

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Auction items

Arts Place is ready for its Annual Holiday Benefit Auction, which begins at 6:30 p.m. tonight. Included among the items available for bidding is a variety of art, vacation packages and two Taylor Swift concert tickets. There will also be silent auction items and a 50/50 raffle.



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Redkey looks at alley requests

Town council took no action on vacating

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

REDKEY — A few requests have been made recently to vacate alleys.

Redkey Town Council discussed Thursday whether it should continue to allow the process.

Council agreed in October to hold a special meeting on the matter after tabling a request to vacate an alley between Harrison and Butler streets connecting Grandview Avenue and Wayne Street.

Council member Dottie Quakenbush, who originally suggested the meeting, said she does not approve of vacating alleys.

“It belongs to the town,” she said. “The town uses it for emergency use or utilities, whatever, and if we vacate alleys and give them to the people, we’re giving away town property. It’s a loss to the town.”

Council member John Pierce agreed, noting once the alley has been vacated, it cannot be recovered.

See Redkey page 2

Pelosi won't seek leadership

Speaker will step aside from top roles

By JOE GAROFOLI
San Francisco Chronicle
Tribune News Service

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who made history as the first female speaker of the House and has been the driving force behind landmark legislation, will step down from House leadership, but the 82-year-old Democrat said Thursday that she will continue to represent San Francisco.

Pelosi's future was cast in doubt after Republicans squeaked out a surprisingly narrow victory in the House. She has said that the brutal attack on husband Paul Pelosi in their San Francisco home last month shaped her decision.

“I will not seek re-election to Democratic leadership in the next Congress,” Pelosi said to a packed chamber. “For me the hour has come for a new generation to lead the Democratic caucus that I so deeply respect.”

As her fellow House members gave her numerous standing ovations, Pelosi said, “friends, no matter what title you all my colleagues have bestowed upon me —

speaker, leader, whip — there is no greater official honor for me than to stand on this floor and to speak for the people of San Francisco.”

Pelosi became the nation's first female speaker in 2007 and ascended to the top job again in 2019 after her party recaptured the House. She is widely seen as the architect of landmark legislation, including the Affordable Care Act during the Obama administration, and is a prolific fundraiser, harvesting \$1.25 billion for Democrats since she ascended into party leadership, according to party officials.

But four years ago, Pelosi said this would be her last term as speaker as part of a deal to thwart a Democratic challenge to her leadership. She did not say Thursday when she would retire and told reporters after her speech that she would neither endorse a successor nor advise the person.

“I have no intention of being the mother-in-law in the kitchen, saying, ‘My son doesn't like the stuffing that way. This is the way we make it.’” Pelosi told reporters Thursday.

Her departure from leadership will leave a void at what promises to be a chaotic time in the House. Republicans hold a narrow margin, and House GOP Leader Kevin McCarthy, likely to be the next speaker, has shown little ability to corral his caucus.

See Pelosi page 5

'Brain drain' is a concern

(Editor's note: This story from Indiana Capital Chronicle is being broken into three parts. The first part ran Thursday, with the third and final scheduled for Saturday.)

By CASEY SMITH
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Rural Indiana's economy continues to be vulnerable to job loss and shrinking prosperity.

Manufacturing jobs are particularly at risk, largely due to increased automation. Estimates from Ball State University's Center for Business and Economic Research and Rural Policy Research Institute shows that 11 of the 17 Indiana counties most at risk of automation are in rural Indiana. Only 4 of the 19 counties with the lowest automation risk are in rural Indiana.

As a result of that transformation, the second and third largest employment sectors in rural Indiana are now retail trade (equal to 10% of all rural jobs) and accommodations and food service (6% of rural jobs) — sectors that the Indiana Community Action Poverty Institute says are “dominated by ultra-low-wage jobs.”

“Thanks to these changes in the rural economy, hard work isn't always enough anymore to provide people with middle class financial security,” the report notes. “To be clear, this growth in poor people didn't happen because more rural people got lazy or stopped working, it's the result of a massive economic transformation affecting the entire American economy that eliminated the kinds of jobs that working families depended on to earn a living and replaced them with jobs that paid significantly less.”

In other words, rural Hoosiers didn't stop working hard, “hard

Purdue
Rural/Urban Classification

- Rural
- Rural/Mixed
- Urban
- County Seat

Population:

- Rural - Less than 40,000
- Rural/Mixed - 40,000 - 100,000
- Urban - Over 100,000

Density (people per sq. mi.):

- Rural - Less than 100
- Rural/Mixed - 100 to 200
- Urban - Over 200

Population of largest city:

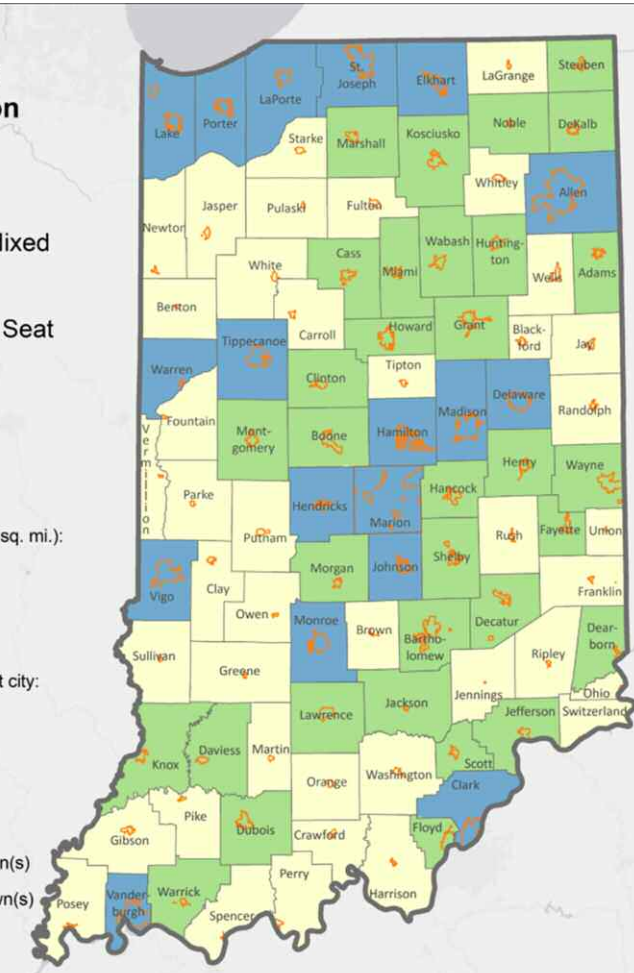
- Rural - Less than 10,000
- Rural/Mixed - 10,000 to 30,000
- Urban - Over 30,000

Identity:

- Rural
- Rural with small town(s)
- Rural/Mixed
- Rural with larger town(s)
- Urban
- Urban/suburban

Sources: Janet Ayres, Brigitte Waldorf
Department of Agricultural Economics
Purdue University

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Center for Regional Development



work stopped paying off,” the report's authors continued.

