

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

Grants will help with paving

Jay County municipalities were awarded more than \$885,000

By RAY COONEY

The Commercial Review

More than \$1 million in street paving is now set for Jay County municipalities in 2023 after grant awards were announced this week.

Indiana Department of Transportation announced more than \$885,000 in combined Community Crossings grants to Portland, Redkey and Dunkirk.

The grants were part of \$119.4 million in funding for 229 municipalities and counties.

"Modernizing and improving transportation infrastructure is a key component of driving economic development in the Hoosier state," said Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb in a press release. "The Community Crossings program continues to help take communities to the next level by providing safe, reliable roads and bridges for residents and visitors alike."

The grants require a 25% local match, bringing the total paving to be completed to more than \$1.18 million.

Luke Hemmelgarn of Choice One Engineering, which assisted Portland with its application, said the list of streets to be paved with its \$549,558 in grant funding includes the entirety of Arch Street.

See **Grants** page 2



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Winterfest ready

A snowman, Christmas trees, gifts and other various holiday fare were set up Friday in the Women's Building at Jay County Fairgrounds in preparation for Sunday's Winterfest at the Fairgrounds. It will run from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday and will include carriage rides, cookie decorating, ornament and craft making and Santa. There will also be a performance by Cook and Belle. Also this weekend, Cruis'n the HoliJay Lights at the Fairgrounds will be open from 6 to 9 p.m. tonight and 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

Juul agrees to suit settlement

By JEF FEELEY and MARATHI NAYAK
Bloomberg News
Tribune News Service

Juul Labs Inc. has agreed to pay \$1.2 billion to resolve about 10,000 lawsuits targeting the e-cigarette maker as a major cause of a U.S. youth-vaping epidemic, according to people familiar with the matter.

The accord, which hasn't yet been finalized, was

announced on Tuesday, but an amount wasn't disclosed. The deal aims to resolve all personal-injury, class-action and school-district claims against Juul gathered before a judge in California for pre-trial information exchanges, the people said.

The proposed settlement comes as the embattled e-cigarette maker likely staved off bankruptcy last month with a cash infu-

sion from long-time investors and by laying off hundreds of workers to cut costs. The company said earlier this week the settlement will be covered by the new financing.

Arik Ben-Zvi, a Juul spokesman, declined to comment Friday on the settlement. If enough injured plaintiffs and school districts sign onto the deal, it would mostly wrap up the multi-district litigation

(MDL) case that has been before U.S. District Judge William Orrick in San Francisco since 2019. Orrick must approve the settlement.

The Juul settlements include over 8,500 personal injury cases, over 1,400 governmental-entity cases, and 32 tribal cases, according to a release issued by the San Francisco-based Lief Cabraser law firm, which is representing the

plaintiffs, earlier this week.

The specific details of who is eligible to participate in the settlement are still being worked out, the people said. Personal-injury claimants, for example, will learn in February how much they can expect to receive, according to a form letter issued by plaintiffs' lawyers leading the litigation, the people said.

See **Settlement** page 2

Retrospect

Four were killed in collision with train

Fifty years ago this week, the county was mourning the deaths of four local residents.

The Dec. 11, 1972, edition of The Commercial Review included coverage of the deaths of Richard, Margaret, Robert and Brenda Runkle, who were killed when the car they were in was struck by a westbound Norfolk & Western freight train.

The brothers and their wives, who ranged in age from 24 to 38, were driving on county road 173 (now county road 300 East) when the crash occurred at 5:55 p.m. Dec. 10, 1972.

Train engineer C.J. Bodiken of Lima, Ohio, said the driver of the vehicle apparently didn't see the oncoming train as there was no attempt to slow down or stop. (Jay County Sheriff Harold Loy reported that Robert Runkle had been driving the vehicle.) But, he added, the icy road could have played a role in the crash. (A state police investigation concurred that the icy road could have been a contributing factor, though

there was no physical evidence that the car had skidded on the ice.) He noted that the train was traveling at 40 to 45 miles per hour at the time of the collision.

The railroad crossing was marked but there were no flashing lights.

Bodiken said the car was thrown about 100 feet down the track by the initial collision before the train struck the car again and dragged it an additional 300 feet before it came to a stop on the side of the track.

Richard, Margaret and Brenda Runkle all died at the scene. Robert Runkle was rushed to Jay County Hospital but was pronounced dead on arrival. All four deaths were caused by either broken necks or skull fractures.

The Runkle brothers had reportedly gone to Richard's farm to pick up Christmas presents.

Richard Runkle had served as Jay County auditor and was a founder and manager of the Portland Rockets.



Photo courtesy of Indiana State Police - Redkey post

Portland reserve Police officer Jim Bruner holds a flashlight to allow Indiana State Trooper Tom Johnson to study the scene of a fatal accident in 1972. The car pictured was struck by a train, resulting in the deaths of four Jay County residents.

Deaths

Doug Jones, 71, Fort Wayne

Details on page 2.

Weather

Jay County had a high temperature of 43 degrees Friday.

Today's forecast calls for cloudy skies with a high of 45. There is a chance of rain tonight with the low dropping to 46. Skies will be partly cloudy Sunday and Monday with highs in the 40s.

See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

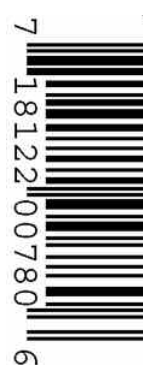
Jay County High School will hold its band and choir Christmas concert at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Fort Recovery's middle school and high school Christmas concert is scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday.

Coming up

Tuesday — Coverage of Monday's Dunkirk City Council meeting.

Wednesday — Results from Tuesday's JCHS swim meet against Delta.



Grants ...

Continued from page 1
Others to be paved are the entirety of Pierce Street, Walnut Street east of Meridian Street, Noble Street between Main and High streets, and Union Street between Meridian and Bridge streets.

"We've done very, very well with Community Crossings," said Portland Mayor John Boggs. "We've been able to pave a lot of streets in Portland because of it and it looks like we're going to be able to do more."

Based on the grant total, the city's match for the paving will be \$183,186. (The match amount could change based on where bids for the work come in.)
The Community Crossings

paving will be in addition to planned paving of U.S. 27 (Meridian Street) through the city beginning in late spring 2023.

Redkey was awarded \$196,100.25 in grant funding. It originally applied for paving Boyce Street between Sycamore and Meridian streets, Bell Avenue between Meridian and Butler streets, Sycamore Street between Indiana 67 and Main Street and all of Morgan Drive through Redkey Morgan Park. It later added Bell Avenue between Meridian and Washington streets to its application.

The town's match for the project will be \$57,398.75.

Dunkirk had initially hoped to apply for funding to pave the

streets in Quincy Place, but that area had been inadvertently left off of the city's asset management plan. (The plan is an evaluation of street conditions that is required for the Community Crossings grant.) Instead, the city applied for and was awarded funding to pave all of Mount Auburn Street, Lincoln Avenue on the west side of the city and Angle Street on the north side of the city. (The asset management plan is being updated, with plans to apply for a grant to help pave the Quincy Place streets next year.)

"For Dunkirk, it has been fantastic," said Mayor Jack Robbins. "This is like seven in a row, six or seven, we've done. I don't know how Dunkirk would ever

do what we've done without Community Crossings.

"This is one of the better things I think INDOT and the state have done for a long time."

The city's match for the work will be \$46,993.70.

Geneva received \$172,196.25 in grant funding as well with a match amount of \$57,398.75.

Bidding for all of the road work is slated for early next year with the projects to be completed in 2023.

Community Crossings grant funding of \$197,827 awarded in November 2021 led to the paving of the entirety of Broad, Johnson and 5th streets as well as parts of Ohio, Shatto and High streets in Dunkirk. Portland received \$551,699 for projects

during the same funding round.

The Community Crossings program has provided more than \$1 billion in grant funding for local road projects since 2017.

"Community Crossings is a tremendous opportunity for towns, cities and counties to enhance local road networks across the state," INDOT Commissioner Mike Smith said. "INDOT looks forward to partnering with locals to deliver on projects that will have a positive impact on safety and bring business to Indiana. I'm excited to see the progress in these communities throughout the coming year."

