Prussian, WWI and WWII). In the 75 years since NATO was founded in 1949, under Washington's sponsorship, France and Germany have been strong allies and no NATO member has been attacked.

Trump and Waltz both want our NATO partners to increase their military funding, as do we. The U.S. cannot carry the entire burden. Ukraine is not in NATO, but it borders on NATO territory and Putin's aggression cannot be rewarded.

Maybe Trump is correct that he can end the war "in 24 hours," but the only just "deal" is a full Russian withdrawal to the lines before the invasion, not a negotiation on how much of Ukraine Russia gets to keep.

That's the right way to be a peacemaker.



Lack of engagement isn't healthy

By MICHAEL LEPPERT
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

There is no substitute for just showing up. Sometimes I wish there was one, but there just isn't.

The relentless polling that exhausted Americans during the last three months of the presidential campaigns never really swung all that much, no matter what the drama of the day was. By the time Labor Day arrived, the persuasion part of the national campaign was largely over.

I was skeptical of every undecided voter this year. The presidential choices were so stark, remaining voter indecisiveness was really about whether they would vote at all, not whether they would choose Harris or Trump.

About nine million fewer Americans voted for president this year than in 2020, according to unofficial results as several states are still counting. Based on the estimated adult population in the country of 271 million, that means about 54% of eligible voters participated in the presidential election. That is down from 60% in 2020 but is an identical participation rate to 2016.

The old adage that Democrats perform better when turnout is better rings true again this year: I believe the adage is true on a macro level, and the swings over the last three elections confirm that. But 2020 was a year like no other, so that likely deserves an asterisk more than a medal.

It is difficult for a civic-minded person like me to accept that nearly half of Americans aren't participating in their inherited gift of self-governance. It is truly a gift. And when I say, "it is difficult" to accept these shameful participation rates, I am editing out the necessary profanity while speaking through grinding teeth. What is truly difficult to me, is forgiving those who don't show up for this most basic civic duty.

That's America. And that data is maddening in and of itself. But then there's Indiana.

Early voting lines seemed to be a good harbinger but didn't last.

Michael Leppert



Democrats have plenty of things keeping them from competing well here, but no aspect is more important than participation. I've written it many times before that the party needs a movement to reestablish its relevance. And movements require attendance.

So, where should the party look for the catalyst to achieve better participation? Always start at the top. In Indiana, the top is Indianapolis Mayor Joe Hogsett. He is the highest ranking Democrat in the state, and he represents the largest number of Democrat voters. Right next to Hogsett sits Indianapolis Rep. Andre Carson, who was actually on the ballot this year. Neither are even trying to get voters to the polls. Their shared apathy matches the city's numbers.

Hayleigh Columbo reported for the Indianapolis Star last month, "There were more than 4.8 million registered voters in Indiana as of this year's Oct. 7 registration deadline, according to the Indiana Secretary of State's office...Comparatively, 4.75 million Hoosiers were registered to vote ahead of the 2020 election." Indiana ranked 39th in the nation in 2020 and dropped to 40th this year.

That's specific to registrations though, which is a subset of participation.

Around 2.799 million Hoosiers voted for governor this year, down from 3,020,000 in 2020. But the population has also grown slightly. Therefore, the participation rate reduction is even larger than the "turnout" reduction here.

Turnout stats aren't yet finalized for Indiana — 24 counties had not yet reported — but the average so far is 55%. That is much lower than the 65% for 2020 and even the 58% in 2016.

Nowhere is the participation rate more embarrassing in Indiana than in Marion County.

According to World Population Review, there are 732,685 adults in Marion County. Approximately 350,000 people voted here. So, when the Indianapolis Star reports that the turnout rate in Indianapolis is 53.8%, the participation rate is worse, at 47.8%.

That's right, less than half of the adults living in the state's capital city vote. To me, this is baffling. I can't imagine that voting is easier anywhere in Indiana than in Indianapolis, yet the city is not in the same universe as, say, Hamilton County, directly to the north.