Manufacturing remains the largest source of jobs in rural Indiana, employing almost a third of the rural workforce. While the report's authors say this is “good news” in the short term for rural workers, since manufacturing tends to pay better wages than jobs in other sectors, the long-

term trends are “more concerning.”

That's because manufacturing jobs have declined steadily throughout the entire state for decades, a trend that shows no sign of improvement in rural communities. This means rural workers are forced to depend on a sector that is “steadily vanishing.”

See Drain page 2

Deaths

Lisa Robbins, 57,
Matthews
Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature hovered between 29 and 32 degrees Wednesday.

Tonight's low will drop to 17. Saturday's high will be 33 under mostly sunny skies with a chance of flurries and winds gusting to 35 miles per hour.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

Jay County Solid Waste Management District will have recycling trailers available from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday across from Pennville Fire Station and 9 a.m. to noon in the parking lot at 220 Lincoln St., Portland.

Coming up

Saturday — Results from tonight's JCHS girls basketball game against Bellmont.

Tuesday — Photos from Saturday's various Winterfest activities.



Drain ...

Continued from page 1

Of the rural residents surveyed, 62% of those who are low-income said that good jobs were needed "very much" in their rural community, and that without them, too many people's lives are dominated by significant economic hardship and financial vulnerability

Just over half of respondents working full-time and 62% of respondents working part-time indicated that they wouldn't be able to pay for an emergency expense, if one were to occur.

Other survey data revealed that:

- 58% of respondents working full-time and 63.1% working part-time do not have a savings account
- 70% of respondents working

Rural population has remained stagnant

full-time and 87.9% working part-time do not have a retirement account

- 31% of those employed part-time and 36.7% employed full-time are behind on medical debt

Transportation is an additional challenge for those living in rural Indiana. One out of every three rural Hoosiers travel outside of their communities to urban centers to find work, suggesting that rural workers can't find jobs that

pay enough or that they're qualified for within rural places, according to the report.

It also suggests that the low unemployment rates and competitive household income levels in rural counties may be due in large part to the strong job markets in the state's urban areas, meaning urban Indiana may be propping up the economy in rural Indiana.

Making matters more complicated, the report points out that while

Indiana's urban cities have experienced robust population growth of about half a million people from 2000 to 2020, rural population has remained stagnant or, in many counties, actually declined.

"The numbers reinforce the story we heard repeatedly in interviews — many rural areas are experiencing significant 'brain drain,' as the next generation of rural Hoosiers leave their rural places to find better-paying work in the suburbs and cities," the report says.

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

Obituaries






Lisa Gayle Robbins, Matthews, a former Redkey resident, Dec. 29, 1965-Nov. 15, 2022. Services will be held at a later date.

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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

Saturday 11/19	Sunday 11/20	Monday 11/21	Tuesday 11/22	Wednesday 11/23
				
33/11	28/18	44/25	47/27	48/30
A chance of snow in the afternoon under mostly sunny skies. Wind gusts may reach up to 35 mph.	Sunday looks to be sunny, with temperatures sticking in the 20s throughout the day.	Monday's weather looks like sunny skies with highs in the low 40s.	Sunny skies are on the horizon for Tuesday with highs jumping to the upper 40s.	Wednesday's forecast shows mostly cloudy skies, with highs in the upper 40s.

Lotteries

Powerball
Estimated jackpot: \$93 million

20-23-29-31-35-37-42-46-50-51-52-53-55-57-76-77-78
Cash 5: 2-5-11-39-43
Estimated jackpot: \$189,500

Mega Millions
Estimated jackpot: \$238 million

Hoosier
Midday
Daily Three: 3-5-9
Daily Four: 4-2-9-4
Quick Draw: 7-8-9-16-20-21-23-29-31-33-40-42-52-58-61-65-70-74-78-79
Evening
Daily Three: 9-4-7
Daily Four: 5-7-9-7
Quick Draw: 4-17-18-

20-23-29-31-35-37-42-46-50-51-52-53-55-57-76-77-78
Cash 5: 2-5-11-39-43
Estimated jackpot: \$189,500

Ohio
Midday
Pick 3: 0-3-8
Pick 4: 4-3-0-5
Pick 5: 6-4-1-4-2
Evening
Pick 3: 7-2-5
Pick 4: 4-5-8-3
Pick 5: 3-1-7-3-2
Rolling Cash: 7-11-14-21-31
Estimated jackpot: \$229,000

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery	Wheat 7.65 Dec. wheat.....7.65
Corn.....6.89 Dec. corn6.85 Wheat6.57	Central States Montpelier
POET Biorefining Portland	Corn.....6.59 Late Nov. corn6.59 Beans14.10 Late Nov. beans.....14.10 Wheat8.12
Corn.....6.89 Dec. corn6.84 Jan. corn6.78	Heartland St. Anthony
The Andersons Richland Township	Corn.....6.28 Dec. corn6.38 Beans13.94 Dec. beans13.97 Wheat7.65
Corn6.59 Dec. corn6.64 Beans13.95 Dec. beans14.15	

Today in history

In 1789, Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre was born near Paris. He invented the first practical process of photography — the daguerreotype.

In 1883, North American railroads shifted to a new standard time system at noon. It was referred to as Standard Railway Time and quickly resulted in the creation of the Eastern, Central, Mountain and Pacific time zones in the United States.

In 1928, "Steamboat Willie," the first animated film with sound that featured Mickey Mouse, was released by Walt Disney.

In 1959, the Bible epic film "Ben-Hur" made its world premiere.

In 1972, a five-point personal run by senior guard Larry Patterson pushed the South Adams High School boys basketball team's lead to double figures in the fourth quarter as the Starfires pulled away for an 87-65 season-opening win over Monroe Central.

In 2021, Redkey Town Council approved a Community Crossings grant application, using \$50,000 in wind farm economic development funds as its local match. The application was for paving of sections of High, Railroad, Sheridan, Grandview, Butler and Oak streets.