The next application period for Community Crossings grants is set for January.

CR almanac

Sunday 12/11	Monday 12/12	Tuesday 12/13	Wednesday 12/14	Thursday 12/15
45/30	41/27	43/35	46/31	42/30
Skies will be mostly cloudy with a high of 45.	Expect a high in the low 40s under partly sunny skies.	Skies will be partly sunny again with a high of 43.	Rain is expected to begin shortly after midnight and continue throughout the day.	There is a slight chance of rain and snow. Otherwise, skies will be partly sunny with a high of 42.

Lotteries

Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 0-6-3 Daily Four: 1-9-8-8 Quick Draw: 1-3-5-7-9-19-21-24-34-36-41-43-54-56-59-62-64-65-71-77	Pick 4: 0-4-1-1 Pick 5: 0-6-1-4-4
Ohio Midday Pick 3: 7-5-3	Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$116 million
	Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$379 million

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.64 Dec. corn.....6.61 Wheat6.49	Wheat 6.74 Dec. wheat 7.24
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.62 Dec. corn.....6.59 Jan. corn.....6.61	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.44 Late Nov. corn6.44 Beans14.83 Late Nov. beans.....14.83 Wheat7.49
The Andersons Richland Township Corn.....6.44 Dec. corn.....6.44 Beans14.73 Dec. beans14.73	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.44 Dec. corn.....6.44 Beans14.53 Dec. beans14.55 Wheat6.74

Today in history

In 1041, Michael V Calaphates took over the Byzantine Empire after the death of Michael IV.
In 1815, Ada Lovelace was born August Ada Byron in Piccadilly Terrace, Middlesex, England. She is considered the first computer programmer for her writings in connection with the concept of Charles Babbage's Analytical Engine.
In 1948, the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The two key ethical considerations in the document are a commitment to the inherent dignity of every human being and a commitment to nondiscrimination.

In 2003, Fort Recovery teachers reached an agreement with the school board that included a 3% pay increase and a new insurance plan.
In 2018, Jay School Board unanimously approved a plan to move all seventh and eighth graders to Jay County High School. Elementary school students would then shift to the middle school buildings, with Judge Haynes (Portland) and Westlawn (Dunkirk) elementary schools closing. General Shanks Elementary School was closed and the building converted to house the corporation's central office, preschool and special programs. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Monday 8:30 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners executive session, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Regional Sewer District, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Dunkirk Board of Works, city building, 131 S. Main St. 7 p.m. — Dunkirk City Council, city building, 131 S. Main St.	Wednesday 8 a.m. — Upper Wabash River Basin Commission, Wells County Government Annex, 223 W. Washington St., Bluffton. 1 p.m. — Jay County Sheriff's Office Merit Board, sheriff's office, 224 W. Water St., Portland. 6 p.m. — Jay County Commissioners and Jay County Council joint executive session, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland. 7 p.m. — Jay County Council, auditorium, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
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Obituaries

Doug Jones

July 28, 1951-Dec. 7, 2022

Doug E. Jones, age 71, passed away Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022, at his home in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He was born July 28, 1951, in Bryant, Indiana, to the late Harold Jones and Maxine (Masters) Garringer.

Doug attended Portland High School prior to serving his country as a member of the U.S.

Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

He is survived by his wife, Marjorie Jones; six children; 13 grandchildren; sister Sue Mozena of Kendallville, Indiana; brothers Steve (Aloma) Jones of Cocoa, Florida, Richard (Claudia) Jones



Jones

of Portland, Indiana, Greg (Teresa) Garringer of Redkey, Indiana, Shawn Garringer of Indianapolis, Shannon (Melissa) Garringer of Portland, Indiana, and Brad (Lori) Garringer of Greensburg, Indiana.

A memorial gathering will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2022, at Fairhaven Funeral Home, 6557 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne, Indiana, with military

honors to follow at 7 p.m.

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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.

Settlement ...

Continued from page 1
"We can advise at this time that eligible plaintiffs will receive a minimum of \$1,000 gross (before attorneys' fees, costs, and any liens

are deducted) and that the gross value of most claims in the settlement program is expected to be substantially higher," the letter said.

Juul faced a wave of suits accusing it of failing to warn consumers about the risks of vaping and illegally marketing the nicotine-delivery devices to minors.

City court

Judge Donald Gillespie

Fined and sentenced

Melvin Mendez, Portland, driving without a valid license, \$160.50, and driving without insurance, \$25; Taylor Morris, Anderson, speeding 101 mph in a 55 mph zone, \$171; Hayley P. Price, Portland, passing a school bus, \$485.50; Matthew L. Uhrick, Hartford City, driving without a valid license, \$160.50, driving without insurance, \$25, and using fictitious driver's registration, \$25; Dakota L. Wilhelm, Portland, driving with expired plates, \$160.50, and driving without insurance, \$25.

Default

Devin M. Kline, Rockford, Ohio, driving with expired plates and driving without insurance; Charles E. Crenshaw, North Clarendon, Vermont, driving with a suspended license; Kylie S. Seeley, Hartford City, driving without insurance; Arciterra Group, Phoenix, Arizona, two counts each

of overgrown weeds, weeds or grass taller than 8 inches and refusal to remove weeds; Baeza Hernandez, Portland, overgrown weeds, weeds or grass taller than 8 inches and refusal to remove weeds; Joseph K. Barnes, Harper Woods, Michigan, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Brittany L. Cobbs, Indianapolis, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; James M. Levering, DeGraff, Ohio, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Juan C. Mojica, Dallas, Texas, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Jay W. Morrow, Winnipeg, Canada, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Jesus J. Orozco, Lansing, Illinois, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Fnu Kumar K. Raj, Madera, California, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Gurdit Singh, Bakersfield, California, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Parampreet Singh, Yuba City, California, violating Redkey's prohibiting truck traffic ordinance; Sara E. Bledsoe, Dunkirk, expired plates; Wills E. Clark Jr., Anderson, driving with a suspended license; Dylan A. Clubs, Union City, driving without a valid license; Aaliyah Oneal, Bloomington, speeding 48 mph in a 30 mph zone and driving with expired plates; Aaliyah Oneal, Bloomington, speeding 41 mph in a 30 mph zone and driving with expired plates; DeWayne Pettiford, Akron, Ohio, driving with expired plates; Joseph R. Young, Lima, Ohio, speeding 79 mph in a 55 mph zone, driving with fictitious plates and driving without insurance

SERVICES

Saturday
Johnson, Phyllis: 10 a.m., MJS Mortuaries, 109 S. Meridian St., Redkey.
Muhlenkamp, Betty: 10 a.m., Church of the Most Holy Trinity, 7321 Indiana 67, Bryant.
Rouch, Carol: 2 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Monday
Hall, Mellissa: 11 a.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Adams, Mary: 6 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.
Newton, Richard: 7 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Tuesday
Sanders, Sue: 1 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Wednesday
Jones, Doug: 5 p.m., Fairhaven Funeral Home, 6557 N. Clinton St., Fort Wayne.

Service listings provided by
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New drug appears to slow Alzheimer's

By HANNAH CRITCHFIELD
Tampa Bay Times
Tribune News Service

An experimental drug appears to slow cognitive decline in people with early onset Alzheimer's.

New data on lecanemab, which is manufactured by Biogen and Eisai, was published last week in the New England Journal of Medicine that showed people who took the drug experienced "moderately less decline on measures of cognition and function."

However, some patients also experienced negative side effects like brain swelling and bleeding — meaning people with early Alzheimer's disease should be aware of the risks before seeking treatment.

Lecanemab decreases the amount of amyloid plaque in the brain. The protein deposits have long been hypothesized to be

linked to the progression of Alzheimer's.

The drug is intended for people with early-onset Alzheimer's or mild cognitive impairment. People who have more advanced stages of Alzheimer's will likely not be eligible for the treatment.

People interested in the drug might not have to wait long. The Food and Drug Administration is considering lecanemab for accelerated approval, and will make its decision on Jan. 6.

Eisai has said lecanemab could cost between \$9,249 and \$35,605 a year.