A little over 70% of registered voters showed up in Hamilton County this year, and that turnout percentage is also a slight decline from previous years. Oh, to be as bad as suburbia!

Indiana's voter turnout is worst in its most urban counties, and best in its suburban. That seems to track with national trends. Why? I don't have a definitive answer, but as you might guess, I certainly have advice.

Campaigns have two primary missions. First, to persuade voters that the candidate is the best one. Second, to inspire voters who agree to participate.

It's tiresome to listen to pundits say that Indiana Democrats need to move right if they want to win. Democrats aren't even showing up well enough to conclude such a thing.

And a funny thing happens when people do show up. They become aware of what is possible. Indiana ranks so poorly in so many ways, the story advocating for the status quo is a hard sell.

It does, however, sell well in a half empty room.

Leppert is an author, educator and a communication consultant in Indianapolis.

Indiana Capital Chronicle is an independent, nonprofit news organization. Its website is indianacapitalchronicle.com.

The Commercial Review



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"Were it left for me to decide whether we should have government without newspapers or newspapers without government I should not hesitate to prefer the latter."
—Thomas Jefferson

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Ronald retires after 47 years

One of The Graphic Printing Company's longest-serving employees has retired.

Carl Ronald's last day with the company was Friday.

Ronald, who ran the commercial printing department for The Graphic Printing Company, worked for the company in a full-time capacity for just over 47 years. He started with the company in September 1977 as a print press operator and became head of the commercial printing department following the retirement of Quentin Imel just over a decade later.

He also had a paper route during his youth.

"It's been a pleasure serving the community and satisfying their printing needs," said Ronald. "I've had some great customers and appreciate all of them, and thank them for choosing The Graphic Printing Company."

His department earned a certificate of merit in the 2000 Printing Industries of America Premier Print Awards for folders created for Qualtech.

The Graphic Printing Company promoted from within, as Mikayla Shelton will handle commercial printing jobs under the supervision of production manager Brian Dodd.

The company celebrated Ronald's retirement with a carry-in meal, with current and former employees.

Training scheduled

ServSafe training is held at John Jay Center for Learning in Portland.

The next session is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday Nov. 26.

Business roundup

The certification course is open to all food service employees and emphasizes safe food- and beverage-handling practices to minimize the risk of food-borne illnesses.

For more information, or to register, call (260) 729-5525.

Hosting drive

Menards stores are serving as Toy Drive drop sites this year.

Sites will be near the exits of each Menards store. Shoppers can donate unwrapped gifts for children in need through the end of November.

Menards stores in the region include sites in Muncie, Richmond, Anderson and Celina, Ohio.

Roadmap published

Ardagh Group published its sustainability roadmaps Thursday.

The roadmaps update the status of the company's sustainability targets for Ardagh Glass Packaging and Ardagh Metal Packaging. It also includes decarbonization details for the first time.

"We aim to achieve our 2030 emissions targets through a broad range of actions outlined in the roadmaps," said Alex Winters, Chief Sustainability Officer, Ardagh Glass Packaging. "We are quite proud of our progress to date, and we have

confidence in our initiatives and partnerships to fulfill our commitments."

For details, visit ardagh-group.com/pdf/sustainability-roadmap-2024.html

Ardagh operates glass manufacturing facilities in Dunkirk and Winchester.

Consolidating regions

Indiana University Health announced Friday that it will be consolidating its current six regions into four. According to Becker's the change will result in about 100 positions being cut.

In its press release, IU Health did not indicate what regions are being consolidated. IU Health Jay, IU Health Blackford and IU Health Ball (Muncie) currently make up the organization's east central region.

"As the state's largest and only academic health system, IU Health is focused on making Indiana one of the healthiest states in the nation. Investing in our communities is at the center of our approach to improve health," said IU Health president and CEO Dennis Murphy in the release. "We are adjusting our regional structure to strengthen our clinical care models and effectiveness, to improve talent pipelines and career pathways for team members, and to continue making investments in technology — all with the aim of advancing patient care."

Scholarships available

Applications are open for several McDonald's scholarships.