—The CR

Citizen's calendar

Today
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Monday
5 p.m. — Portland City Council executive session, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.
5:30 p.m. — Portland City Council, council chambers, fire station, 1616 N. Franklin St.

6 p.m. — Fort Recovery School Board, community room, Fort Recovery High School, 400 E. Butler St.

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

Tuesday
2:15 p.m. — Jay County Personnel Committee, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.

Felony arrests

Probation violation

A Portland woman was arrested Thursday for violating her probation.

Haley C. Williams, 26, 1237 N. U.S. 27, pleaded guilty in August to two charges of nonsupport of a dependent child, both Level 6 felonies. She was

sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with 102 days credit.

Williams is being held on a \$1,000 bond at the jail.

Domestic battery
A Dunkirk man was arrested for domestic battery Thursday.

Rex A. Phelps, 41, 117 W. Pleasant St., was charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony.

He was released on a \$3,000 bond from Jay County Jail.

Unlawful possession
A Portland man was

arrested Thursday for unlawful possession of a syringe.

Travis J. Guntle, 23, 310 E. Elder St., was charged in Jay Superior Court with a Level 6 felony.

He's being held on a \$4,500 bond in Jay County Jail.

Redkey ...

Continued from page 1

Council member Randy May said council should evaluate vacating on a case-by-case basis, pointing out some individuals may vacate an alley because it leads to a dead end. If it's part of an effort to further residential development, he said, it could bring in additional tax revenue. (He referenced himself, having been OK'd by council in the past to vacate an alley near his property and build a rental home.)

"If somebody's going to build a new home and give us another water tap, and that alley goes nowhere, I'm all for vacating," he said.

Clerk-treasurer Mary Eley said the town has only had two requests to vacate alleys recently. She added that as a resident of Redkey, she feels the town shouldn't allow it. She referenced the town's aging capital assets and pointed out land does not depreciate.

Council president Erik Hammers noted the town does not have much to give from its tight budget or resources.

"It's not ours to give away," he said.

"That alley belongs to the people of the town, and not the individuals."

May suggested having interested residents pay to vacate an alley.

"When people benefit, it helps the town," he said. "You get an extra water bill. You get a new home bill."

After about 15 minutes of discussion, council made no formal decision on the matter.

Also Thursday, during its regular meeting, council OK'd Watson Excavating to construct a driveway and remove two trees across the road from its current facility at 1136 E. High St. The business plans to build a new structure on the site.

Council agreed to pay \$3,750 to Hatzell Bros. Standing Seam Solutions for replacing the roof at the water plant, which was blown off the building during heavy winds about two weeks ago. It agreed not to claim the repair using the town's insurance in order to avoid a higher premium next year.

In other business, council members John Pierce, Erik Hammers, Dottie Quakenbush, and Randy May, absent Gary Gardner:

•Agreed to pay \$15,590 to Watson Excavating for replacing more than 75 feet of pipe tying into a septic tank on Spencer Street between High Street and Bell Avenue.

•OK'd repairing the brakes on a Redkey Volunteer Fire Department tanker truck for \$5,141.70 at Stu's Garage.

•Learned Eley and town employee Randy Young will be evaluating the new sidewalk along Main Street and Mooney Street with Milestone Contractors at 9 a.m. Wednesday. The completed path, which leads west from Redkey Elementary School and turns south toward the park, cost \$205,700. Indiana Department of Transportation is paying for the majority of the price, with Redkey covering a little more than \$46,800.

•Heard a request for the town to begin spreading salt along the crosswalk on Main Street leading to the elementary school.

•Learned Santa will visit Redkey at the gazebo on High Street at 6 p.m. Nov. 25. Young noted the town's Christmas lights for the light poles will need to be replaced.

ISU receives \$2 million pledge

By SUE LOUGHLIN
The Tribune-Star (Terre Haute)
Tribune News Service

Don Dudine, an Indiana State University alumnus and past chair of the ISU Foundation Board, has pledged \$2 million for the School of Music and the Student Philanthropy Organization.

"Each individual has their own passion for giving back to Indiana State University, now and in the future," Dudine said. "For me personally, there are three: the quality students graduating from ISU who meet the needs of communities in Indiana, my witnessing of the ISU Foundation to carry out each donor's wishes, and the university's commitment to seeing that deserving students get the help they need to graduate."

ISU President Deborah J. Curtis said Dudine "has made an indelible mark on ISU, not only through his gifts to the university but with his service as a past chair of the ISU Foundation board of directors. His generosity will impact Sycamore students for generations to come."

The School of Music will receive \$1.5 million for the Don Dudine School of

Music Endowed Fund to advance the success and achievements of music and band students, recruitment and activity resources.

The gift will assist music students in recruitment trips to high schools known for strong band programs as part of their annual performance schedules. The gift will help students who are not music majors to participate in Marching Band.

SERVICES

Friday
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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Portland, Indiana 47371
(260) 726-9201
progressiveofficeproducts.com

The Pregnancy Care Center of Jay County, a Christian, pro-life ministry is seeking an Executive Director.

Strong communication, leadership, and people skills is a must. Candidate should be comfortable working with women regarding reproductive issues, also dealing with crisis and personal situations that may include domestic violence. Duties include managing volunteer and paid staff, overseeing budget, fund raising and public relations. It is preferred that candidates should possess 3-year management/supervisory experience.

The Pregnancy Care Center is a 501 (c)3non-profit. Application packets are available for pick up Monday - Friday between the hours of 1-5pm. Applications and Resume should be returned by December 12th. Stop by the Pregnancy Care Center of Jay County located in downtown Portland Indiana at 216 South Meridian Street.

Questions - phone 260-726-8636



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Registration open for Turkey Trot

It's nearly turkey time. The Turkey Trot, Cardinal Greenways' annual Thanksgiving Day event, will kick off at 8 a.m. at Wysor Street Depot in Muncie.

Taking Note

Thanksgiving morning," said Angie Pool, CEO of Cardinal Greenways.

Hot cider, coffee, fruit and other refreshments will be served at the depot. Cardinal Greenways asks participants to bring non-perishable foods or to-

letries to donate toward the Family Resource Center in Muncie.

To register in advance, visit cardinalgreenways.org/turkey-trot. Participants will also have to option to sign up onsite starting at 7:30 a.m. Thanksgiving morning.

