

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Golf carts have path forward

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

Portland City Council seems to have come to a path forward on the city's golf cart ordinance.

During a work session Tuesday, council members came to a tentative agreement to reduce the registration fee for golf carts and to accept temporary registrations for events, such as the Tri-State Antique Engine and Tractor Show, if the organization involved applies and meets city requirements.

Council members and Portland Mayor John Boggs asked city attorney Wes Schemenaur to draw up an ordinance to that effect at the conclusion of a more than hour-long work session. He hopes to get the rough draft of

Council members plan to reduce fee, create application system to accept registrations during special events

the proposed ordinance changes done this week and then give council members the opportunity to review and revise it before likely voting on it in December.

The current golf cart ordinance includes a registration fee of \$35 for those with a Portland address and \$18 for others

and calls for golf carts to be inspected to make sure they comply with city regulations. It has been a frequent topic of discussion following its approval in May — Boggs originally proposed such an ordinance in November 2020 — as it has come up at nine council meet-

ings since then. It has faced pushback from area residents and Tri-State board members and show visitors as well as from local business owners who said the implementation discouraged visitors from patronizing establishments in the city. Tuesday's discussion about

the ordinance was wide-ranging, with Schemenaur having provided council members with information on golf cart ordinances from municipalities nearby and across the state. They handle golf carts in a variety of ways, from not allowing them at all, to having regulations but no registration fee, to charging registration fees, to offering tiered fees time periods such as a day, a week and a year. Some offer exceptions, others do not.

"Of the ones locally that allow golf carts on the street, I'd say the majority of them do have some sort of registration requirement," Schemenaur said Tuesday.

See **Carts** page 2

Getting festive

Todd Nichols of Portland Street Department hangs Christmas lights from a light pole next to the Community Resource Center Tuesday.



The Commercial Review/Bailey Cline

County to study another housing option

Land is available for sale on west side of Portland

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Officials are looking into another option for creating additional housing in Jay County.

Jay County Commissioners agreed Monday to contribute \$6,375 for a water and wastewater analysis on land just inside the western limits of the City of Portland.

The county has \$4 million in American Rescue Plan Act dollars, along with up to an additional \$1 million for being a designated community in the Hoosier Enduring Legacy Program through Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs. Officials have cited housing as a need and have discussed using the federal dollars to build infrastructure for future development projects.

Officials have already invested in a feasibility study on 160 acres of county owned land just south and east of Jay County Highway Department at the intersection of county roads 200 North and 100 East. Civil engineering firm Butler, Fairman and Seufert noted utility upgrades costing roughly \$3.2 million would likely be necessary to allow for housing development in the area.

Christopher and Tracy Muhlenkamp are looking to sell approximately 68 acres within Portland city limits. Jay County Council president Jeanne Houchins presented figures Monday from engineering firm RQAW Corporation of Fishers for a feasibility study on the land. To do a complete project analysis, the firm would charge just under \$35,700. Preliminary engineering services would cost an additional \$118,850, which doesn't include services for water and wastewater.

See **Housing** page 2

Trump announces run for presidency

By TIM BALK and LARRY MCSHANE
New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

Former President Donald Trump on Tuesday announced his third run for the White House, becoming the first

Republican to enter the 2024 presidential race and brushing aside criticism over the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol and recent intraparty anger about the GOP's struggles in the midterm elections.

Trump, 76, declared his candi-

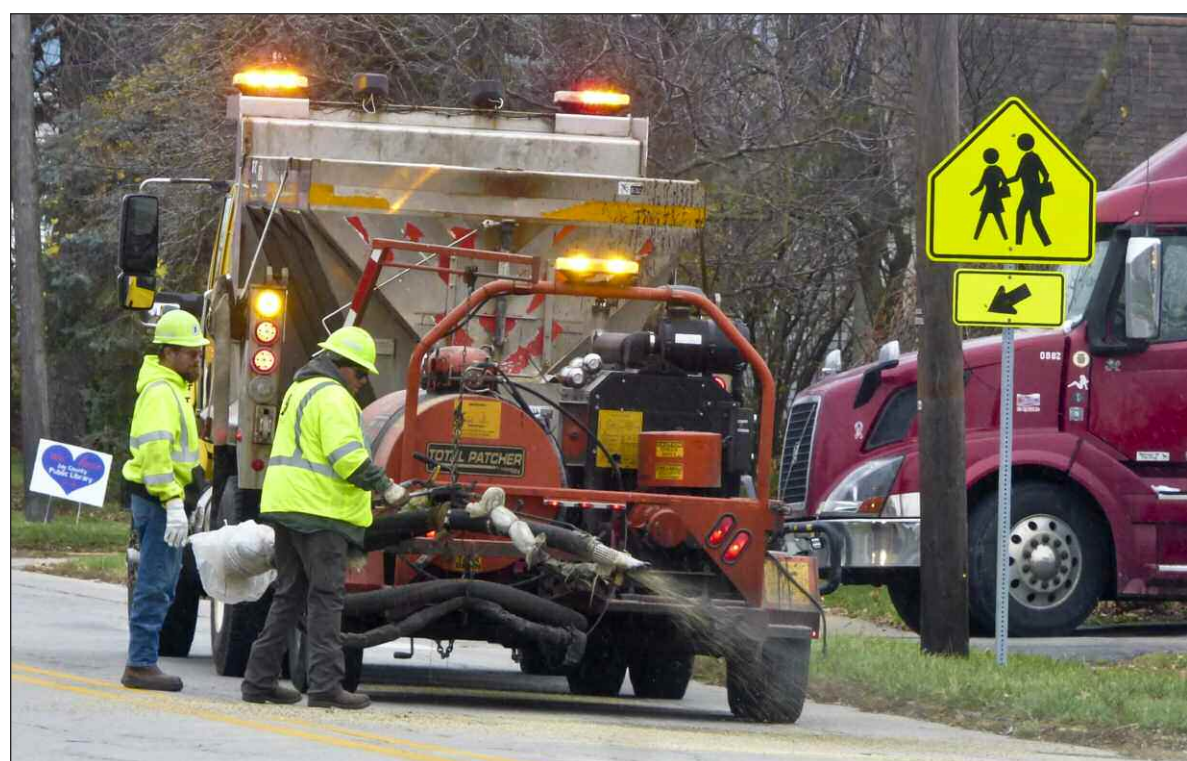
dacy in Palm Beach, Florida, almost two years out from the November 2024 national elections and after publicly flirting with a pre-midterm entry over the summer.

Official paperwork forming the "Donald J. Trump for Presi-

dent 2024" campaign committee was filed with the Federal Election Commission just prior to his speech.

"America's comeback starts right now," he said before a cheering audience.

See **Trump** page 5



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

INDOT work

A crew from Indiana Department of Transportation works on patching Meridian Street south of Eighth Street in Portland on Tuesday afternoon.