The fast food chain is accepting applications for its HACER

National Scholarship, Black & Positively Golden Scholarship and APIA Scholarship.

Applications are available at mcdonalds.com.

Lilly sues

Eli Lilly has joined a lawsuit against the U.S. government.

The Indianapolis pharmaceutical firm joined a suit filed by Johnson & Johnson against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Health Resources and Services Administration. The move followed the government's rejection of Lilly's proposed changes to a program that requires discounted drugs to be sold to some medical facilities.

Lilly's proposed changes call for selling drugs at full prices and then providing rebates. The government has rejected the proposal from Lilly as well as one from Johnson & Johnson.

Design unveiled

Subway restaurants last week unveiled a new design for its restaurants.

The "Fresh Forward 2.0" design will be rolled out next year. It focuses on new wall graphics, elevated lighting, wood tones and localized messages and signs.

"When Subway first launched Fresh Forward, it was more than just a remodel—it was a complete refresh and a competitive necessity for attracting guests and building pride among our restaurant teams," said Mike Kehoe, global chief development officer of Subway, in a press release. "Fresh For-

ward 2.0 is an exciting evolution of the design, ensuring we continue to future proof our business and deliver on our brand promises of experience and convenience for both our guests and franchisees."

For photos of the new concept, visit newsroom.subway.com.

New EVP named

Dollar Tree last week promoted Steve Schumacher to become its new executive vice president and chief people officer.

Schumacher had served as interim chief people officer for six months. He has been with Dollar Tree since 2018, including as senior vice president of human resources.

"Steve has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to fostering a workplace where our associates feel valued and empowered," said Mike Creedon, Dollar Tree's interim CEO. "Steve's leadership, deep expertise, and ability to align our people strategy to the ever-changing needs of our business have been instrumental in driving us forward. ... I'm confident that his people-first approach will continue to strengthen our organization and support our more than 200,000 associates in reaching their full potential."

The company also named Jocelyn "Jocy" Konrad as chief of Dollar Tree stores and Enterprise store operations and Jason Nordin as president of Family Dollar stores.

.....
Does your business have news to share? Email us at news@thecr.com to be included in our weekly business roundup.

Taxes lagging, revenue below forecast

By WHITNEY DOWNARD

Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Indiana's revenues are down as tax collections continue to lag behind estimates, according to November's state revenue report. Projections are based on analysis from December 2023 and due for an update next month.

Last year, estimates put revenues at nearly \$6.6 billion, or \$243 million more than the actual year-to-date revenues, which totaled under \$6.4 billion. That number is also 3.1% less than what Indiana had in its coffers the year prior.

Collections have fallen nearly across the board, including sales taxes, individual income taxes and corporate taxes.

Sales taxes missed the mark by \$68 million, totaling \$3.5 billion, while individual income taxes came in \$121 million lower than expected at under \$2.2 billion. Corporate taxes totaled \$187 million, or \$124 million less than anticipated.

Sales taxes were still slightly higher — by \$41 million — than the year before while individual and corporate income taxes were below 2023 totals by \$193 million and \$71 million, respectively.

"Year-over-year comparisons are impacted by factors such as timing of payments and refunds, the reduction in the state individual income tax rate (effective January 1, 2023), changes in tax requirements associated with the pass-through entity tax, and more," an attached revenue commentary said.

In Fiscal Year 2023, there were more months with five Fridays, which can boost collections by 10-20% during that month.

California ag faces major losses

By ROBERT RODRIGUEZ

The Fresno Bee
Tribune News Service

As an outbreak of the avian flu continues to wreak havoc on California agriculture, the number of infected animals and workers is stacking up.

As of Friday, state agriculture officials confirmed 294 dairies — representing a little more than 25% of the state's 1,100 dairies — are now under quarantine due to the H5N1 avian flu.

On the state's poultry ranches, more than 4 million turkeys and chickens have been killed in an attempt to stop the virus from spreading.

"It's a mess," said Bill Mattos, president of the California Poultry Federation. "Everyone is on high alert when it comes to bio-security measures."