Thanksgiving Vespers

Three musical groups from Taylor University will present "The Hope of Loving: A Thanksgiving

Vespers" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

Taylor University Chorale and Sounds will join with the Women's chorus and Taylor Symphony Orchestra for the concert, which will take the form of a vespers service with dance, art and music, according to a press release from the university.

Compositions will include works by Jake Runestad, James MacMillan, Susan Labarr, Dan

Forrest and others. Admission is free.

Community service

Fort Recovery's community Thanksgiving service will start at 7 p.m. Sunday at First Church of Christ, 1049 Union City Road.

Congregations participating include Christ Chapel, Church of the Nazarene, First Church of Christ, Trinity Lutheran Church, and United Methodist Church.

The service will also be

carried live on WPGW Radio (100.9).

Scholarship recipient

North Manchester University recently awarded a scholarship to a Portland native.

Kendal Garringer of Portland received the annual Samuel and Julia Garber Memorial Scholarship. Garringer, a Jay County High School graduate, is studying biology chemistry at the university.

Beau maintains presence on multiple sites

DEAR ABBY: I am a widowed woman who met a gentleman online two years ago. We met in person and get along really great. Everything seems perfect, but my girlfriends keep telling me they see his profile on numerous dating sites. When I asked him about it, he said he had closed the accounts. Well, close friends say they are concerned because he is on a lot of those sites even now.

I'm at a crossroads with this. I'm not sure if he's casually looking to see if there is anyone better, or if he's stroking his ego. What should I take away from this? — PERPLEXED IN FLORIDA

Dear Abby



first thing to pay attention to is that you don't feel you can trust him. Ask some of your girlfriends to reach out to him on some of those sites. If they receive a response, end the romance if you want an exclusive relationship.

DEAR PERPLEXED: The

DEAR ABBY: My sister-in-law

and I used to be close, closer even than I was to my actual sister. Three years ago, we were on a trip and had an argument and didn't speak for more than a year. We have since made up, but our relationship isn't the same.

We are friends with a close group of women and have fun in a group, but anytime I invite her to do something, she will accept and then cancel at the last minute or tell me she can't go when I contact her asking what time we should meet. Her answers to my texts are cold and short.

I'm tired of being constantly hurt by the rejection. Should I just quit trying and accept that

this is our new dynamic? — TO TRY OR NOT TO TRY?

DEAR TRY OR NOT: Your sister-in-law is either extremely rude or still trying to punish you for that argument you had three years ago. It's time to step back and accept the new dynamic, because pushing for more isn't working.

DEAR ABBY: Your daughter is being married soon. She invited our best friends of 30 years to her wedding, but she refuses to invite their adult daughter because she has treated her parents very disrespectfully throughout the years. (Our friends tolerate this because she's their only child.) I

understand my daughter's reasoning, but I told her I'm afraid we will lose their friendship if she does this. Our friends' feelings get hurt very easily. How do we deal with this? — CONFLICTED MAMA IN TEXAS

DEAR MAMA: If your friendship with this couple depends on how your daughter treats her daughter, that relationship is already fragile. This is your daughter's special day. She shouldn't be strong-armed into inviting someone because you're afraid your friendship with this couple will end if her daughter isn't included. Don't involve yourself.

Community Calendar

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

Today
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.

Monday
PORTLAND BREAKFAST OPTIMISTS — Will meet at 7 a.m. for breakfast at Richards Restaurant.
BRYANT AREA COMMUNITY CENTER — Walking from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
PING PONG — Will be played from 9 a.m. to noon each Monday at Jay Community Center.
EUCHRE — Will be played starting at 1 p.m. each Monday at West Jay Community Center, 125 Hoover St., Dunkirk.
JAY COUNTY DRUG PREVENTION COALITION — Will meet at 3:30 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Portland Fire Department, 1616 N. Franklin St. For more information, call (260) 251-3259.
TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY (TOPS) — Will meet for weigh-in at 4:30 p.m., with the meeting at 5 p.m., at South Side Church of Christ, 1209 S. Shank St., Portland. New members welcome. For more information, call (260) 726-5924.

PREGNANCY CARE CENTER — Free pregnancy testing with ongoing support during and after pregnancy. The center is located at 216 S. Meridian St., Portland. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call (260) 726-8636.
PORTLAND EVENING OPTIMIST CLUB — Will meet at 6 p.m. the first and third Monday of each month at Richards Restaurant.
BREAD OF LIFE COMMUNITY FAMILY MEAL — Will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at Asbury United Methodist Church, 204 E. Arch St. in Portland.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6 p.m. each Monday 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.

Tuesday
JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 8 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Richard's Restaurant.
BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.
THE LANDING — A 12-step program for those in sixth through 12th grade will meet at 5:55 p.m. each Tuesday at 2nd Chance at

Life Ministries, 228 S. Meridian St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 703-0777 or (260) 726-5273.

A BETTER LIFE - BRINNA'S HOPE — A faith-based recovery group for substance abuse. Meal starts at 6 p.m. and the meeting is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday at the Nazarene Fellowship Building across from the Nazarene church, 249 E. Center St., Dunkirk. For more information, call Amanda Price at (765) 283-2107.
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (567) 279-8352 or (260) 729-7000.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. each Tuesday at Church of God of Prophecy, 797 N. Creager Ave. in Portland. For more information, call (260) 766-9334.

Wednesday
WEDNESDAY MORNING BREAKFAST CLUB — Will meet at 8 a.m. in the east room of Richards Restaurant. All women are invited to attend.
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 at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.

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Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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@theocr.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. Hommelgarn

Come together to support officials

To the editor:
Thank you.
The votes are in, the results are known.
I worked again at the Penn/Jackson polls. I am so proud of the turnout we had. It is nice to know people care about who will be in offices running our county.
Also, thank you to Pen-ville IDC Restaurant for delivering what we called and ordered for lunch. It was a great surprise when we tried to pay for our meal, they told it was free. What a nice gesture on their part.
The girls I worked with made the long day go

Letters to the Editor

smooth. Thank you to Dee Culy, Gayle Davenport, Tammy Horn and Joni Ostrowski, who made the day extra special.
Now it is time for all of us to support our elected officials.
I thank God I live in Jay County, Indiana.
Shelba Chenoweth
Portland



Timing is largely irrelevant

By MICHAEL J. HICKS

A reader recently suggested I write about the speed with which government policy can affect the economy. I've only lightly touched on this topic before, but it is both timely and interesting, and rich with theory and empirics.