There's currently only one drug on the market that attempts to slow progression of Alzheimer's by reducing the level of plaque in the brain. Known as Aduhelm or aducanumab, the controversial treatment received federal approval last year, despite limited results that the drug helped patients.

Relationships have gotten tangled

DEAR ABBY: I'm a high school junior in a predicament.

Early in my sophomore year, during a school trip, I developed strong feelings for a girl named "Joelle." She's a grade ahead of me, meaning I don't see her often or have many chances to talk to her during school except for the occasional chance meeting.

Because of our lack of contact, I thought my feelings were subsiding, so I started a relationship with another girl, "Amber."

However, shortly after beginning this new relationship, I had a long conversation with Joelle and quickly realized I'm in love with her.

While I still have feelings for Amber, it crushes me not to be with Joelle.

To make matters worse, if I end things with Amber, there's no guarantee Joelle would give me a chance — she's bisexual (but primarily lesbian) and she's close friends with Amber. I don't want to throw away my relationship with Amber over what may amount to a pipe dream, but I really am in love with Joelle.

Please help. — JUMBLED HEART IN SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR JUMBLED: Amber deserves better than to be involved with a guy who is in love with someone else. Because Joelle is not only "primarily" lesbian but also close friends with Amber, do not pin your hopes on anything but friend-

Dear Abby



DEAR ASKING: Are you obligated? Certainly not. It is presumptuous for the groom's mother to expect that you would. If she's unable to pay for the extended accommodations, her son should step up to the plate.

DEAR ABBY: I've been married 25 years. My husband just took up golf and working out at the club. He takes his wedding ring off for both activities, and then he sometimes forgets to put it back on. When we are heading out for dinner or an event, I ask, "Where's your ring?" He then runs back into the house to put it on. What do you make of this? — PERPLEXED IN ILLINOIS

DEAR PERPLEXED: Depending upon your husband's work-out, it's possible that the wedding ring could get in the way or be scratched. It may also interfere with his swing while he's playing golf. It is also possible that he doesn't like wearing a wedding ring. What I make of this is of less importance than what the two of you make of it.

It's time for a calm, honest discussion.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Community Calendar

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

Today

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

Sunday

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

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.

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP — Meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of

each month at Mercer Health in Coldwater, Ohio.

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 Trinity United Methodist Church, 323 S. Meridian 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. Walk-ins accepted.

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. Everyone is welcome.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 6:30 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.

REDISCOVERING JOY

— The support group of widows and widowers meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at R & R Fabrications, 601 E. Washington St., St. Henry, Ohio. For more information, email rediscoveringjoy@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

JAY COUNTY PASTORS AND CHAPLAINS — Meet at 11:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the chapel at Indiana University Health Jay Hospital.

BRYANT COMMUNITY CENTER EUCHRE — Will be played at 1 p.m. each Tuesday. The public is welcome.

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

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS — Will meet at 7 p.m. at Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 218 E. High St., Portland. For more infor-

mation, 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. Includes activities and devotional time.

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

BRYANT/NEW CORYDON SENIOR CITIZENS — Will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Bryant Community Center for a carry-in dinner. Meat is provided.

PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB — Will meet at noon each Wednesday at Harmony Cafe, 121 N. Meridian St.

JAY COUNTY CIVIC THEATRE — Holds its regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in room 205 on the second floor of John Jay Center for Learning, 101 S. Meridian St., Portland.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP — For caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, the group will meet at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Blackford Community Hospital conference room, 410 Pilgrim Boulevard in Hartford City. For more information, call Joni Slentz or Lisa Garrett at (765) 348-1072 or (800) 272-3900.

AL-ANON FAMILY GROUP — New Beginnings, a support group for friends and families of alcoholics, will meet at 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday in the Zion Lutheran Church,

218 E. High St., Portland. For more information, call (260) 726-8229.

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

JAY COUNTY SCOUTS ORGANIZATION — Will meet for its annual meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 14 at the scout facility, 4684 S. Waste Management Drive, rural Portland.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Friday's Solution

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

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

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

**For Jay County Schools
December 12-16**

Monday: Main Entrees: Chicken Alfredo Sauce, Rotini Pasta **Alternate Entrees:** Build Your Own Pizza Fun Lunch, Chicken and Cheese Chef Salad, Saltine Crackers, Light Ranch Dressing **Sides for all meals:** Steamed Broccoli Florets

Tuesday: Main Entrees: Soft Beef Whole Grain Tacos, Shredded Lettuce, Shredded Cheddar Cheese, Salsa **Alternate Entrees:** Build Your Own Pizza Fun Lunch, Chicken and Cheese Chef Salad, Saltine Crackers, Light Ranch Dressing **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned Black Beans

Wednesday: Main Entrees: Toasted Cheese Sandwich **Alternate Entrees:** Build Your Own Pizza Fun Lunch, Chicken and Cheese Chef Salad, Saltine Crackers, Light Ranch Dressing **Sides for all meals:** Tater Tots, Rainbow Veggie Medley

Thursday: Main Entree: Breaded Chicken Drumstick, Mashed Potatoes, Chicken Gravy, Dinner Roll **Alternate Entrees:** Build Your Own Pizza Fun Lunch, Chicken and Cheese Chef Salad, Saltine Crackers, Light Ranch Dressing **Sides for all meals:** Seasoned Corn

Friday: Main Entrees: Classic pepperoni pizza **Alternate Entrees:** Build Your Own Pizza Fun Lunch, Chicken and Cheese Chef Salad, Saltine Crackers, Light Ranch Dressing **Sides for all meals:** Savory Green Beans

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Bankruptcy can't become escape

New York Daily News
Tribune News Service

It's been a busy time for sentient scumbucket Alex Jones. On Dec. 1, he hosted a certain rapper turned antisemitic rant, squirming a little as his brother in hate praised Hitler and Nazis. On Dec. 2, Jones — who's been morally bankrupt for decades — filed for Chapter 11 personal bankruptcy, a transparent attempt to make it harder for families he smeared to collect a substantial share of the \$1.5 billion defamation

Guest Editorial

judgment they won earlier this year.

Jones, who's gotten away with almost every vile thing he's done and said in his 48 years, must not escape accountability this time.

Let's repeat in plain terms what prompted jurors and a judge to order he pay a huge sum to the loved ones of first graders and educators murdered in 2012 at Sandy Hook Elementary by an unstable young man. Jones repeatedly called the massacre a whole-cloth hoax staged by nefarious forces, which is to say he called mothers and fathers enduring unimaginable grief actors who were gladly profiting from the experience. It is literally impossible to concoct a more nauseating lie.

Nor was it an idle falsehood. Jones' followers proceeded to hound the people they were told were fabricators. They harassed and tormented them. They forced them to move. They turned what was already a period of awful anguish no human should ever have to endure into hell on earth.

Jones has been slithering away from having to pay any price for years. As The Washington Post reported last month, records show that when, in mid-2020, it started to look like there

might be consequences for his vile lies, he started moving money into other companies controlled by himself, relatives or friends. And so, when his Free Speech Systems entered corporate bankruptcy in July, the very live and still unanswered question was where else in the woodwork he has bills rolled up and stashed. That is now underlined in light of his attempt to restructure his personal finances.

Reality might finally bite Alex Jones. It must leave a mark.

There's room for optimism

By LARRY DEBOER

The holidays are here. Time for good cheer and happy thoughts, even if candy canes and sugar plums cost 7.8% more this year than last.

Larry DeBoer



That's the 12-month inflation rate as of October 2022. The Consumer Price Index for all items shows prices 7.8% higher than in October 2021. This year has seen the highest inflation since the early 1980s.

It happened fast. It's hard to remember now, but the pandemic reduced the inflation rate from 2.3% in February 2020 to near zero in May of that year. It was still low in February 2021, at 1.7%. Then it shot up to 5.3% in June 2021, then to 7% in December.

How did that happen? The economy was recovering rapidly from the COVID recession. Federal COVID relief payments were adding to spending. Consumer spending shifted from services to goods, and manufacturers couldn't keep up. Labor force participation was down, so employees were scarce. Supply chains were still recovering from the shutdown of trade. Low interest rates encouraged borrowing and spending. The war in Ukraine raised oil and food prices.