The virus is often fatal to poultry and spreads quickly among an infected flock. Without a cure, the only way to contain the virus is to depopulate all the affected and exposed chickens or turkeys.

Since 2022, the bird flu has been tracked in 48 states and has caused the destruction of 107 million birds.

Hardest hit in California are poultry farmers in the San Joaquin Valley, home to two of the state's largest poultry producers, Foster Farms in Liv-



Tribune News Service/Merced Sun-Star/Andrew Kuhn

Dairy cows feed at Hillcrest Dairy, located in Merced County, California, in 2022. As of Friday, state agriculture officials confirmed 294 dairies are now under quarantine due to the H5N1 avian flu.

ngston and Pitman Farms in Sanger.

Officials with both companies could not be reached for comment Friday, but industry spokesman Mattos said those who have been hit with the bird flue have suffered significant losses.

One of the largest depopulations recently took place in Kern County where 2.1 million egg lay-

ers were destroyed. On Thursday, state officials confirmed bird flu at a Fresno County turkey ranch with 17,500 birds and in Merced County with 53,200 turkeys.

Mattos said that poultry operators are using multiple bio security steps to prevent the virus from spreading, especially limiting who comes onto their farms, disinfecting common areas and

wearing personal protective equipment.

One area that is much more difficult to control is preventing wild birds from congregating near poultry ranches. Migratory birds are common carriers of the bird flu and could be spreading the virus as they migrate from Canada to Central and South America.

"There are ducks everywhere these days," Mattos said "We had an outbreak at a breeder ranch in Oakdale with nothing around the ranch. You can't go in without showering or leave without showering. That is about as bio secure as you can get and there was still an outbreak."

Dairy experts estimate the number of infections in the industry will likely grow until a majority of the state's dairies are infected.

"There are many factors affecting the rate of this disease's spread, foremost of which, certainly, is the high number of dairies in close proximity to one another," said Dr. Michael Payne, a dairy researcher and instructor at the UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine. "Additional challenges include the fact that an infected cow can shed (the) virus two weeks before she even exhibits symptoms. Add to that we have no effective vaccine for the disease, something which hopefully will change in the future."

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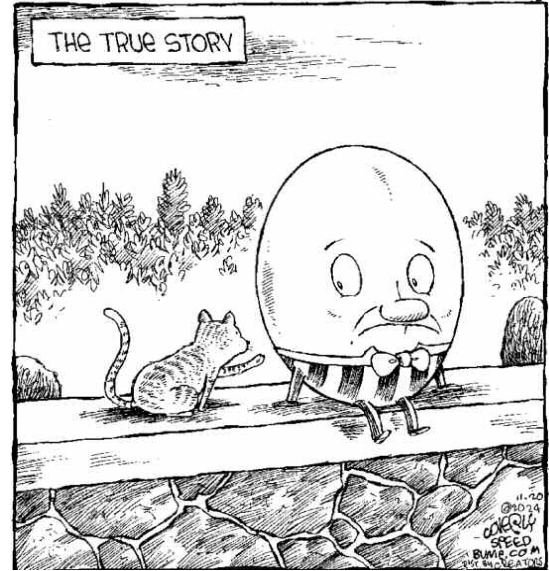


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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"I had to get out of my bed, Mommy. There wasn't any sleep left in me."

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A matter of priorities

South dealer. East-West vulnerable. NORTH ♠ 9 5 2 ♥ 10 ♦ A 10 8 3 ♣ Q 10 7 6 5 WEST ♠ J 8 5 4 3 ♥ K Q J 5 4 ♦ A 9 3 SOUTH ♠ A Q J 8 7 6 4 3 ♥ Q 6 2 ♦ 6 ♣ 8

The bidding: South West North East 4♠ Pass Pass Pass Opening lead—king of diamonds. When declarer is assessing his prospects at the start of play, he often finds that he has more than one option for success. In such a case, declarer must prioritize his choices before he begins to play. Take this case where South was in four spades and West led the king of diamonds. Without giving the matter much thought, declarer took the diamond ace and led a spade to the ace, the play slightly favored by the percentages. When West showed out, declarer turned his attention to the heart suit, leading low to dummy's ten. West put up the jack, but East smartly overtook the jack with the king, cashed the king of spades and returned a diamond.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