The best place to begin is with a timeless warning about the role of public policy on the economy. The 20th century economist Friedrich Hayek warned that government had almost none of the available information needed to effectively plan economic growth. He did so in several books and papers, and I think he argued most convincingly that central planning of economic activity necessarily would result in wasteful, ineffective policies. We have an abundance of federal, state and local programs that bear out his predictions.

Maybe the best examples of this are workforce development spending and investment subsidies to businesses. After a half century of research, there's scant evidence that either of these expensive programs generate benefits that exceed their costs.

Here in Indiana, the state and federal government spend a billion dollars per year on workforce training. Yet, we have the same claimed 'labor shortages' we did a decade or two ago. Moreover, we spend much of that money on occupations with little or no wage growth, and even more dollars remediating middle school reading and math—hardly an ideal outcome. This is not to say someone doesn't benefit. We have lots of jobs re-training businesses, and doubtless some workers find new fulfilling careers from this spending. Still, if we get a quarter's worth of benefit from every dollar we spend, we'd be lucky.

Our tax incentive spending is even worse. Indiana taxpayers spend more than a billion dollars per year in state and local incentives. Ironically, the training incentives are probably effective, or at least help create jobs at a relatively low cost. However, the capital incentives neither create jobs nor attract people to our state. In fact, Indiana spends the most on capital incentives on industries that have lost the most jobs over the 21st century. It is probable, if not certain, that the proliferation of tax incentives on businesses has actually cost both employment and population growth.

Now, I know that sounds counterintuitive to many folks, but it shouldn't. Tax incentives don't have much, if any, effect on firm location; thus, tax incentives rob tax dollars from local governments, and especially schools. That alone is enough to reduce

Michael J. Hicks



in-migration of new residents because local schools are the number one reason for household location choice. More importantly, tax incentives reduce the price of capital investment. That makes automating jobs less expensive. Thus, it reduces employment, which is why most of our spending comes in industries with declining numbers of workers.

The point of this is that a lot of government spending on the economy has none of the intended effects. The analytical problem is simply figuring out how long the unintended consequences take to travel through the economy. However, most public policy is only tangentially designed to affect the economy. It has other purposes, and the influence on growth is a happy by-product. The most obvious of these is educational spending, primarily at the state and local level.

Economic growth is primarily caused by the innovation and productivity growth that accompanies better-educated workers. At the same time, places with good schools tend to attract well-educated workers, while places with poor schools tend to repel well-educated workers. So, effective education policies tend to both attract better-educated people while also educating the incumbent population. There's a lot to educational policy, and Indiana has done a number of things effectively. Still, there are some pretty extensive failures as well. The timing of success and failure differ.

Any policies that influence the success of individuals will have a long time-path to maturity. Education in particular takes years, if not decades, to show results. This makes an earnest treatment of education policies very difficult. Money spent today on early childhood education may show a 5:1 return on investment, but it will take more than a decade before the savings show. Likewise, cutting spending on higher education offers tax savings in the short run, but it can cause deep long-term declines in educational attainment, as we are now discovering.

Thus, policies and spending on such matters as education, public health, mental health treatment and the like take years, if not decades, to generate lasting results. Those time horizons are too long for many families, which is why so much

household relocation tends to favor high-spending locales with good schools. Again, I know many people will find that dynamic counterintuitive, but most households value the quality of education more than they value low taxes. That's why high-tax places are growing quickly, while low-tax places do not. Despite what you may hear on cable TV, high-tax places, whether here in Indiana or anywhere in the nation, are growing much faster than low-tax places.

The most current consideration for policy on the economy and the speed it can take place is inflation. The business cycle of recessions and recovery have long vexed policymakers. Though the long-term rate of growth matters far more to residential wellbeing, booms and busts affect elections. Thus, there's a lot of focus on mitigating inflation and unemployment.

Our Federal Reserve is designed to depoliticize monetary policy decisions that affect inflation and unemployment. The reason for this is, of all our policy interventions in the economy, the change in interest rates has the quickest effect. A rate change today can affect both bond and stock markets today. That makes them deeply susceptible to short-term political manipulation. Hence, it is far better to leave these short-term decisions to an apolitical body and let Congress set the guidance.

Still, even the short-run influence of the Federal Reserve can extend for years. Higher interest rates take months to affect inflation, as we've lately observed. However, they also influence decisions to buy homes or expand businesses. Higher interest rates make home buying more expensive and increase the cost of business expansion. The decision to buy or build a new home is made months or years in advance. Likewise, the decision to open a new plant or purchase new equipment may be planned years in advance.

Thus, much of the current increases in interest rates will still take months, if not years, before their effects are fully felt. So, even if inflation is arrested this year or in early 2023, the effect on new home construction and demand for business equipment will remain dampened through Summer 2024. Thus the timing of policy is so tenuous as to be largely irrelevant to short-term economic outcomes.

Hicks is the director of the Center for Business and Economic Research and the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of economics in the Miller College of Business at Ball State University. Email him at mhicks@bsu.edu.

Update GI Bill for online era

By SHANNON RIGGS
Progressive Perspectives
Tribune News Service

Each year, more than 700,000 veterans rely on the GI Bill to pay for their education, but those who pursue online degrees don't receive their benefits in full. We must show veteran students pursuing online degrees that the country appreciates their service by asking Congress to address this oversight.

GI Bill benefits include a monthly housing allowance based on the college's ZIP code. Students are allotted more funding in cities and towns where housing is more expensive, and less where housing is less costly. When veterans pursue degrees online, however, the housing allowance is reduced to half the national average, regardless of location or housing costs.

At Oregon State University, where I serve as the executive director of our Ecampus, the 493 veteran students who pursued their degrees online full-time with us in 2021 faced a shortage of \$871.50 per month. (The shortage for part-time students is prorated, so a student taking three classes instead of four per semester would receive 80% of the housing allowance).

If the GI Bill was set up this way under the assumption that online students have more flexibility, more ability to work and less financial need, our university data shows otherwise. At Oregon State, distance students actually have greater financial need: 44% of our online students are eligible for Pell Grants, compared with 25% of our on-campus students.

Further, students who need to balance work and school—a primary reason students pursue degrees online—aren't eligible for as many financial aid resources as full-time students.