People are unhappy. The index of consumer sentiment is lower now than during the worst of the pandemic. So, in the cheerful spirit of the holidays, let's list some reasons why inflation will come down next year.

First, October was the fourth straight month that the inflation rate dropped. It peaked at 9% in June. Inflation is still too high, but it's slowly trending in the right direction.

Second, durable goods price inflation has dropped a lot. Those are manufactured products, such as cars and appliances. Durable goods inflation peaked at 18.7% in February. It was 4.8% in October. The shift of spending from services to goods has continued, but manufacturers have done some catching up.

Third, fiscal policy has turned anti-inflationary. Fiscal policy refers to the federal budget. Federal budget deficits add to spending, which increases the demand for goods and services, and can raise prices if supplies don't keep up. The federal deficit was 18% of GDP in the first quarter of 2021. In the third quarter this year it was 3%. That's because there was no big COVID relief bill passed this year. It's \$3 trillion that won't be added to demand.

Fourth, monetary policy

has turned anti-inflationary. The Federal Reserve has increased their policy interest rate, from near zero% in February to nearly 4% now. Higher interest rates aren't especially cheerful, but they will decrease borrowing, which will decrease spending, which will reduce pressure on prices. The rise in mortgage rates will reduce housing demand. There are signs that home prices are starting to fall.

Fifth, the value of the dollar has increased. In May 2021 it took 0.82 European euros to buy a dollar on exchange markets. Now it takes 1.04 euros. Put another way, anything priced in euros is now 21% cheaper in dollars than it was a year and a half ago. That should hold down the prices of imported goods.

Smaller deficits, higher interest rates and higher exchange rates could result in recession. Businesses would cut back on hiring, and that would increase unemployment. Again, though, have a happy holiday thought. There are still 5 million more job openings than job searchers, so businesses could cut back their hiring plans and unemployment might not rise very much. Households still have a lot of extra savings left from the COVID relief payments, which might keep spending from falling too much. We might just get a "soft landing," which is lower inflation without recession.

Oil and gasoline prices are unpredictable, to say the least. So much depends on politics and war. But again, the trend is in the right direction. Average gasoline prices peaked at over \$5 per gallon in mid-June this year. The price is around \$3.75 now.

Unfortunately, lower inflation does not necessarily mean lower prices. The prices of gasoline and housing may fall, but for most goods and services lower inflation means that prices keep rising, just more slowly.

Hey, that's not cheery holiday spirit! Inflation surely will fall next year. Let's postpone our gloomy economic thoughts to the gloomy month of January.

DeBoer is a Purdue University agricultural economist.



Strengthen child tax credit

By RAMESH PONNURU

Bloomberg Opinion
Tribune News Service

The federal government's child tax credit just had its 25th anniversary, but not everyone is celebrating. Some conservatives think it's a runaway entitlement program. A few on the left would rather redirect the money elsewhere. Advocates, meanwhile, want to expand it — but don't agree on how.

The critics are mostly wrong. But its supporters risk letting their conflicting ambitions obscure what matters: The credit is shrinking in value, and protecting it ought to be the top priority.

The disagreements among supporters reflect the tax credit's multiple purposes. It is a way to fight child poverty and to deliver middle-class tax relief. It helps parents meet the needs of children. It rebalances the burden of government among adults without minor children, parents of small families, and parents of large ones. Some supporters hope the credit will mitigate the plunging birth rate.

These goals come with tradeoffs. Making the credit more generous to the lowest earners may mean making it more than just tax relief — since those with the lowest incomes pay little in federal taxes in the first place — and will leave less money available to boost middle-class families.

Those conservatives who oppose the child credit have too many complaints about it to list here. They say that it's bad for civic health to exempt large numbers of people from paying the income tax, as the child credit does. Never mind that most people haven't paid income tax for most of U.S. history. Opponents also say that the credits will dangerously reduce the incentive for parents to work, citing academic models that other scholars call implausible. And they say that

Ramesh Ponnuru



the credits' cost keeps Congress from passing pro-growth tax cuts, even though the actual history of such tax cuts shows they can't be passed without such measures to aid middle-class families.

While some conservatives want to scant the child credit in favor of cutting taxes on capital gains, some liberals have other ideas for the money. Isabel Sawhill, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, recently warned against enlarging the credit: "I could build you a Cadillac pre-K or child care system for that kind of money."

Leave aside whether these proposals could garner the bipartisan support the child tax credit has usually enjoyed. Their purported advantage — that they target a smaller group of children for benefits — comes with a major drawback: They favor some parental decisions over other, equally responsible ones. Families that decide to have one parent stay home to care for small children can benefit from the credit, as can families who use child care or pre-K. The targeted benefits generally leave out the former group. They push familial decisions in one direction, for no good reason.

Meanwhile, it's not as though the child tax credit is expanding at the expense of other government priorities. In fact, it's not expanding at all. The Republican tax reform of 2017 doubled it from \$1,000 to \$2,000 per child and allowed it to offset some payroll taxes as well as income taxes.

But that enlargement was part-

ly an illusion. It was temporary; it will expire in 2025. The reform also eliminated another tax benefit for children, the dependent exemption, which was worth \$600 per child for a plurality of taxpayers. Democrats increased the size of the credit even more briefly, but that expansion has already expired.

The \$2,000 credit has also seen its value eroded by the recent bout of high inflation. It has lost nearly a fifth of its purchasing power since 2017. The tax code is only slightly more generous to children now than it was before then, and it is getting less generous all the time.

So the critics' vision of a relentlessly expanding child benefit is mistaken. And before trying to expand it, the advocates ought to be concentrating on restoring the benefit level that parents had in 2018 and making sure it doesn't expire. A second priority should be legislation that prevents future erosion of the child credit. The maximum credit of \$2,000 per child should be indexed at least to inflation, and ideally to nominal wages (which tend to grow a little faster).

The alternative is a steady tax increase on parents, especially of large families, followed by a sharp increase in 2026. (And yes, "tax increase" is the right description: It falls entirely on households that pay either income or payroll taxes or both.) Republicans and Democrats ought to be able to agree on blocking that tax increase — if they can ignore some of the extraneous noise of the debate over the child credit.

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

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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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12-10 CRYPTOQUIP

Z DCKGU FV VQAZBQ VEBA
QRESFXL PUF DZKRQR SFIQSUQX
SF VFXA Z LEKIEKI IXFCN:
SUQ LNBEGQ IEXBL.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF A HARD DECISION MAKES PEOPLE SWITCH BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN OPINIONS, IS IT MIND-TOGGLING?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: V equals F

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to driver safety. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 2 = E)

A. 13 3 21 21 25 21
Clue: Reflective device

B. 11 2 23 5 24 2 19 5
Clue: Safety device

C. 17 2 18 2 9 11 3 6 2
Clue: Style of driving

D. 20 23 7 5 3 25 9
Clue: With care

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to safe driving.

DPESE

--	--	--	--	--

Guess Who?

I am a singer and songwriter born in Pennsylvania on December 13, 1989. I began performing in musical theater as a child and moved to Nashville at age 14. I became the youngest artist to write and record a #1 hit on the U.S. charts.



THIS TYPE OF ANIMAL IS THE MOST COMMON AROUND THE WORLD.

- WORDS**
- ACCIDENT
 - AIRBAG
 - ALERT
 - BLINDSPOT
 - CAMERA
 - COURTESY
 - DEBRIS
 - DISTRACTION
 - DRIVE
 - HAZARD
 - LAW
 - MERGE
 - PATROL
 - REDUCED
 - REGULATION
 - SAFETY
 - SEAT BELT
 - SIGNAL
 - SIGNS
 - SLOW
 - SPACE
 - VEHICLE
 - VISIBILITY
 - WEATHER



- ENGLISH:** Beak
SPANISH: Pico
ITALIAN: Becco
FRENCH: Bec
GERMAN: Schnabel

12-12 CRYPTOQUIP

LT Q AOQLY UT KQYSGLAO
KOUNK GXCX EU ARUKX SUGY,
NXUNRX AUIRS KOUIE "LE'K
EOX XYS UT NQYXCQ!"