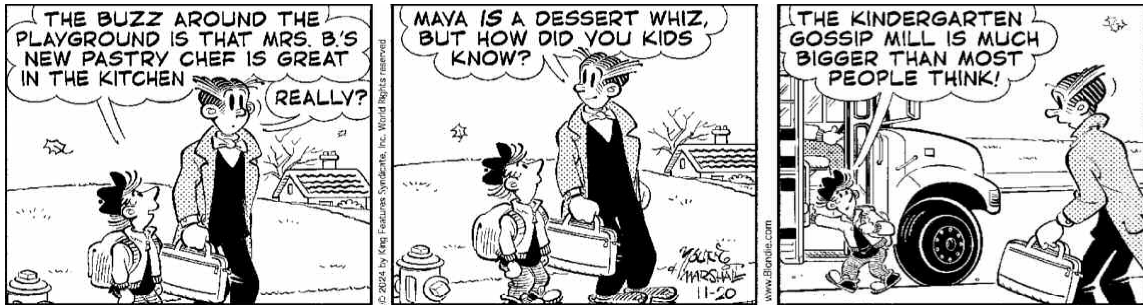
Hi and Lois



Between Friends



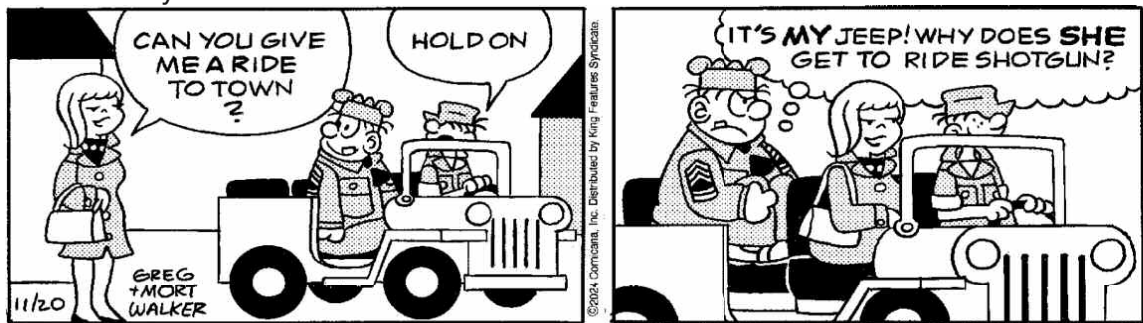
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

D X P E S F M ' H X P M I E C B B M P E N R P J H R P I B J O M H O I H D X N G D S S B F W G O Q M I . H R B K Q B G B I R G D C W S K F B S D X D P E I .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A BARISTA IS OVERCHARGING PEOPLE FOR CERTAIN ESPRESSO BEVERAGES, HE HAS A LATTE NERVE!

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals C

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

- ACROSS 1 Pretzel topper 5 Tourist's chart 8 Pedestal 12 Jai — 13 Mouths (Lat.) 14 Author Quindlen 15 What's inside 17 Some HDTVs 18 Chop-house orders 19 Text of a film 21 Mosquito barrier 22 Duel tool 23 Spigot 26 Susan of "L.A. Law" 28 Pester 31 401(k) relatives 33 Workout unit 35 Twinkler in the sky 36 Bialik of "Blossom" 38 Promptly 40 Church window figures, for short 41 Simple be 43 Used to be 45 Tops of waves 47 Wife, in Spanish 51 Pre-Easter period 52 Snakes 54 Utah ski resort 55 Big bird 56 Smoothie berry 57 Forest growth 58 Trio after M 59 Burns and Olin DOWN 1 Pouchlike parts 2 Oodles division 4 Tennessee-see 5 Ogre collection 7 No longer in plains 9 People of antiquity 10 Break suddenly 11 Sunrise direction 16 Scratched (out) employee 20 IRS Director Burton 23 Director Burton 24 Altar constellation 25 Remittances 27 Longing 29 Feedbag bit 30 Cen. parts 32 Naps as a computer 37 "The A-Team" actor 39 Stinging insect 42 Ruhr Valley city 44 "Say something!" 45 Chowder bit 46 Move, in Realtor-speak 48 Formerly 49 Baseball's Musial 50 Unrepaired 53 Punk-rock subgenre