The quality of online degree programs has increased substantially since the GI Bill law was updated in 2008. As early as 2010, an authoritative U.S. Department of Education report showed "no significant difference" in learning outcomes between online and in-person courses. More recently, a 2019 study confirmed that online learning is as effective as face-to-face education in the classroom. Many education scholars believe that course design,

Shannon Riggs



... students who need to balance work and school ... aren't eligible for as many financial aid resources as full-time students.

faculty and class size are more important factors than whether college students are learning remotely or not.

Statistics from the National Center for Education highlight steady growth in student enrollment in online courses, with the COVID-19 pandemic accelerating that growth. More college students are adult learners choosing online degree programs to stay at their jobs and avoid relocating their families. Withholding half the housing allowance for online courses doesn't make sense because, whether attending on campus or not, veteran students still have housing expenses.

The rationale behind the GI Bill was to help veterans transition from military service to civilian life. By all accounts, it has been highly successful in the more than 75 years since it was signed into law. The GI Bill more than doubled the number of college graduates in the United States while helping to educate millions of veterans.

But, unfortunately, it has fallen behind the times. Online education is here to stay, and lawmakers should update the GI Bill accordingly.

Riggs is a public voices fellow of the Op Ed Project and the executive director of academic programs and learning innovation at Oregon State University Ecampus.

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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Tribune News Service/The Island Packet/Tracy Glantz

Working re-entry

Tyrone Hollins, left, and Joseph Frasier work in the Turn 90 program screen printing shop. The program based in South Carolina helps with the re-entry process by helping formerly incarcerated men with life skills.

Ukraine endures many blackouts

About 10 million are without electricity

By **VOLODYMYR VERBYANY** and **OLESIA SAFRONOVA**
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Ukraine is approaching the winter months with blackouts spreading across the country, as Russia's missile campaign pummels power stations, grid networks and other civilian facilities.

More than 10 million Ukrainians—about a quarter of the pre-war population—are without electricity, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in his overnight address Thursday, as the first snow fell in the capital Kyiv.

"We're doing everything to stabilize supply," the Ukrainian leader said. The majority of the outages are affecting the region around Kyiv in central Ukraine, the western region of Vinnytsia, the area around the Black Sea port of Odesa in the south and the Sumy region in the north, he said.

Millions of Ukrainians have fled the country since Russia invaded in February. Some officials have encouraged them to stay abroad to reduce the strain on Ukraine's infrastructure. Others have called for patience—or to relocate from large cities to suburbs or the countryside.

Multiple emergency blackouts this week hit Kyiv with the heaviest power shortage since the war started, local grid company Yasno said. Temperatures in the capital are

expected to plunge to minus 21 degrees on Sunday.

On Tuesday, Russia launched the most severe air attack since the invasion began, and the onslaught has continued with crucial infrastructure facilities hit in the country's east and south, including Odesa.

Parts of Ukraine may be without electricity for days, and once restored, power may be available only for two to three hours a day, DTEK Energy Chief Executive Officer Dmytro Sakharuk said Thursday on national television. Repairs are increasingly difficult as critical facilities are destroyed.

The Kremlin is deliberately targeting Ukraine's energy infrastructure in an attempt to break the resistance of the Ukrainian people as Russian troops suffer painful setbacks on the battlefield. Moscow this month ordered a retreat from the southern city of Kherson, the only regional center seized during the war.

Ruslan Martsinkiv, the mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk, a western Ukrainian town about 130 kilometers (80 miles) south of Lviv, urged residents to find shelter in the country or at private homes.

"Someone may have relatives or friends there—it will be very difficult to survive in apartment buildings," he said in a radio interview Thursday. "One needs to brace for the worst, since there will be no light for days, not just hours."

The damage inflicted on Kherson's energy infrastructure by the withdrawing Russian troops is estimated at as much as \$54 million, according to Volodymyr Hetmanov, CEO of VS Energy International Ukraine, which manages the local power grid.

Pelosi ...

Continued from page 1

Keeping Democrats united has rarely been Pelosi's problem—in fact, it is her superpower.

Her colleagues praised her uncanny ability to hold together the Democrats' often fractious mosaic, which ranges from progressives like Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-New York, to the more conservative Blue Dog coalition. Pelosi often pointed with pride to the caucus' diversity, saying, "our diversity is our strength."

She herded the caucus by intimately knowing the personal and political nuances and needs of her delegation—a rare skill, said John Lawrence, who served as her chief of staff when she masterminded the Affordable Care Act.

"One of Pelosi's enormous strengths is that she knows more than the person she's talking to," said Lawrence, author of the new book, "Arc of Power: Inside Nancy Pelosi's Speakership, 2005-2010."

"She knows the policy. She also knows the politics of that person's district, but she also knows the politics of that person. She knows the caucus' politics and she's talking to people in the Senate."

Lawrence wryly compared Pelosi's philosophy in determining that balance of how to keep individual legislators happy while keeping the Democratic caucus unified "to the advice and the teachings of the great British political theorist (and Rolling Stones frontman) Sir Mick Jagger: You don't always get what you want, but you get what you need."

Said former California Sen. Barbara Boxer, a close friend who also served with her in the House: "I know what her secret sauce is: She knows her members. She knows everything that they need politically. She walks in their shoes."

That goes from knowing the names of members' children and partners to knowing how many Republicans and independents live

in their district. Many of those same characteristics have made Pelosi one of the nation's best fundraisers. Boxer said Pelosi made donors feel as though they were part of the team, too. Pelosi is indefatigable, frequently on the road raising money for her members and the Democratic Party.

"Nancy could get contributions from a chandelier," Boxer quipped.

Boxer, who like Pelosi, came of age when Washington was even more of an old boys' club, said that some of their male colleagues often mistook the two Bay Area liberals for each other. Growing up in that atmosphere as pioneering women in Congress made them comfortable throwing sharp elbows when needed. Pelosi noted Thursday that when she came to Congress in 1987, there were 12 Democratic women. Now there are more than 90. The incoming members of the Democratic caucus will be about 75% women, people of color and LGBTQ, Pelosi said.