Saturday's Cryptoquip: A BUNCH OF FEMALE FILM EDITORS WHO BANDED TOGETHER TO FORM A SINGING GROUP: THE SPLICE GIRLS.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: N equals P

Creative Coloring

Celebrate birds of all types. Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...

- DEC 13 HISTORY**
- 1642: ABEL TASMAN IS THE FIRST RECORDED EUROPEAN TO SIGHT NEW ZEALAND.
 - 1769: DARTMOUTH COLLEGE IS FOUNDED BY REVEREND ELEAZAR WHELOCK ON LAND DONATED BY ROYAL GOVERNOR JOHN WENTWORTH.
 - 1962: NASA LAUNCHES RELAY 1, THE FIRST ACTIVE REPEATER COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE IN ORBIT.



MIMIC
to copy or imitate closely

SAFE DRIVER WORD SEARCH

B L G H U E S I S I G N A L U M I Z T O
I U E N O I T C A R T S I D Y P C O R S
D E N P A A W V L R W Y O O P Y B I
R P Y M A S C G E O D F E I D S U B G R
H G S F P N U C R H N E S H D P V N W B
O U E N R G L E I T I W C U N T V W P U E
Y I T V A I A T O D C C I U Y A Y U M D
P R R S I S W S R U E L L U D U E P L G
S T U N S Z O W E B N T E Y E S W I S
P S O F I H I O A G L M T N N L R R O Y
H V C N A C O B S L E A Y Y O G E S V O
V H Y Z F Z D G I R I P O W T G E A W P
Z E A R B B A F G L Z P R M U E D G O I
R R L V S R T E I V I L A L F R F U F M
D S T L E B T A E S B T A T I E Y A T F
R R S M O L U B I G A T Y V R Z C W S D
H U A T L W I R S R I L E F E O Z A H U
E C T U P T R U Z O B B Z C Z T L E P H
M M H L U G M D N R A A O W C Y W B T S
Z R H G W T S C T A V C G T V U V A N V

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Chum sibling
4 Bright star
8 Item on stage
12 Boxer Laila
13 Slender weapon
14 "I'm a klutz!"
15 Numbered rd.
16 Ogler's look
17 Entreaty
18 Secret listeners
21 Uno + uno
22 Inlet
23 Like Cheerios
26 Blend
27 Furry foot
30 Lunch hour
31 Sinbad's bird
32 Sultry Horne
33 Squeeze (out)
34 Group of seals
35 Peruses
36 "Levitating" singer
Lipa

DOWN

37 Madre's sibling
38 Visitors to the
45 Equitable
46 TV alien
47 Mafia boss
48 Humorist
49 Church area
50 "I — Rock"
51 Thanksgiving veggies
52 Drudge
53 Periodical, for short
2 Utah ski resort
3 Actor Schreiber
4 Wrestling hold
5 Pundits' pieces
6 Swerve
7 Type of exercise
8 Opium flower
9 Actor's part
10 Abbr. on a phone
11 Unpaid TV ads
19 Biblical garden
20 Peace (Lat.)
23 Low digit
24 Fine, to NASA
25 "Little piggie"
26 Chic, to Austin
27 Pot pie morsel
28 Moreover
29 "Now, where — I?"
31 Driver's aid
32 Vault
34 Bit of wit
35 Cal — Jr. (baseball's "Iron Man")
36 Fixes socks
37 Upper body
38 Uncertain
39 Mystery writer
40 Actor Neeson
41 Aspiration
42 Wax-coated cheese
43 "Arrivederci —"
44 Hose woe

Solution time: 26 mins.

D	S	L	R	A	T	O	N	E	A	M	
O	L	A	U	V	A	W	I	L	M	A	
W	A	N	D	O	U	B	L	E	D	I	P
E	T	A	Y	I	P	E	S				
L	E	I	S	D	E	N	K	A	L	E	
W	A	S	D	A	N	U	B	E			
E	M	C	E	E	L	O	G	O	N		
S	A	H	A	R	A	D	E	W			
S	T	E	T	C	L	E	N	O	N	E	
				A	M	A	T	I	F	A	R
T	R	I	P	L	E	S	E	C	T	A	R
K	O	R	E	A	T	S	K	E	C	O	
T	E	E	N	S	S	T	I	N	P	R	

Yesterday's answer 12-10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16				17			
18		19				20				
		21				22				
23	24	25			26		27	28	29	
30				31			32			
33			34			35				
		36				37				
38	39	40			41		42	43	44	
45				46			47			
48				49			50			
51				52			53			

Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

A question of probabilities

West dealer. Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 4
♥ J 9 4 2
♦ 7 5 3
♣ J 10 6 3

WEST
♥ 7 6
♦ Q 8 5
♣ J 4
♠ A K 8 7 4 2

EAST
♠ 8 5
♥ K 10 6 3
♦ A 10 6 2
♣ Q 9 5

SOUTH
♥ A 7
♦ K Q 9 8
♣

The bidding:
West Pass North Pass East Pass South Pass 4♠
Opening lead King of clubs.

Assume you're in four spades and West leads the king of clubs, which you ruff. You can't avoid losing a heart trick, so all your thoughts should be concentrated on not losing three diamond tricks. You cash the K-A of spades, finding the trumps divided 2-2, and lead a diamond to your king. When this holds, you are faced with the problem of which diamond to play next.

As the cards lie, if you lead a low

diamond, you go down one, but if you play the queen — picking up West's jack and East's ace on the same trick — you make the contract. In the latter case you will lose only a heart and two diamonds. The play of the queen is thus clearly correct if you could see the East-West cards, but is it possible to justify the queen play if you can't see the missing cards?

When you consider the pertinent divisions of the missing diamonds after the king wins at trick four, you find that which diamond you play next makes no difference whatsoever if the suit is divided 3-3 or 5-1. In the first case, you always make the contract; in the second case, you don't.

Only when the diamonds are divided 4-2 does your play make a difference. If you consider all the cases that matter, you find that playing the eight next gains whenever either defender has the doubleton ace, while playing the queen gains whenever either defender has J-x or 10-x.

The cases where one defender is dealt the J-x or 10-x thus outnumber those where one defender is dealt A-x by 2-to-1. The queen play therefore offers a much greater chance of success.

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Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Famous Hand

South dealer. North-South vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 8 6 2
♥ A Q 8
♦ J 10
♣ A K 8 2

WEST
♠ Q 7 3
♥ J 7 3 2
♦ 6 3 2
♣ 9 5 3

EAST
♠ J 10 4
♥ K 10 9 5
♦ Q 8 7 5 4
♣ 10

SOUTH
♠ K 9 5
♥ 6 4
♦ A K 9
♣ Q J 7 6 4

The bidding:
South 1♣ West 1♠ North 1♠ East 2♣
Pass Pass 6♣
Opening lead — two of hearts.

This deal occurred many years ago in a European Championship match between Norway and England. It features an error of omission that might easily go unnoticed in a casual game.

The Norwegian pair quickly reached six clubs as shown. Had West led anything but a heart, declarer would have made the slam easily. After drawing trump and conceding a spade, he would have discarded his losing heart on dummy's fourth spade.

But West did lead a heart, posing

an immediate threat to the contract. Declarer saw no option but to finesse dummy's queen, which lost to the king. He later lost a spade trick and went down one.

No one will ever know whether declarer would have made the slam had he adopted a different approach, but there is no question that he did not give himself the best chance. He could have improved his chances significantly had he played the eight of hearts from dummy at trick one rather than the queen!

To appreciate the effect of this play, put yourself in East's position and assume the eight is played from dummy at trick one. What would you do? Remember, you can see only your own hand and dummy. Might you not assume that declarer has the jack, and that if you didn't take your king, you might lose it?

If you take the king, declarer makes the contract, eventually discarding his losing spade on a high heart. Of course, if you play the nine, the slam goes down, just as before.

Declarer has nothing to lose by playing the eight at trick one. If West has the king, the finesse will work later, and the slam will still be made. But the play of the eight gives East an opportunity to err and is therefore the correct play.