In review

The application period for The Portland Foundation's winter grant cycle is now open. Applications are available at portlandfoundation.org. The deadline is Jan. 5 for conventional grants and Jan. 12 for teacher creativity mini grants. For more information, contact Jessica Cook at jcook@portlandfoundation.org.

Weather

The temperature in Jay County hovered between 34 and 39 degrees Tuesday. The forecast calls for a chance of snow showers beginning about 10 p.m. tonight with winds gusting to 20 miles per hour. The low will be 24. Expect a high of 33 Thursday. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Winterfest activities kick off Friday night beginning with a community sing at 5:45 p.m. at Jay County Courthouse. The Arts Place Holiday Benefit Auction, which includes food and drink, will follow at 6:30 p.m. at Arts Place.

Coming up

Thursday — Coverage of tonight's Jay County Council meeting.

Saturday — Results from the JCHS girls basketball team's game against Belmont.



Carts ...

Continued from page 1
Boggs and interim Portland Police Chief Steve Schlechty spoke in favor of keeping the registration requirement in place, with the latter saying the ability to speak directly with golf cart owners is important. He said it gives officers the opportunity to explain the rules and point out the state highways where golf carts are not allowed, and for golf cart owners to ask questions. (There was improvement with golf cart drivers following regulations after they were explained this year, he said.) He suggested keeping the registration in place but dropping the cost to \$10. Schlechty also noted that funds from the registration fees went into the police training fund and allowed officers to attend additional training sessions this year.

The city has registered 1,069 golf carts this year, bringing in almost \$25,000 in registration fees. Council members Janet Powers and Kent McClung both indicated that they don't want visitors, such as those to the Tri-State show and other events at Jay County Fairgrounds, to feel unwelcome. But, McClung added, he understands the importance of having the golf carts registered and taking the opportunity to review rules with those who use them. Goldsworthy said his biggest concern is that rules are followed for the safety of all those on local roads and streets. He added that in talking to business owners, they indicated events like the Tri-State show are major economic drivers.

Chris Englehardt, president of Tri-State, said many of his members and visitors were upset about the registration fee and as a result avoided patronizing businesses in the city. (Council member Dave Golden noted that several individuals at October's Tri-State swap meet referred to the ordinance as "extortion.") Englehardt asked that council members suspend the ordinance for the two-week period around the show because it brings so many visitors to the city. "People like to come here," he said. "They just don't like to feel like they're being taken advantage of." Council member Don Gillespie apologized to Englehardt, saying he felt the implementation of the ordinance was handled poorly and that it needs to be revamped.

"When we established fees, \$35 is not exorbitant compared to this list," Boggs said, referencing the examples of registration requirements provided by Schemenaur. "My intention was not a money grab. And every time I hear that, it makes me mad. I wanted to have a fee that is appropriate. If we have to lower it so it's not perceived as a money grab, that's fine with me." Ultimately, council members Mike Aker, Powers, Golden, McClung, Goldsworthy and Gillespie agreed to move forward with reducing the golf cart registration fee to \$10 across the board. They also said the city will accept registrations from events such as the Tri-State show (during the designated period of the event only), provided that the

organization's regulations meet or exceed city guidelines. The new ordinance would also include a procedure for event hosts, such as Tri-State, to apply to have their registrations accepted. (Approval would be required from either city council or the board of works.) Powers said it's important to not only consider golf cart operators but also to take care of local businesses. "We want order and safety," added McClung. "We also want to be welcoming." Also at the meeting, Englehardt invited the mayor and any council member to visit the Tri-State show in August and speak at its 9 a.m. opening ceremonies each day. Council members and Boggs thanked him for the invitation.

CR almanac

Thursday 11/17	Friday 11/18	Saturday 11/19	Sunday 11/20	Monday 11/21
33/21	29/14	29/13	25/15	38/24
Cloudy skies are in the forecast for Thursday with wind gusts reaching up to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy skies are expected Friday, with wind gusts again reaching up to 20 mph.	Saturday's weather looks to be mostly sunny. The low may dip into the low teens.	Sunny skies with a low around 15 degrees at night. The high will be in the mid 20s.	Another day of sun in the forecast for Monday, with a low around 24 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$76 million	Quick Draw: 1-10-13-15-16-17-18-25-32-41-48-49-50-55-67-68-70-74-79-80 Cash 5: 19-22-35-42-45 Estimated jackpot: \$165,500
Mega Millions 6-19-28-46-61 Mega Ball: 18 Megaplier: 2 Estimated jackpot: \$238 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 5-0-4 Pick 4: 5-8-5-8 Pick 5: 0-3-6-0-0 Evening Pick 3: 1-6-7 Pick 4: 0-9-7-8 Pick 5: 6-0-6-1-2 Rolling Cash: 1-18-30-34-37 Estimated jackpot: \$187,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 1-6-3 Daily Four: 3-0-0-2 Quick Draw: 2-7-9-10-13-18-25-33-40-41-42-47-48-49-59-60-66-68-69-72 Evening Daily Three: 0-3-6 Daily Four: 6-4-2-1	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.84 Dec. corn.....6.80 Wheat6.59	Wheat 7.69 Dec. wheat.....7.69
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.83 Dec. corn.....6.78 Jan. corn.....6.72	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.54 Late Nov. corn6.54 Beans14.17 Late Nov. beans.....14.17 Wheat8.17
The Andersons Richland Township Corn6.54 Dec. corn6.59 Beans14.02 Dec. beans14.22	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.24 Dec. corn6.34 Beans13.97 Dec. beans14.02 Wheat7.70

Today in history

In 1836, Kalakaua, the last king of Hawaii, was born.
In 1855, British explorer David Livingstone became the first European to see Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River. The falls at the modern-day border of Zambia and Zimbabwe span more than 5,500 feet at its widest point and has a drop of 355 feet.
In 2003, Jay County Commissioners reviewed a list of planned Indiana Department of Transportation projects. It included resurfacing U.S. 27 from Portland to Deerfield, paving U.S. 26 on the west side of Portland and resurfacing Indiana 67 between Redkey and Portland, all in 2004.
In 2021, the Jay County High School girls basketball team clobbered visiting Oak Hill 60-22. Madison Dirksen scored 15 points to lead the Patriots, who were ranked eighth in Class 3A.
—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Aviation, Portland Municipal Airport, 661 W. 100 North.
6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
6:20 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
Thursday
12 p.m. — Jay County

Redevelopment Commission, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
5:30 p.m. — Redkey Town Council special meeting, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.
6 p.m. — Redkey Town Council, park cabin, 200 S. Mooney St., Redkey.
Friday
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Banks falls short in whip vote

By STEVE GARBACZ
KPC Media (Kendallville)
WASHINGTON — Jim Banks will not be the next GOP majority whip in the House. Banks, R-Columbia City, cruised to re-election in northeast Indiana's deep red 3rd District with 65% of the vote last week, but picking up votes

on Capitol Hill Tuesday turned out to be a little more difficult. Although the 2022 general election vote isn't yet finalized, Republicans look poised to take control of the House by a slim margin. With the narrow majority set to flip from Democrats to Republicans come Jan. 1, the GOP caucus held leadership votes on

Tuesday to make ready for the change in chamber control. California Rep. Kevin McCarthy won the nod to step up from minority leader to Speaker of the House, with current minority whip Rep. Steve Scalise of Louisiana poised to step into the majority leader role. See Banks page 5

Housing ...