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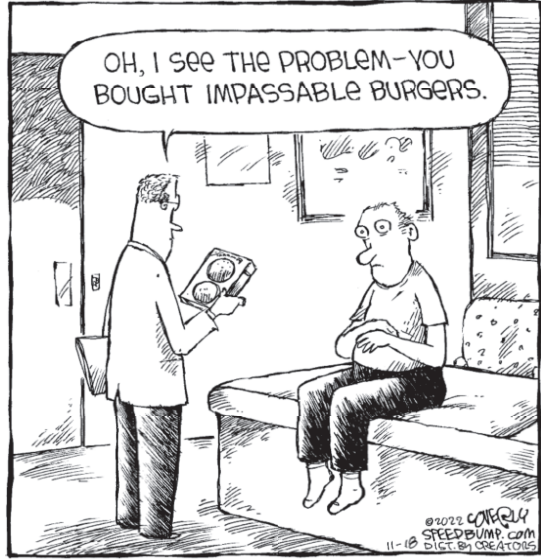
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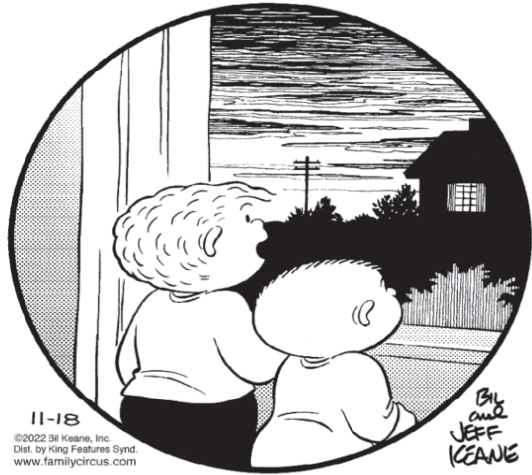
We try hard not to miss anyone who wants in this issue. If you do not get contact and would like to be in our Christmas Greeting's special section, please email Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com or call (260) 726-8141

The Commercial Review

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"The sun's goin' down and pretty soon they'll turn the moon on."

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Test your defensive play

You are West, and the bidding has gone: South West North East 1♥ Pass 3♥ Pass 6♥

clubs South has, you can assume from the bidding that he must have the ace. Having gotten this far, you can place South with the A-Q-x-x, A-J-x-x, or A-x-x-x of clubs.

NORTH ♠ K 4 2 ♥ A J 6 3 ♦ Q 7 ♣ K 10 5 2

WEST ♠ Q J 10 7 ♥ 8 7 4 ♦ J 9 5 2 ♣ 9 8

This leaves you with the remaining possibility — that declarer might have A-J-x-x, in which case his hand originally looked like:

♠ A x x ♥ K Q 10 x x ♦ A ♣ A J x x

You lead the queen of spades, won by South with the ace. Declarer cashes the ace of diamonds, plays a low trump to dummy's jack — to which East follows with the nine — and then trumps the queen of diamonds.

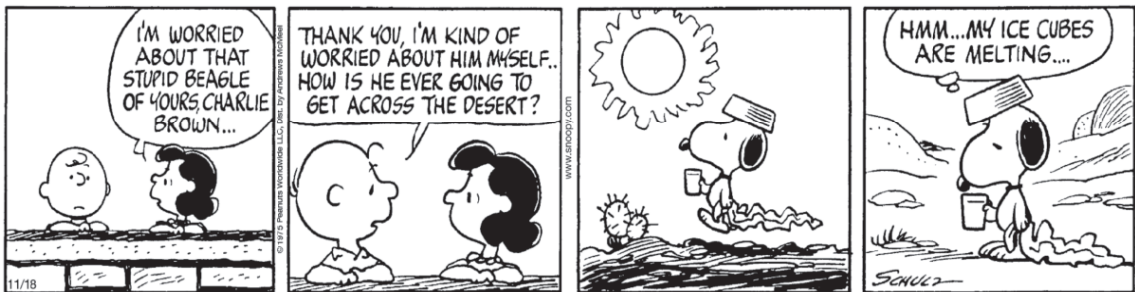
It is only after you take the time to visualize declarer's possible club holdings that you find the correct play. After winning the spade with the ten, you return the jack of spades (or a diamond).

A simple count of the three suits declarer has played thus far tells you that he started with precisely three spades, five hearts and one diamond. His other four cards must therefore be clubs.

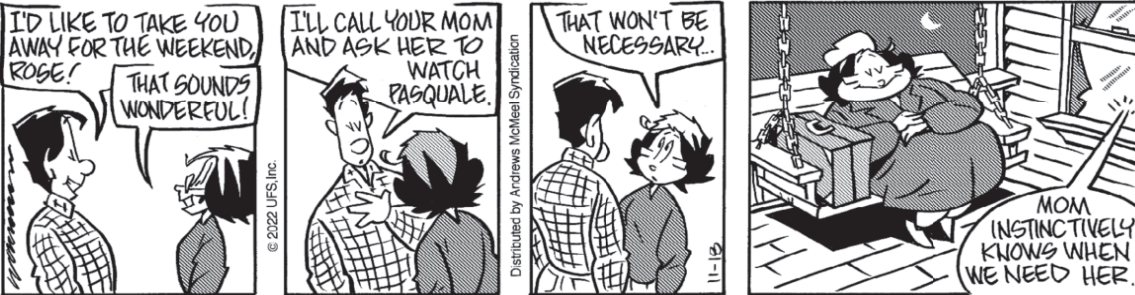
This allows South to ruff in one hand and discard a club from the other, but he must then guess which way to take the two-way club finesse after he ruffs. He might guess right and he might guess wrong, but that is much better than handing him the contract by returning a club after winning the third spade.

Tomorrow: Reducing the element of luck. ©2022 King Features Syndicate Inc.