Tomorrow: A different game.
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CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Lustrous black
4 Brazilian dance
9 Gal. fractions
12 Satisfied sigh
13 Mojito needs
14 Eg. and Syr., once
15 "The Freshman" actor
17 Equi-
18 Roulette bet
19 Special skills
21 Place for a massage
24 Egg part
25 Sony rival
26 Sault — Marie
28 Luke-warm
31 Messes up
33 Catchall abbr.
35 Faction
36 Beckett's no-show

DOWN

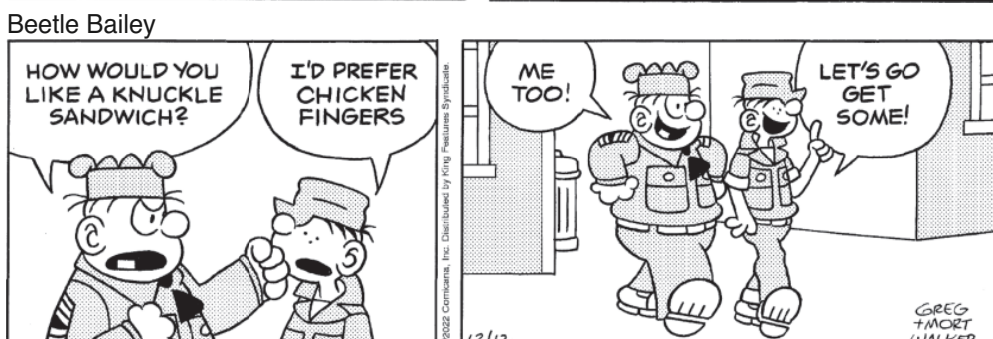
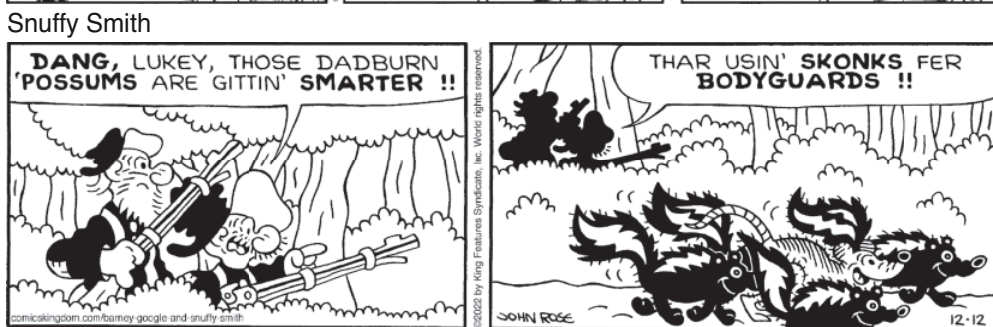
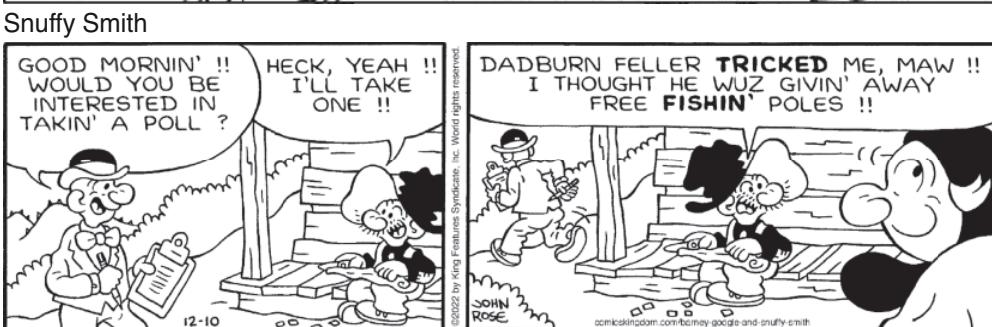
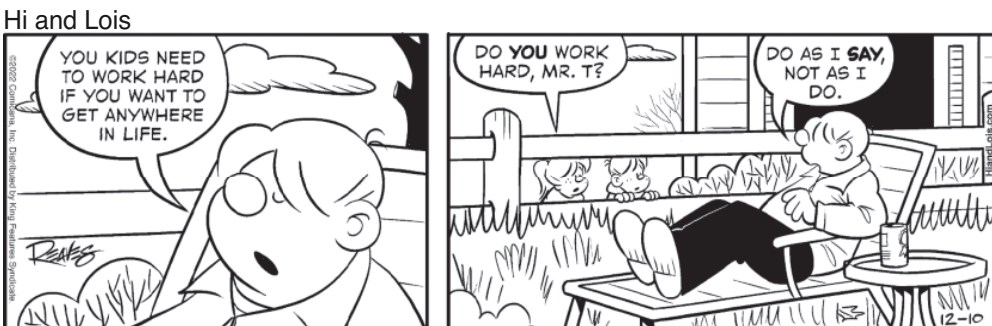
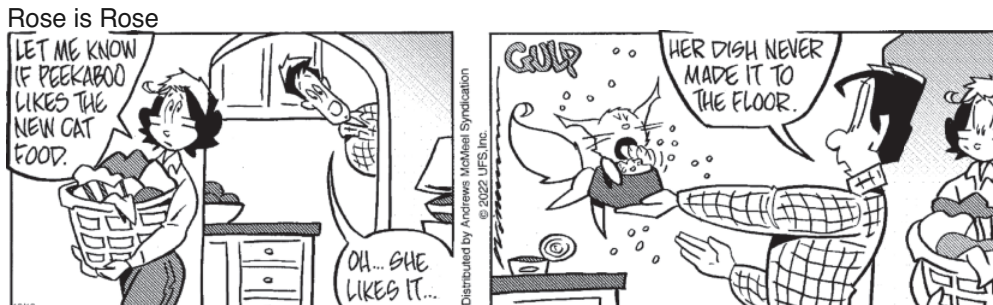
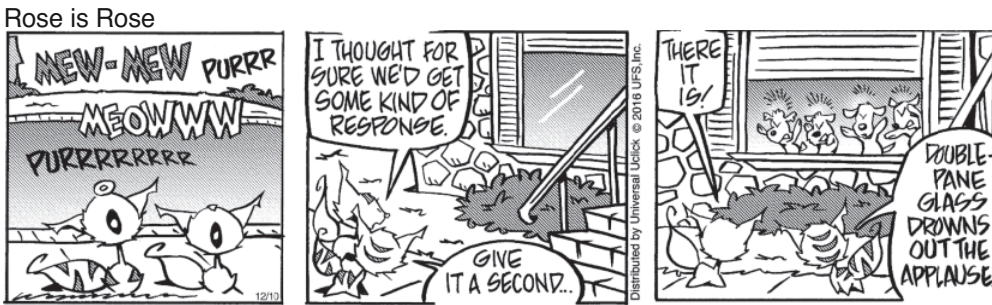
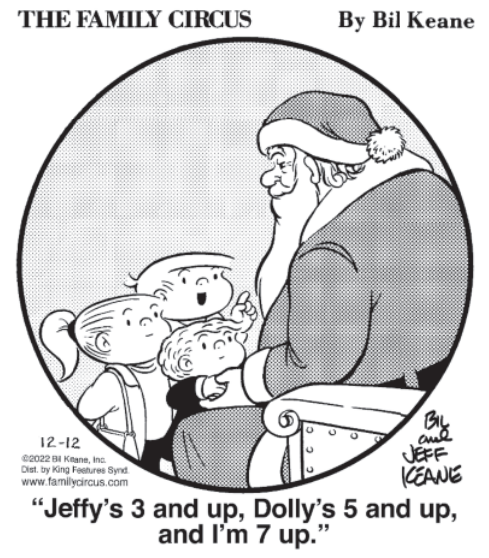
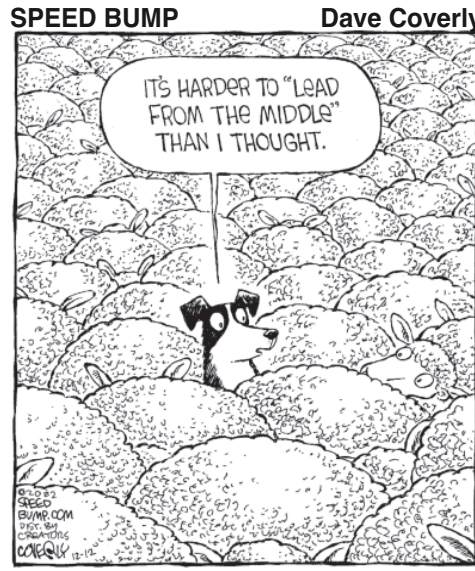
20 Pub orders
21 Bottom-of-the-barrel bit
22 Height (Pref.)
23 Measuring device
27 UFO fliers
29 Paris notion
30 Shoulder muscle, for short
32 Gumbo or bisque, e.g.
34 Social groups
37 "Survivor" teams
39 Diocese part
42 Banquet
44 Farm grazer
45 Dad
46 Actor Epps
50 Call — day
51 ICU hookups
52 Corp. boss
53 Lock opener

Solution time: 21 mins.