Continued from page 1
Houchins noted the Muhlenkamps are currently selling their land at \$16,000 an acre, or \$1.09 million for all 68 acres. Looking at a breakdown of the feasibility study, commissioners decided to invest solely in a water and wastewater analysis at this time. It will include information about the current utility systems as well as what upgrades would be necessary for future development. Commissioners agreed to pay for the water and wastewater analysis. Also Monday, they noted a joint session with Jay County Council beginning at 6 p.m. today, with the regular council meeting to follow. Plans are to discuss an ordinance that would begin a hiring freeze.

The personnel committee meets at 2:15 p.m. Tuesday. Butcher explained the highway department's phone system is not working correctly. He noted Community Fiber Solutions has been there several times but has not been able to fix the issue, instead suggesting the county hire a private contractor. Butcher said their options are to either replace the system — it's only three years old — or find someone else to resolve the problem. Commissioners asked Butcher to pursue finding a contractor who is able to fix the system. In other business, commissioners:

- Signed a resolution officially enacting a burn ban for Jay County, which was lifted at noon Monday. Jay County Sheriff's Office sent out a notification via its text alert system Friday announcing the ban.
- OK'd insurance company Globe Life Liberty National Division to offer additional health coverage to county employees. Representative Hannah Walters noted the company gives personalized plans to its customers. She estimated the average 35-year-old would pay \$12.64 weekly for the service.
- Discussed the issue of residents blocking off county roads for farm work, with Journay agreeing to look into the matter. The topic began with information shared from Ray Swingley, who told commissioners a local farmer closed county road 700 South near his home for four hours Friday without permission.
- Discussed creating an application process for groups requesting American Rescue Plan Act funds or EDIT dollars.
- Talked about recording their meetings. Aker suggested video or audio recordings, with McGalliard suggesting they live stream each meeting for those who are unable to attend.

- County surveyor Brad Daniels noted his department replaced a 10-inch tile and put piping in near a house along Boundary Pike. Lowell Kable had approached commissioners in previous meetings about flooding issues in the area.
- Paid a \$252,860 quarterly claim from LifeStream Services. (Part of the cost is covered by a grant through Indiana Department of Transportation.)
- OK'd a \$35,176.39 claim and a \$4,741.44 claim for Jay County Sheriff's Office. The charges, which are fees from Motorola for radios, will come out of the Jay County Jail and Statewide 911 funds.
- Heard from Rick Imel of Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District. Imel, who also represents the county along with commissioners on the Upper Wabash River Basin Commission, explained the commission is hoping to secure an additional \$1,000 donation for administration work next year. (It currently asks for \$1,000 each year from Jay, Huntington, Wells and Adams counties.) Journay asked if the group had funds, saying at the last meeting he attended it had talked about disbanding. Imel referenced grant applications in process.
- Accepted a contract

with consulting firm Baker Tilly to create a comprehensive plan for Jay County Treasurer's Office. The contract states the firm will be paid hourly and is not to exceed \$30,000. •Heard from McGalliard, who suggested they designate a camera to face the election room in Jay County Courthouse, as well as get cameras for the west and east entrances of the building. •Heard from rural Dunkirk resident Jerry Leach, who asked about the development of Rose Gold Solar, a renewable energy solar farm planned by Leeward Renewable Energy on approximately 1,450 acres just north of Dunkirk. Aker noted supply chain issues have postponed construction, which is not expected to begin until at least 2023.

SERVICES

Today
Monroe, Phyllis: 1 p.m., Williamson, Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 190 S. Union St., Pennville.

Friday
Brunson, Rebecca: 11 a.m., Hillcrest Cemetery, Redkey.
Miller, Max: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Saturday
Study, Jon: 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church, 215 S. Center Ave., Gaylord, Michigan.

Service listings provided by
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THANKSGIVING DAY
NOVEMBER 24, 2022
1:00 P.M.
ASBURY U. M. CHURCH
PORTLAND, INDIANA

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Pork Loin, dressing, 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 need 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.

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Spouse feels powerless

DEAR ABBY: I married for the second time two years ago to a younger woman. Seven months after our wedding, she announced she didn't like my dominating personality, which is why she was stepping out of the marriage. She then went back to her deadbeat ex-boyfriend for six months. I went for counseling and have made a major change in how I treat, talk and make decisions with her. I love my wife with all my heart. I want to protect our marriage and move forward from the affair.

Dear Abby



mind.) If he isn't, however, accept that this has NOTHING to do with your level of attractiveness, and move on.

DEAR ABBY: Some friends of ours agreed to housesit for my wife and me recently while we were on a weeklong cruise. They live in a small condo. We have a large house in a golf course community, so they welcomed the opportunity. To show our appreciation, we gave them a \$200 gift card to use at the golf course (they are golfers).

When we returned, we learned they had invited four of their family members to spend several nights at our house, and used our bedroom and my office as sleeping quarters. It was apparent the guests had departed shortly before our return because there were piles of wet towels in the laundry room, and our beds still had their slept-in linens.

My wife and I feel betrayed and hurt by what our friends did, and we told them how we felt. Their reaction was that they thought they didn't "have" to wash their dirty linens. Were we at fault for not doing a better job explaining our expectations when we asked them to housesit? — INVADED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR INVADED: This couple may be friends, but their manners are atrocious. They should not have invited anyone to spend the night in your home without first receiving permission. That you returned to find dirty linens on your beds and soiled towels is disgusting. None of what transpired is your fault. You should not have had to leave a list of rules for these presumptuous people. Find other housesitters and don't invite them again.

having serious trust issues. More counseling for you may be in order if your marriage is going to last.

DEAR ABBY: I've been with my boyfriend for four years. Over those years, he has acquired an addiction to porn. He refuses to admit he is addicted and insists that it's perfectly normal. I'm usually not one to judge, but it has reached the point that it's affecting our sex life.

I can't remember the last time we had a moment to ourselves that didn't start with him spending all day watching porn. I tried getting involved with it myself hoping we'd find a common interest we could bond over, but he doesn't seem to want me involved at all.

I feel like I'm being cheated on, as silly as that sounds. I'm struggling with my body image because of this. I feel like I'm never going to be adequate enough for him to focus on our sex life. How do I compete with porn? — SHUT OUT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR SHUT OUT: You don't. Tell your boyfriend that his reliance on porn is negatively affecting your self-esteem and you are no longer willing to be involved with him because of it. If he's in love with you and willing to work on the problem, there are resources available to him. (Twelve-step programs come immediately to

Our second anniversary is approaching, but she has been interacting with other men. She takes her daughter with another man on play-dates along with his daughter, and goes to the park with another man for three hours. (He was a single dad having a BBQ.) The third one is a guy she goes with to the park, splash pads, public swimming pool and a water-slide park. They text each other often. One guy is a married stay-at-home dad. He has cheated on his wife before.