Peanuts



Rose is Rose



Agnes



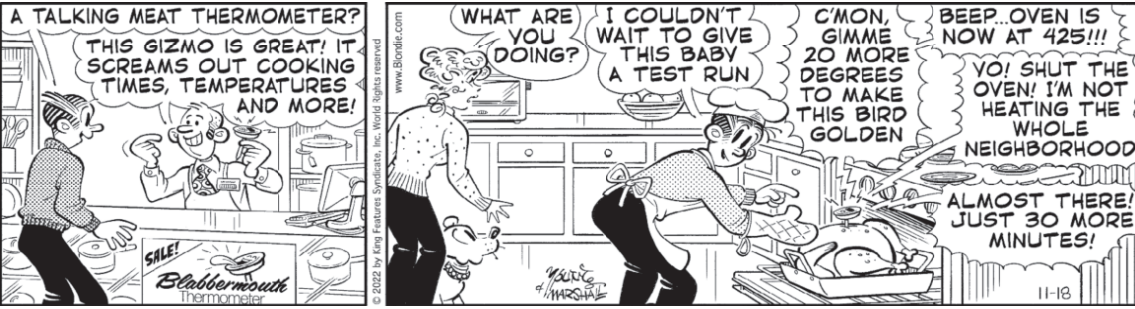
Hi and Lois



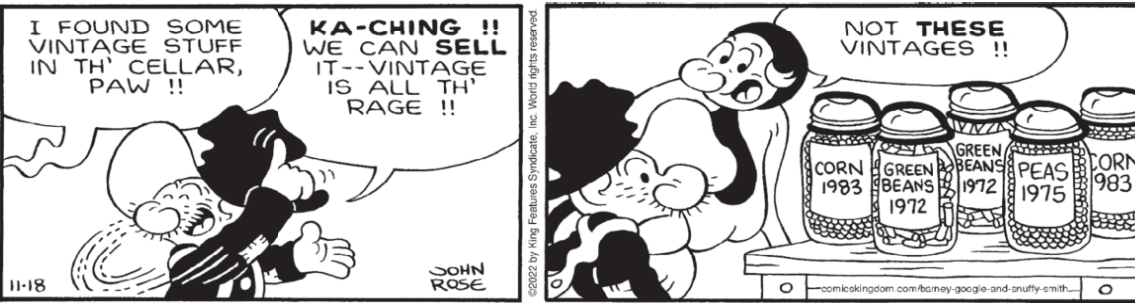
Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



CRYPTOQUIP

NQTR GZDQR KCP XTHH XCCWY NQC TFM YWZHHMB TR GTWZJD KPGGK BZYQMY FMTHHK ETRY? XMHMFZRK XQMEY.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: CONDITION WHEREBY YOU CAN'T REMEMBER WHAT A PARTICULAR PORK PRODUCT TASTES LIKE: HAM-NESIA. Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down words.

Completed crossword puzzle grid with numbers.

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Big Winners

Jay County dominates rematch with Columbia City as defending state champ makes return from injury

By RAY COONEY
The Commercial Review

When Jay County and Columbia City met last season in the first all-girls wrestling dual in state history, the Patriots came up agonizingly short.

Their coaching staff expected a close battle when the teams met in a rematch Thursday.

But with their leader back from injury earlier than expected, the result was dominance.

Defending state champion Mallory Winner returned after suffering a broken leg in the offseason and seventh-ranked Jay County won four of the six contested matches for a 54-12 victory over the visiting Eagles.

"There's a lot of things that can happen," said John Winner, one of the JCHS assistant coaches who focuses on the girls program. "We had it figured that it might be closer than that. But the girls, they came out ready to go and firing on all cylinders. They just didn't give them any room to breathe."

(Last season's match finished in a 30-30 tie with it going all the way down to the ninth tiebreaker criteria — most first points scored — to give Columbia City the win.)

The Patriot coaching staff had hoped to be able to get Winner — she was the 160-pound state champion a year ago and is ranked No. 1 in the weight class again this season — back in the lineup in mid-December, which would have given her the opportunity to get one or two tournaments in prior to the state series. (JCHS will host a regional on Jan. 6.) But she received a medical release last week, got her practices in and was ready to go Thursday.

She showed little rust, finish-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Jay County High School sophomore Dakota Chowning pulls Alexes Spaulding down to the mat during their 120-pound match Thursday evening. Chowning fought off a Spaulding pin attempt in the second period and then finished a pin of her own in the third.

ing off Columbia City's Bralynn Leazier in just 1 minute, 21 seconds, at 170 pounds.

"It feels great," said Mallory Winner of her return. "It's awesome. I'm loving it."

"I just put in the work that

everybody told me to put in. I did what my physical therapist told me to do, listened to my surgeon ... I was just making sure I never took a rest day."

The match was already well in hand when she took to the mat

thanks in part to five Columbia City forfeits. But her return makes a Patriot squad that had finished third and first in its first two tournaments of the season even more dangerous.

See **Winners** page 7

Judge takes AL MVP

By KRISTIE ACKERT
New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

NEW YORK — From June to October almost every time he came to the plate, Aaron Judge heard the chants; "MVP, MVP, MVP." Thursday night, those chants became a reality. Judge's remarkable 2022 season was capped with baseball's highest award. The 30-year-old free-agent outfielder who led the Yankees this season was tabbed the American League Most Valuable Player by voting members of the Baseball Writers of American Association. Judge got 28 first-place votes, easily beating Shohei Ohtani's two first-place votes.

He is the 14th Yankee to win MVP, the first since Alex Rodriguez won it in 2007. A Bronx Bomber has won the award 34 times in history and Judge joins the likes of Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris, whose AL and Yankee single-season home run record Judge broke this year.

While the most intriguing question about Judge this winter is where he will wind up in free agency, there still was some curiosity about this MVP award. There was a very loud faction that campaigned for Angels pitcher/outfielder Ohtani, the 2021 unanimous winner.

The Angels star had another tremendous season as baseball's only two-way player. In fact, Ohtani had an even better year than in 2021. He hit 34 home runs with a .875 OPS. On the mound, Ohtani struck out 219 in 166 innings and pitched to a 2.33 ERA over 28 starts.

Ohtani finished with a 9.6 Wins Above Replacement according to Baseball Reference, a statistic developed to eliminate the factors that contribute to the voting, like that the Angels were effectively out of the playoff race by May, while Judge was playing meaningful games into late September. His WAR was 9.5 according to FanGraphs. Judge finished with an 11.6 WAR according to Baseball Reference and a 10.6 on FanGraphs.

Not only did Judge set the American League home run record, held for 61 years by Maris, but he challenged for the AL Triple Crown. He finished second in batting average (.311), first in homers (62) and first in RBIs (131). He also led baseball with a 1.111 OPS in 157 games played. Playing in all but five games of the regular season, a career high, was not only to show that despite his earlier struggles with injuries, Judge has been durable the last two years, but also to accommodate the national interest in his home run chase of Maris' title.



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The Commercial Review

Email Lindsey at L.Cochran@thecr.com or call (260) 726-8141

NFL game moved

By NOLAN BIANCHI
The Detroit News
Tribune News Service

A winning football team will host a game at Ford Field this weekend.

That became official Thursday, as a lake-effect snowstorm in the Buffalo, New York, area forced the NFL to announce the Buffa-

lo Bills will be playing Sunday's game against the Cleveland Browns at Detroit's Ford Field.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul on Thursday issued a State of Emergency for at least 11 counties in western New York, warning of snow accumulations that could reach 4 feet.

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