P	A	L	N	O	V	A	P	R	O	P	
A	L	I	E	P	E	E	O	O	P	S	
R	T	E	L	E	E	R	P	L	E	A	
E	A	V	E	S	D	R	O	P	P	E	R
			D	O	S	B	A	Y			
O	A	T	E	N	M	I	X	P	A	W	
N	O	O	N	R	O	C	L	E	N	A	
E	K	E	P	O	D	R	E	A	D	S	
			D	U	A	T	I	A			
I	S	L	A	N	D	H	O	P	P	E	R
F	A	I	R	M	O	R	K	D	O	N	
F	R	A	N	A	P	S	E	A	M	A	
Y	A	M	S	P	E	O	N	M	A	G	

Saturday's answer 12-12

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12			13					14			
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36			37		38		39		40		
		41			42		43		44		
45	46					47					
48				49		50			51	52	53
54				55					56		
57				58					59		



We Deliver

Maybe it's a chuckle from reading a vintage Peanuts cartoon. Maybe it's a column by a member of The CR staff. But we try to keep our sense of humor.

Laughter

The Commercial Review *We Deliver*

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S**

00 CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS
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ADVERTISING RATES
20 Word Minimum
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\$12.40
1 insertion.....62¢/word
2 insertions.....81¢/word
3 insertions.....96¢/word
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PUBLIC AUCTION ARCHITECTURAL AND SALVAGE
Located at 4209 S 600 E Salamonina, Indiana Saturday Morning
DECEMBER 17, 2022 AT 11:00 A.M.
After serving the community since 1859 the St James Lutheran Church held its final service. The contents of the current church which was built in 1895 including the historic stained glass windows will be sold.
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS - FURNITURE - WOODWORK
30+ stained glass windows that originated from Germany. Windows include: 5' x 54" arched shaped with a picture of Jesus, (3) arch shaped panels 36" x 30", (3) middle panels 36" x 33", (3) bottom panels 36" x 33", (2) arch shaped panels 40" x 34", (2) middle panels 40" x 42", (2) bottom panels 40" x 44" (18) - 12" church pews; (2) - 128" church pews; 60+ wood folding chairs; folding tables; early 1900's scrolls; ornate pulpit; and other items not listed.
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Auction held at 8339 N 400 E (Bearcreek Farms) Bryant, Indiana Friday Evening
DECEMBER 16, 2022 6:00 P.M.
REAL ESTATE:
Located on CR 250 W just north of CR 850 N. Approximately 8.17 acres total with approximately 6.5 acres tillable, .70 acres wooded and the balance in ditch and roadway. This parcel is fairly level.
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AC#31600027
GARY LOY AUCTIONEER
AU01031608

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Public Notice
STATE OF INDIANA
COUNTY OF JAY, SS:
IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT
2022 TERM
In the Matter of the Unsupervised Administration of the Estate of:
Donald D. Blanchard, Deceased
No. 38C01-2111-EU-000046
NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Notice is hereby given that Lesa Blanchard was, on the 23rd day of November, 2022, appointed Personal Representative of the estate of Donald D. Blanchard deceased, who died on October 16th, 2022. All persons who have claims against this estate, whether or not now due, must file the claim in the office of the Clerk of this Court within three (3) months from the date of the first publication of this notice, or within nine (9) months after the decedent's death, whichever is earlier, or the claims will be forever barred.
Dated at Portland, Indiana, this 30th day of November, 2022.
HINKLE, RACSTER & SCHEMENAUR
121 W. High Street
Portland, IN 47371
Attorney
Jon Eads
Clerk of the Circuit Court,
For Jay County, Indiana
CR 12-3,10-2022 HSPAXLP

250 PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice
TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
By virtue of a certified copy of a decree to me directed from the Clerk of Circuit Court of Jay County, Indiana, in Cause No. 38C01-2111-MF-000009 wherein United States of America, acting through the Rural Housing Service, its successors and assigns, United States Department of Agriculture was Plaintiff, and Julia L. Morrison, were Defendants, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Decree with interest and cost, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder, on the 5th day of January, 2023 at the hour of 10:00 or as soon thereafter as is possible, at 224 W. Water Street, Portland, IN 47371, the fee simple of the whole body of Real Estate in Jay County, Indiana.
Lot 24 Beam Place South, Portland, Indiana, the plat of which is recorded as Document Number 9901682, Page 1 and the protective and restrictive covenants being recorded as Document Number 9901663, Pages 1-5 all in the Office of the Jay County Recorder
More commonly known as: 122 Honeysuckle Ln., Portland, IN 47371
Parcel No. 38-07-29-201-025.024-034
Together with rents, issues, income, and profits thereof, said sale will be made without relief from valuation or appraisal laws.
"Subject to all liens, encumbrances and easements of record not otherwise extinguished in the proceedings known as Cause 38C01-2111-MF-000009 in the Circuit court of the County of Jay, Indiana."
Dwane Ford
Jay County Sheriff
Plaintiff Attorney
Daniel A. Cox (28426-15)
Wood & Lamping LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
600 Vine Street, Suite 2500
Cincinnati, OH 45202
CR 12-3,10,17-HSPAXLP

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Located at 4209 S 600 E Salamonina, Indiana on Saturday Morning
DECEMBER 17, 2022
11:00 A.M.

After serving the community since 1859 the St James Lutheran Church held its final service. The contents of the current church which was built in 1895 including the historic stained glass windows will be sold.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS - FURNITURE - WOODWORK

30+ stained glass windows that originated from Germany. Windows include: 5' x 54" arched shaped with a picture of Jesus, (3) arch shaped panels 36" x 30", (3) middle panels 36" x 33", (3) bottom panels 36" x 33", (2) arch shaped panels 40" x 34", (2) middle panels 40" x 42", (2) bottom panels 40" x 44", (2) arch shaped panels 23" x 20", (2) middle panels 23" x 39", (2) bottom panels 23" x 42", (3) arch shaped panels 32" x 36", (2) bottom panel 35" x 36", (2) panels 40" x 39", and (2) partial windows 40" x 39". Middle panels include sections with Noah's Ark, Lamb, Cross, Crown, and Harp. (18) - 12" church pews; (2) - 128" church pews; 60+ wood folding chairs; folding tables; early 1900's scrolls; ornate pulpit; hanging attendance board; wood standing baptismal; 7' x 32" wood folding doors; wood window frames; trim boards; doors; wainscoting; brass cross; brass candlesticks; wood collection plates; Williamson Funeral Home mirror; chalkboards; hat rack; Polar Wind air conditioner; decorative wood Coffee box; turkey feather darts; wood box; flags with stands; child's wood chairs; metal 2 door cabinet; wood tables; hanging lights; wood step ladders; slate shingles; old books; and other items not listed.

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Tribe spoils rally bid

Fort boys bounce back with win over Panthers

ROCKFORD, Ohio — The Indians more than doubled the Panthers' scoring in the first half.

They had to fend off a comeback in the final 16 minutes.

Fort Recovery High School's boys basketball team thwarted a second-half surge by the host Parkway Panthers for a 50-43 victory Friday night in the Midwest Athletic Conference opener for both teams.