Am I wrong to think this is unacceptable for a married woman? Any advice would be absolutely appreciated. — BEWILDERED IN CANADA

DEAR BEWILDERED: It's time for joint counseling, with a new therapist for you and your wife. I can't think of a better way to drive her away than continuing to obsess about what she "may" be doing on these outings. It is hard to envision her carrying on flagrantly with a child in tow; the activities you describe seem distinctly family-oriented to me. It appears you still expect her to conform to your idea of how a married woman "should" behave, or you're

South personified in poet's imagery

By KWAME DAWES

Tennessee Hill's South emerges in her poem as a character, a personage that haunts and possesses her with beauty and a certain disquiet. Her poem, "Crater Heart", moves from fragmentary image to simile to metaphor in a seemingly disjointed fashion, that in the end, becomes a composition of arresting beauty: "I have

American Life in Poetry

stuffed the South's nightlights/ in my mouth."

Perhaps this is how she wants us to read her poem of elegant strangeness.

Crater Heart

Such strangeness these days.

Morning rising over my head
like the quilt sewn of old t-shirts
or saltwater waves
licking our sun-bleached dock.

Then—you absorbing moment, you
harvest queen—the sky is surprised
by evening's orchard.

I have stuffed the South's nightlights
in my mouth. Gala of fireflies.

How clumsy I feel in front of God.

American Life in Poetry Forty-One. Poem reprinted is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (poetry-foundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2022 by Tennessee Hill, "Crater Heart" from The Adroit Journal Issue, Ka.

Community Calendar

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

Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-9625 or (260) 703-0534.

Thursday

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.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, MISSISSINAWA

CHAPTER — Will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 17, at Jay County Historical Museum. Jim Waechter of Museum of the Solider will be the speaker. Any woman 18 or older who can prove lineage to a Revolutionary War patriot may join.

For more information, call Kathy Selman at (260) 251-1694 or Sue Sommers at (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.

A BETTER LIFE - BRIANNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for all kinds of addictions, will meet from 6:30 to 8 p.m. each Thursday at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St., Portland. Come early for a meal. For more information, call (260) 766-2006.

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

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first and third Friday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

CINCINNATUS LEAGUE — Will meet at noon Friday, Nov. 18, at Harmony Cafe in Portland.

Saturday

PORTLAND FARMERS MARKET — Will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Saturday in the parking lot at The Rock Church, 1605 N. Meridian St.

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.

DUNKIRK HISTORICAL SOCIETY — Is open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Saturday of each month in the former W.E. Gaunt Jewelry building, 113 S. Main St., Dunkirk.

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

I would like to thank all those in Jay County who recently voted for me as District 2, Jay School Board Representative.

Chip Phillips

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Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

Tuesday's Solution

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

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.

Announcing

The Commercial Review's 24th Annual Christmas Fiction Contest

Open to residents of Jay, Randolph, Adams, Delaware, Blackford and Wells counties in Indiana, also Mercer and Darke counties in Ohio. Former area residents who are subscribers to The Commercial Review may also enter.

Selected entries will be published in The CR's annual Christmas Greetings special section. The first-place entry will also receive \$250.

Original short stories with a Christmas theme or setting should be emailed to news@thecr.com by Dec. 9. Each entry should bear the writer's name, complete address and telephone number.

Entry Deadline is Dec. 9, 2022.

The 2021 winner
"Gifts of Love for Angie"
By Mary T. Hemmelgarn

Politics looked better at a distance

(Editor's note: This column is being reprinted from Nov. 14, 2012. A local candidate who ran for the Republican nomination for Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction seems to have been ahead of her time. The proposal, which was derided by party leaders of the day, became a reality in 2021.)

By JACK RONALD
The Commercial Review

Last week's election got me thinking about Sparkle Crowe.

If you are under a certain age, you've probably never heard of her.

But if you're over a certain age and grew up in Portland, she was a formidable figure.

Sparkle, who lived on a beautiful farm near Pennville with her husband Gordon, was guidance counselor at Portland High School during the 1950s and 1960s. She was also — one memorable

Back in the Saddle



spring — a candidate for Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction, the job Tony Bennett was booted out of on Election Day by supporters of Democrat Glenda Ritz.

Sparkle's candidacy was an odd one.

She sought the Republican nomination at the GOP state convention on a simple but paradoxical platform. She believed the top education post in the state should be an appointed position, not a political plum.

So she was running for the job

on a platform of being the last person to have to run for the job. She simply believed public education was too important to be left to politics.

Not surprisingly, that position didn't go down very well with party leaders back in the days when political patronage was alive and well in Indiana.

The year, as I recall, was 1966. I was fresh out of high school, and my parents were good friends with Sparkle and Gordon, with whom they would argue politics for hours.

I was also friends with Sparkle's nephew, Kevin, who was a freshman at Indiana University.

Maybe that's why I was tapped to be a volunteer when Sparkle took her campaign to Indianapolis.

The convention was held at the old Claypool Hotel, which

was pretty shopworn by then. It was torn down just a few years later.

But to a 17-year-old kid from Jay County, it was the height of sophistication. And the atmosphere was charged with political electricity.

It seemed every new conversation brought word or rumor or speculation about a new alliance or skullduggery or plot among the various factions.

The real action involved the race for Secretary of State, where an ambitious Ed Whitcomb was taking the first steps that would eventually lead him to the governor's mansion.

There was far less glamour or buzz around the job of heading up the state's public schools. And Sparkle's campaign was clearly being outgunned by others with more money.

My job, as best I can describe

it, was to smile. Kevin and I stayed in the hospitality room for Sparkle's campaign, keeping watch over the refreshments and making sure they were being properly deployed.

Since we were both underage, we couldn't serve any alcohol. But we could point delegates in the right direction, shake their hands and grin until our cheeks hurt.

Did any of that make a difference? I doubt it.

I learned I could grin and glad-hand when the situation called for it. And I met the cute daughter of an unsuccessful candidate for Secretary of State.

But Sparkle didn't get the nomination. Kevin went back to IU that fall. And I decided politics was one of those things that looks better from a distance than it does first-hand.

DeSantis pushes Florida into red

By RAMESH PONNURU
Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

Election Day ended with a lot of crucial races uncalled, and who controls the Senate may remain unknown for a long time — maybe not even until December, if the Georgia Senate race goes to a runoff. But a few preliminary judgments are possible.

First, Republicans avoided the worst possible defeat. My hunch is that commentary is going to dwell instead, understandably, on the fact that they aren't making the big wins they had increasingly been expecting. But Democrats were trying to retain the House and expand their Senate majority, and during the summer that scenario sometimes looked plausible.