Yesterday's answer 11-20

Table with crossword puzzle grid and numbers 1-59.

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UGA students win on 'College Gameday'

By **TAYLOR CROFT**
The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Tribune News Service

University of Georgia football fans had a great day when the Bulldogs beat Tennessee on Saturday, but two UGA students won big before the game even began.

Belle Sessions, a member of the Class of 2028, won a raffle ticket to participate in Pat McAfee's Kicking Contest on ESPN's "College GameDay," hosted live from Athens ahead of the high-stakes game.

But Sessions said she didn't think she'd be able to make the kick. So she recruited the student standing next to her, Henry Silver, a soccer player from Fishers, Indiana, to kick for her and split the prize.

He kicked the ball from 33 yards straight through the uprights — a kick that some on social media speculate he would have drilled even if he'd been much farther away.

McAfee, a sports analyst and former Indianapolis Colts player, pays the

entirety of the prize himself each week. It is typically \$150,000, but McAfee increased it to \$400,000 for the students to split, plus \$400,000 to go toward hurricane relief efforts.

The first 300 people who show up for "College GameDay" can enter a raffle for the weekly contest. Contestants only have one chance to kick the field goal. Before Saturday, fans had won \$250,000 this season, according to ESPN.

Silver is a Colts fan, and his Instagram profile photo shows a picture of him with McAfee taken at training camp years ago, McAfee said.

"It's like the universe and God kind of bringing it all together," he said on ESPN.

Silver's former soccer team in Indianapolis, Indy Premier, congratulated him on social media with a childhood soccer photo. Some sports fans on social media are now calling for Silver to be recruited to play college or pro football because of how great his kick was.

"They might need to put that kid on a team," McAfee said on ESPN.

Junior high girls split

The Patriots dominated in the opener, but they couldn't repeat in their second game.

The Jay County Junior High School girls basketball teams opened the season Nov. 14 with double-digit victories against Muncie Southside before falling to Norwell on Monday.

The eight graders took down Muncie Southside 40-4, behind a 15-point performance from Karsyn Schwieterman. Claudia Dirksen followed with eight points, while Charlee Peters added seven and Kendall Schemenaur six. Alyvia Schwieterman and Emmi Clark each had one bucket.

The seventh grade team earned a 22-6 victory. Brenna Weitzel led the way with six points followed by Boo Towell and

Local roundup

Leah Steed with four each. Ali Luna, Arabella Link and Clark each added a bucket as well.

The 42-30 loss to Norwell dropped the Patriots to 1-1. Karsyn Schwieterman dominated with 22 points, while Peters had six. Alyvia Schwieterman rounded out the score with two.

The seventh graders also fell to 1-1 with a 28-10 defeat. Towell's six points led the way, while Bristol Kahlig and Clark each had a bucket.

Foreman leads
ANGOLA — The JC

Flipsters of JC Tumbling and Gymnastics opened their season Saturday at the 2024 Princess Classic at Angola High School.

Aubrey Foreman put together the best day, finishing first all around in the Xcel Bronze category with a score of 37.2. To get there, Foreman placed first on the bars with a 9.45, second on the beam (9.4) and the vault (9.25) and her floor routine finished fourth (9.1).

Emma Robinson followed Foreman, finishing third all-around with a total of 36.65. Robinson's best performance came on the bars, where her score of 9.5 earned her the runner-up position.

A third-place finish on the floor (9.2 points) helped propel Paylin Vance to sixth all around (36.45) in the bronze division.



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