If it had happened, Democrats would have been able to pass far-reaching liberal legislation on such issues as election law and abortion policy. Now it appears that Democrats will not have the votes to pass major partisan legislation. They won't replicate their legislative victories of the last two years, let alone surpass them. And the legislative difference between a Republican ripple and a Republican wave is not that large: With President Joe Biden in the White House and Democrats holding the power to filibuster, Republican bills aren't becoming law either way.

Second, the fundamentals held. Voters usually swing away from the party in power during midterms, and they usually punish the party in power when they're unhappy with the economy. That's what happened here.

Third, the punishment was lighter than it could have been because Republicans threw away some seats. They nominated a hopeless candidate for governor in Pennsylvania and a far-fetched one for senator in New Hampshire, for example, in both cases under the influence of former President Donald Trump and his mania about denying that he lost the 2020 election.

Fourth, abortion hasn't proved as potent an issue for Democrats as they had hoped. More data may yet show that it helped Democrats cut their losses, and

Ramesh Ponnuru



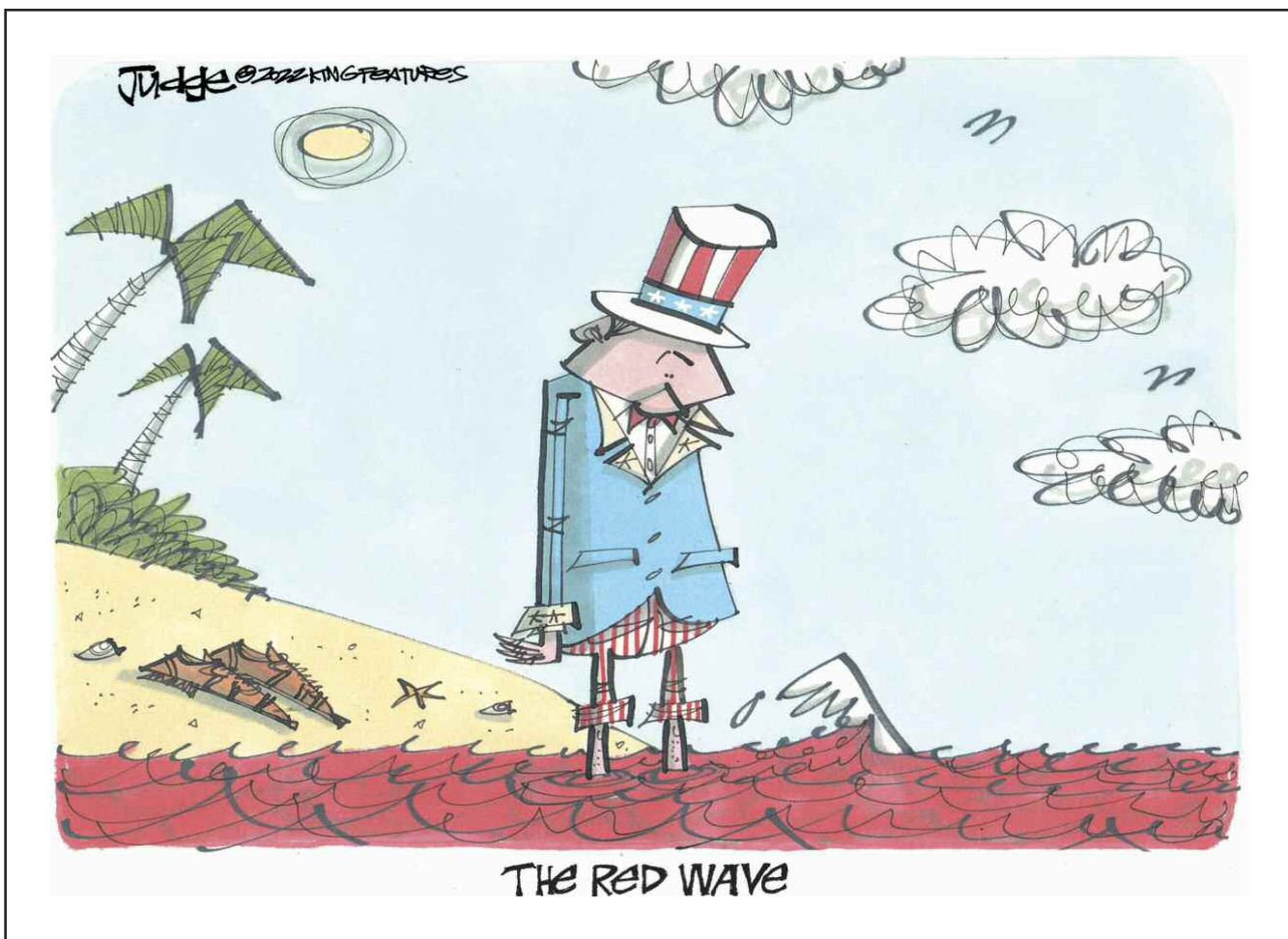
Whoever the Democrats nominate for president in two years will have to think hard before putting resources into contesting the state.

that referenda in various states turned out in favor of legal abortion. But Republican governors were able to sign anti-abortion legislation without seeming to pay any price for it.

Finally, and perhaps most consequential for 2024, Florida has moved from purple to red. The realignment of Miami-Dade County, in particular, has been seismic. Whoever the Democrats nominate for president in two years will have to think hard before putting resources into contesting the state.

Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis' landslide victory vastly expanded his margin over his initial win in 2018. That can't wholly be attributed to a changed national climate, since Republicans performed much better in the state than they did elsewhere. His governance is looking politically astute. It looks even better because some of Trump's candidates have fizzled. If you wanted to arrange the 2022 election results to make the case for DeSantis as a stronger 2024 presidential nominee than Trump, you'd come up with something pretty close to what happened Tuesday night.

Ponnuru is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He is the editor of National Review and a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.



Rights triumphed coast to coast

Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

When the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade in June, leaving the right to control one's own body and decision to be a parent to the whims of state lawmakers, it fell to advocates and voters to fight to protect reproductive rights. A record six measures concerning abortion were placed on state ballots this year across the country.

By Tuesday night, voters made their wishes clear — they want to maintain their access to abortion. Of the five measures on the Nov. 8 ballot, four have won by resounding margins and a fifth has a healthy lead.

In California, Proposition 1, a ballot measure enshrining the right to abortion, was approved by voters. A similar ballot measure passed in Vermont. In both states, lawmakers and governors are defenders of reproductive rights and both legislatures put those amendments on their state ballots.

In Michigan, a closely watched effort to pass a similar constitutional amendment was victorious.

Even more breathtaking was the rejection of a state constitutional amendment in Kentucky, a solidly red state, that said there is no right to abortion in the Kentucky Constitution. That ballot measure was called Wednesday morning with 90% of the ballots counted and 52.5% of the voters against it.

"It may be a new day in the way this issue is being thought about," said Nancy Northup, the chief executive of the Center for Reproductive Rights, citing the victory of abortion rights in liberal, moderate and conservative states alike. "I hope this will be seen as a nonpartisan issue that is about rights and health."

Guest Editorial

Kansans led the way on supporting abortion rights by overwhelmingly voting down a ballot measure in August that would have amended the state constitution to remove the right to abortion. The passage of that measure means the Kansas Legislature cannot outlaw abortion.

But in Kentucky, abortion is already banned by state law with the only exception being for the life of the pregnant person or to protect the individual from a disabling injury. What happens when Kentucky voters clearly tell their legislators they want to protect reproductive rights? Legislators — especially after the Supreme Court abolished the national right to an abortion — have a responsibility to listen and respect the message delivered by the rejection of the constitutional amendment.

Not that anyone is waiting for lawmakers to do the right thing.

The ACLU and Planned Parenthood had already sued to stop the full ban and a six-week ban — both of which went into effect after Roe was overturned — on the grounds that the Kentucky Constitution protects the right to privacy and bodily autonomy. Both bans were blocked by a Kentucky state court but then allowed to go into effect by the Kentucky Court of Appeals. The ACLU and Planned Parenthood appealed that decision to the Kentucky Supreme Court, which is scheduled

to hear the case next week. The defeat of the ballot measure, which was intended to obliterate the right to abortion in the Kentucky Constitution, could have a positive impact on the court and lead it to permanently block the abortion bans.

Even in Montana, an unnecessary ballot measure requiring medical treatment for infants born alive after induced labor, cesarean section or attempted abortion appears to be defeated. With 82% of the vote counted, 52.4% of the voters rejected the measure. Under federal law, health care providers already care for infants in these situations, though the specific course of treatment is generally left to the doctors and parents. As it should be.

The Supreme Court said in Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization, the case overturning Roe, that decisions about reproductive rights should be left to the people and their lawmakers. It's ludicrous that politicians should be allowed to decide how much or how little individuals can control their bodies. But having been dealt that grim reality, advocates and voters have shown they will use the ballot box to win back what should never have been lost.

Polls continually indicate that a majority of Americans support the right to abortion and disagree with the Supreme Court's decision to abolish that right. And the results so far on all the abortion-related measures on the Nov. 8 ballot show that voters — in states from the most liberal to the most conservative — want their reproductive rights upheld. That is a powerful and profound statement that must not be ignored.

The Commercial Review



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—Thomas Jefferson

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Trump ...

Continued from page 1
He has continued to hold a brisk schedule of rallies this year, unbowed by a criminal investigation that has included an FBI search of his Mar-a-Lago estate, or by a House probe that exposed his erratic behavior during the Jan. 6 insurrection.

Trump, still popular among rank-and-file Republicans, appears the early front-runner to earn the Republican nomination for the White House, though the field has yet to take shape.

The timing of his 2024 announcement is exceptionally early. Most candidates for the White House launch their campaigns within a year before the election.

Gov. Ron DeSantis is seen as the best-positioned Republican to beat Trump, and the former president has conjured a nickname for the Florida executive: "Ron DeSanctimonious." Trump's vice president, Mike Pence, is another possible contender.

Trump's often-damaged political brand was dented anew by the midterm elections. Frustrated Republicans blamed him for their party's inability to continue a pattern of out-of-power parties scoring sweeping wins midway through a president's first term.

Though results are still coming in, Democrats kept control of the Senate and are on track to limit any new Republican majority in the House to a tiny margin. Trump-backed candidates struggled.

Republican strategists have expressed skepticism about Trump's general election viability, and anti-Trump forces within the party were emboldened by the midterms.

Still, Trump won almost 140 million votes in two presidential general elections, and remains a formidable force in American politics — even stripped of his social media accounts, trailed by investigations and damaged by his 2020 election lies.

"He has a very strong base within the Republican primary voter electorate that makes it very difficult to take him on," said Gunner Ramer, the political director of the Republican Accountability Project, an anti-Trump group.

During his first run at the White House, the Queens-born Trump said, "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters." He beat Hillary Clinton in the general election after steamrolling the GOP primary field.



Tribune News Service/Getty Images/Paulius Peleckis

Protecting Poland

Polish army soldiers install concertina wire at Poland's border with Russian exclave Kaliningrad on Monday in Goldap, Poland. The project comes after Moscow's aviation authority started to launch flights from the Middle East and North Africa to Kaliningrad, according to Poland's Defense Minister Mariusz Blaszczak.

Banks ...

Continued from page 2
That left a gap behind in the No. 3 job in the House leadership — majority whip — and three candidates jockeying for the job.

After closed-door voting Tuesday, the caucus opted to elect Minnesota Rep. Tom Emmer, their chief campaign officer, over Banks and Georgia Rep. Drew Ferguson.

Banks, who has chaired the Republican Study Committee, the largest Republican caucus in the House, had been looking to

jump into a more senior role with the party in the new Congress as he prepares to start his fourth term.

According to media reports from Capitol Hill, Banks led after the first ballot while Emmer barely survived to the second ballot by just a single vote over Ferguson.

But when the second round of voting came around — candidates in caucus votes need to win an outright majority to claim victory, with the lowest vote-get-

ters eliminated after each round — most of Ferguson's supporters ended up breaking for Emmer, giving him a nine vote margin over Banks.

The majority whip race got heated last month amid accusations that Emmer or his staff had fed quotes to a reporter in a Daily Beast article about the upcoming race, suggesting that Banks had taken on popular Fox News pundit Tucker Carlson's son, Buckley, as a staffer in an effort to curry favor within the

caucus. The story generated ire against Emmer from both the prime-time cable personality as well as former President Donald Trump.

Among the three candidates in the whip race, Banks has positioned himself most closely to Trump, with the caucus election being viewed as somewhat of a barometer from where Republicans were looking to go two years out from Trump's electoral defeat in 2020.

Although Republicans are

expected to take back control of the House, the majority will be slim, as the "red wave" being discussed prior to Nov. 8 didn't materialize. Multiple Trump-endorsed candidates at the state and federal level lost their elections.

Some Republicans have already started to draw some space between themselves and the former president, who announced Tuesday he is launching a 2024 bid to try to reclaim the White House.



2022 Jay County Winterfest

Friday, Nov. 18th - Candy Lane Shop Local-Kick off
Christmas at the Courthouse Please join us for this fun, festive event with cookies, coffee, and hot chocolate. Little Miss Winterfest 2021, Addi Castillo, will provide the Christmas tree lighting at 5:30pm. Community Sing will start at 5:45pm. We are excited to have the Festival of Trees, so come vote for your favorite tree!!
Arts Place Holiday Benefit Auction 6:30 pm

Saturday, Nov. 19th - Kids Breakfast & Karnival!!-Featuring Frosty
Tickets are \$4 per adult and \$6 per child. This includes breakfast, karnival (5 tickets included with kid ticket), photo with Frosty and a free book (Kids Only). The event will run from 8:30-11am and is located at the East Jay Elementary Cafeteria & Large Gym.
(More Karnival tickets sold at event!)

Parade of Lights Parade begins at 6:30pm down Meridian Street. Line up to participate in parade starts at 5:30 pm at East Jay Elementary. Come and see if you can spot Santa. He will also be at the courthouse after the parade.

Friday, December 2nd - Merry Merchant Night Visit with Santa
Visit a participating Merchant for a kid ticket from 3-7pm! Bring your tickets to the brick alley from 5-7pm for GIFTS for KIDS!!!! Also, Santa will be downtown on Main St in Portland at the Santa house from 5-7pm.

Sunday, Dec 4th - Winterfest Home Tours Home Tours
are from 12-5pm with beautifully decorated homes throughout the county. Tickets are \$5 per person. List of homes TBA!

Sunday, Dec 11th - Winterfest at the Fairgrounds
Family fun night at the Jay County Fairgrounds from 5-8pm. Join us for carriage rides, cookie decorating, and ornament/craft making, LIVE Reindeer, Santa, and much more!!!
Special Music Guests:
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SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Partnership rapport

South dealer.
North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 5 4
♥ K 7 5 4
♦ K 7
♣ K Q 10 7 6

EAST
♠ A J 10
♥ 6
♦ 10 9 2
♣ J 9 8 5 4 3

SOUTH
♠ K 6 3
♥ A 9
♦ A J 8 6 5 4 3
♣ 2

The bidding:
South West North East
1♦ 1♥ 2♣ Pass
2♦ 2♠ 3♦ 3♠
5♦

choice as to whether to shift to a spade or a heart. As it was, though, West had no problem.
East's play of the nine was an obvious suit-preference signal. Considering the club strength visible in dummy, East could hardly be signaling for a club continuation, so the nine could be interpreted only as directing a shift to the higher-ranking of the two side suits (spades and hearts). Had East preferred a heart return because he had no hearts or had the ace, he would have played his lowest club on the ace to ask for the lower-ranking suit to be returned.

Accordingly, West led a spade at trick two. But in order to convince East that he wanted a club return at trick three, he led the queen instead of his fourth-best spade. Had West led the seven, East might have won with the ace and been tempted to return a spade, hoping West had the king.

East had no trouble reading the situation correctly. He took the queen of spades with the ace and returned a club. South now could not avoid going down one, and when in practice he tried to make the contract by ruffing with the jack, he was overruffed by the queen and later lost another trump trick to East to finish down two.

Tomorrow: A matter of good technique.
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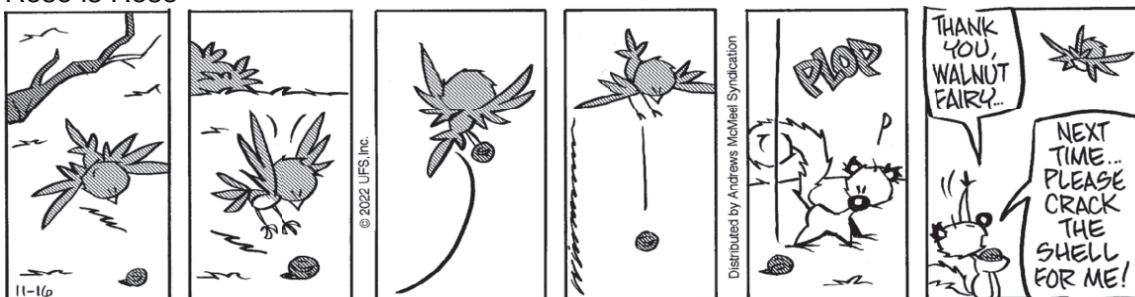
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Peanuts



Rose is Rose



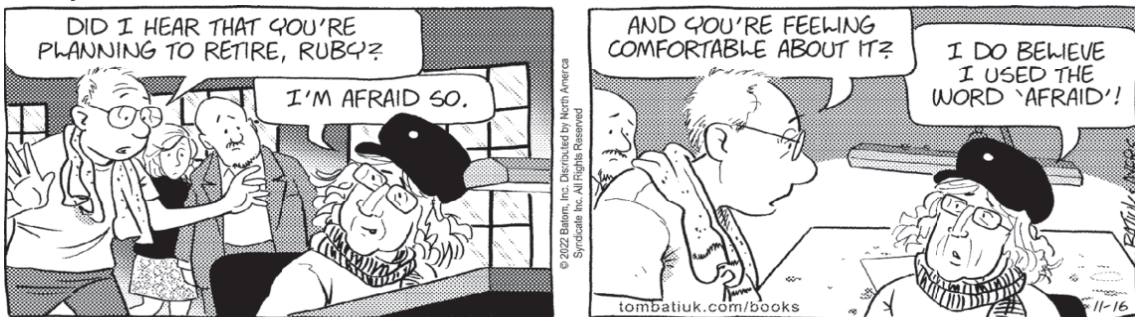
Agnes



Hi and Lois



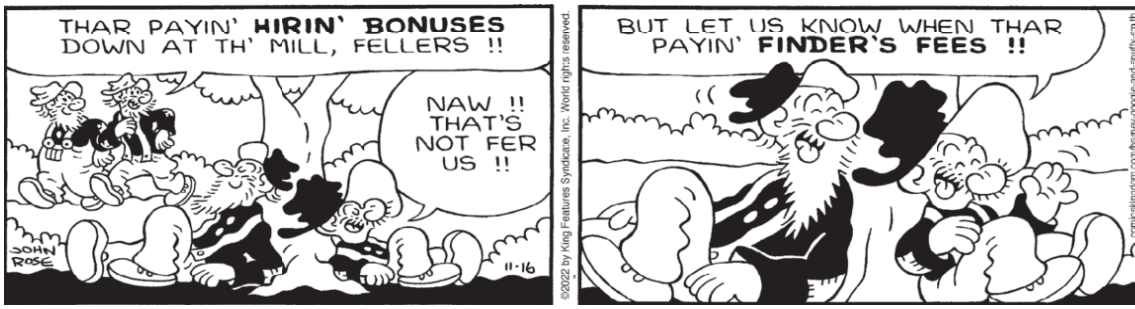
Funky Winkerbean



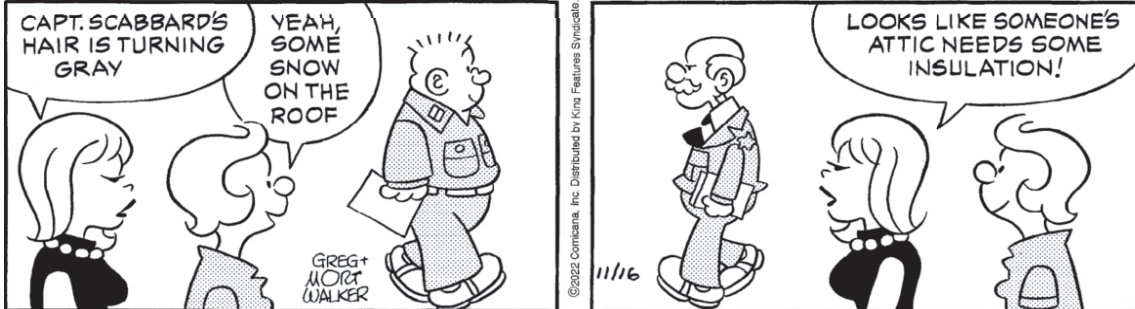
Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



11-16 CRYPTOQUIP

OZ MZI NDKCX R SRHHYZZL
ORCJCKP JHIS KC R HRYPT
ZXHRDZLR JKNM VDZIH0 ST
CRLTO "NIHVR VRHVR?"

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT COULD YOU CALL PEOPLE WHO LOOK SIMILARLY MUSCULARLY BUILT AS OBAMA? SOLID AS BARACK.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals G

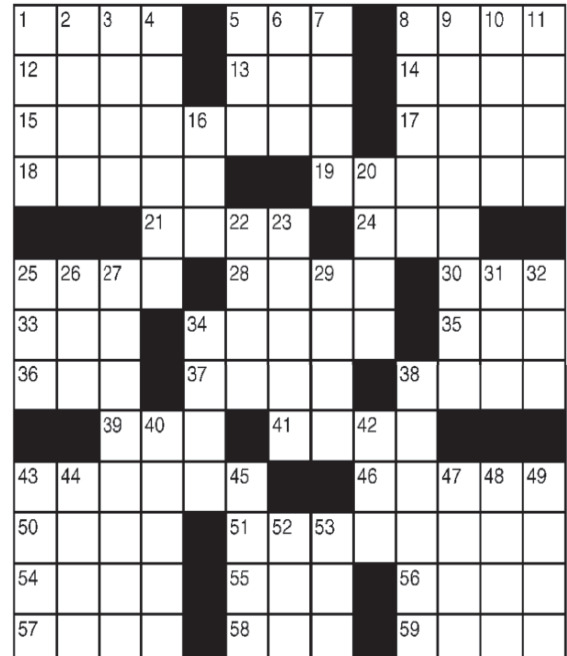
CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 38 "NFL Live" recipient | 58 Tic-tac-toe loser | 16 — |
| 1 Estate | 39 One-time link | 59 Pedestal part | 20 Modern taxi rival |
| 5 Morning moisture | 41 Furnace | DOWN | 22 Frankfurt's river |
| 8 Skip | 43 Chevy model | 1 Abhor | 23 From Carthage |
| 12 Summit | 46 Canal vessel | 2 Earth sci. | 25 Gaiety |
| 13 Mentalist Geller | 50 Body powder | 3 Rap-scullions | 26 Singer DiFranco |
| 14 Mediocre | 51 Harry Styles and Taylor Swift, e.g. | 4 Dwell | 27 Bargain for leniency |
| 15 Bed linen component | 54 Smart-phone name | 5 Expected | 29 Taboo |
| 17 Tarzan's clique | 55 Mess up | 6 Before | 31 Recipe measure |
| 18 Commercial cow | 56 Historic times | 7 Accompanying | 32 A billion years |
| 19 Poet Langston | 57 Pro votes | 8 Orange variety | 33 Pond duck |
| 21 Let fall | | 9 Hair-dresser's chal- | 34 Euphoric |
| 24 Spell-off | | 10 "Understood" | 40 Mexican snacks |
| 25 Confront | | 11 Throw | 42 Tummy muscles |
| 28 Sand formation | | | 43 — bitty |
| 30 Expert serve | | | 44 Stallion's mate |
| 33 Family card game | | | 45 Pinnacle |
| 34 Choir member | | | 47 — avis |
| 35 Pair | | | 48 Alum |
| 36 Pinch | | | 49 Old U.S. gas brand |
| 37 Activist Brockovich | | | 52 Acapulco gold |
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Sports

Rebound at Oak Hill

CONVERSE — The Patriots bounced back from Saturday's difficult loss to a ranked rival.

Two more state-ranked foes await this weekend.

Coming off of a one-point overtime defeat to Hamilton Heights, the Jay County High School girls basketball team rolled to a 67-42 victory Tuesday over the host Oak Hill Golden Eagles.

Saturday's loss to the Huskies dropped the Patriots to eighth in this week's Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association Class 3A poll. (They had been ranked third.) Hamilton Heights, meanwhile, climbed one spot to fifth.

JCHS (2-1) got back on track as it outscored the Golden Eagles (2-1) 19-8 in the second quarter for an 18-point halftime lead. And then they just continued to extend their advantage in the second half.

Renna Schwieterman followed up her signing of a National Letter of Intent on Monday — she will play college basketball at Purdue Fort Wayne — by leading the Patriots with 25 points. (She now has 1,283 career points, just 175 away from Shannon Freeman's school record.) She also grabbed 10 rebounds.

Gabi Bilbrey, another senior, added a dozen points while grabbing a game-high 11 rebounds. Mabrey McIntire gave Jay County a third player in double figures with 11

points. Breanna Dirksen led the team with five assists.

Oak Hill sophomore Liz Godfrey almost kept up with Schwieterman, scoring 19 points to lead the Golden Eagles. Taylor Holloway followed with 11 points, but no one else on the squad had more than five.

Ruth Tripp grabbed eight rebounds for the home team while Melissa Kluevein dished out six assists.

Up next is a difficult back-to-back as the Patriots will host Class 3A No. 9 Belmont (4-0) on Friday and Class 2A No. 2 Winchester (3-0) on Saturday.

No. 8 Patriots set loss aside, pull away to top Golden Eagles by 25



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Gabi Bilbrey of Jay County High School puts up a shot during Saturday's 45-44 overtime loss to Hamilton Heights. The Patriots, who are now ranked eighth in Class 3A, bounced back from that defeat Tuesday to roll to a 67-42 victory over Oak Hill. Bilbrey had 12 points in the win.

Jay Co. girls sweep the Jets

Schwieterman scores 23 to lead eighth graders

After a difficult opening night, the Patriots dished out some punishment of their own Tuesday.

The Jay County Junior High School eighth grade girls basketball team bounced back from a loss Monday to dominate the Adams Central Jets 43-19 Tuesday. The Patriot seventh graders won 22-12.

Meanwhile, the Jay County seventh grade boys slipped to a 25-24 loss to Adams Central.

Hallie Schwieterman racked up 23 points to lead the eighth grade team, which lost 52-18 Monday to Norwell. Kylie Shannon joined her in double figures with 10 points and Amelia Heath added four.

Shannon led a balanced scoring effort for the seventh grade Patriots with five points. Natalie May, Elizabeth Brunswick and Chloe Brown notched four points apiece.

Raif Beiswanger's eight points led the Jay County seventh grade boys (0-2, 0-1 Allen County Athletic Conference). Kohen McIntire and Nic Snow followed with six points apiece.

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