The Tribe, which lost 60-47 on Tuesday to Fort Loramie, moves to 3-1 (1-0 MAC) while the Panthers fall to 0-3 (0-1 MAC).

Parkway's Caiden Berry, who led the Panthers with 18 points, sparked the comeback bid with a pair of 3-pointers in the third quarter. Despite his effort, Parkway trimmed just one off its 31-15 halftime deficit and trailed 42-27 heading into the fourth.

But Berry scored eight points, including two more 3-pointers, as part of Parkway's 16-point fourth quarter.

See Spoils page 9

Just enough



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Despite 16-point first quarter and holding Adams Central scoreless, Patriots shake off shooting woes and Jets for ACAC win

By CHRIS SCHANZ
The Commercial Review

Holding a team without a point in the opening period would leave most teams happy heading into the second quarter.

That wasn't the case for the Patriots, as their strong defensive effort early made up for an offense that was just 36% from the field in the first eight minutes.

The Jets just couldn't overcome being shut out early.

Jay County High School's girls basketball team was a

touch off shooting and was able to fend off the Adams Central Jets on Friday in a 62-44 Allen County Athletic Conference victory.

"First of all, Gabi (Bilbrey) was out tonight," JCHS coach Kirk Comer told WPGW following the game, referencing his senior forward who was out with an illness. "Everybody had to play a different role for the most part. I was proud of the girls, they got the job done. "It wasn't pretty, but we got the job done."

It marks the eighth straight

victory for the Class 3A No. 5 Patriots, who move to 9-1 (2-0 ACAC) and have won 18 straight regular season conference games.

Jay County led Adams Central (2-8, 0-2 ACAC) by a 16-0 margin after the first quarter thanks to 13 Jet turnovers, and despite the high number of offensive chances the Patriots had a difficult time putting the ball through the hoop.

The Patriots missed all five of their 3-point attempts and finished the period 8-of-22 from the field. A trio of juniors —

Molly Muhlenkamp, Breanna Dirksen and Sophie Saxman — carried the offense with four points each. The Jets, meanwhile, managed just five shot attempts in the first quarter and were down 18-0 early in the second.

"It was a slow start offensively," Comer said. "Defensively we were OK, obviously, but offensively it was a little slow."

"When Renna (Schwieterman) is not scoring and you have 18 points, that's still pretty good."

See Enough page 9

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Enough ...

Continued from page 8
Adams Central, which has lost six of its last seven games, finally got its offensive going by outscoring Jay County 16-5 over the next six minutes. Ava Stafford came off the bench to make a pair of threes, while Grace Fisher contributed six points as well.

The Jets held an 18-16 margin in the second quarter, eventually pulling within nine points, but went into intermission down 32-18.

Schwietzman, who led all players with 25 points, scored 11 and had nine points in the period for Jay County. The Purdue-Fort Wayne signee was 11-of-25 from the field, including a 2-for-11 clip from the 3-point line.

In all, Jay County was 2-for-15 from beyond the arc, with Schwietzman accounting for both makes.

Schwietzman now sits 29 points away from breaking 1986 graduate Shannon Freeman's career-scoring record of 1,458. (In a ceremony prior to the game, Freeman, who now lives in Utah with her husband and two children, had her No. 34 jersey retired.)

"We were out of sync a little bit in threes," Comer said. "When you don't have Gabi you don't have the inside threat and it doesn't open the outside shots. We just didn't hit them tonight."

An old-fashioned three-



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

point play from Saxman helped Jay County push its lead to 38-21 in the third, but Adams Central pulled to within single digits following four consecutive JCHS possessions that came up empty.

Fisher put back an offensive rebound for a bucket, then Athena Schwartz connected on back-to-back ACHS trips down the court. Hailey Heller added a three-pointer for a 9-2 run that trimmed the deficit to 39-30. A Saxman bucket two possessions later gave Jay County back its double-digit lead it held the rest of the way.

Saxman complemented Schwietzman's effort with

a career-high 15 points. "She's played really well," Comer said. Muhlenkamp was third for the Patriots in scoring with 11 points.

Despite finishing 27-of-64 (42.2%) shooting for the night, Jay County created second and third chances by controlling the rebounds. The Patriots held a 38-29 edge on the glass, with 20 of those boards coming on the offensive end.

Adams Central wasn't much better off, finishing 41.5% (17-of-41) with 22 turnovers. Jay County had 16 giveaways.

"We got through it," Comer said. "We finished

Jay County High School junior Molly Muhlenkamp sends a pass toward Breanna Dirksen (32) at the baseline during the second half against the Fort Recovery Indians on Dec. 3 at Fort Site Fieldhouse.

Muhlenkamp was one of three Patriots to score in double figures in the Patriots' 62-44 win over Adams Central on Friday at home.

decent. I don't want to say strong, but we finished decent."

Junior varsity

Jay County came out of intermission on a cold stretch but its first-half advantage was enough in a 35-18 victory against Adams Central.

The Patriots, who remain perfect at 7-0, were ahead 8-2 at the end of the first quarter before exploding for 19 points before half-time. Thankfully, their 27-4 lead at the break was plenty enough to make up for being shut out in the third. Adams Central trailed 27-14 heading into the fourth quarter.

Box score

**Class 3A No. 5
Jay County Patriots vs.
Adams Central Flying Jets**

Girls varsity summary

	Adams Central (2-8, 0-2 ACAC)	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Schwartz	5-16	2-6	12	
Garwood	0-5	1-3	1	
Fisher	4-8	0-3	9	
Baker	2-4	1-3	5	
Heller	1-3	1-2	6	
Stafford	3-4	0-0	9	
Eisberg	1-1	0-0	2	
Totals	17-41	6-19	44	
	.415	.316		

	Jay County (9-1, 2-0 ACAC)	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	PTS
Schwrtmn	11-25	1-6	25	
BDirksen	3-5	0-1	6	
McIntire	0-8	0-0	0	
Saxman	7-12	1-2	15	
Muhlnkmp	5-9	1-2	11	
Denton	1-2	1-2	3	
Petro	0-2	0-0	0	
MDirksen	0-0	2-2	2	
Carreno	0-0	0-0	0	
May	1-0	0-0	0	
Totals	27-64	6-14	62	
	.422	.429		

Score by quarters:
Adams C. 0 18 13 13—44
Jay Co. 16 16 11 19—62

3-point shooting: Adams Central 4-15 (Stafford 1-4, Heller 1-1, Schwartz 0-6, Garwood 0-4). Jay County 7-18 (Schwietzman 2-11, McIntire 0-6, May 0-1).

Rebounds: Adams Central 29. Jay County 38.

Turnovers: Adams Central 22. Jay County 16.

Natalie Carreno led Jay County with 11 points, while Meredith Dirksen and Cassie Petro had seven points each.

Spoils ...

Continued from page 8
Fort Recovery was able to keep the Panthers at bay by making six free throws in the final period.

Fort Recovery scored as many points in the first quarter (16) as Parkway did in the entire first half (15). Cale Rammel had a game-high 28 points, including 15 in the first half. Daniel Patch contributed 10 points, while Landon Post chipped in seven points.

Junior varsity

Fort Recovery started the dramatic theatrics by holding off a would-be Parkway comeback in a 47-42 victory.

The Indians led by 12 and 13, respectively, after each of the first two quarters. The Panthers, however, held a 12-7 margin in the third to trail by just eight before outscoring the visitors 16-13 in the final stanza. Fort Recovery was 7-of-13 from the free-throw line in the final period to keep the Panthers at bay.

Briggs Overman led the Indians with 12 points, and Caden Homan contributed 11 points. Colsen Post followed with eight points and Eli Lennartz finished with seven points.

Parkway's Ethan Pond led all players with 16 points.

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Jay County — Boys wrestling in Allen County Athletic Conference Duals at Adams Central — 9 a.m.; Girls wrestling at Lebanon Invitational — 9 a.m.; Boys swimming at Norwell Invitational — 9 a.m.; Boys basketball vs. New Castle — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Boys basketball at Bradford — 6 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at Mississinawa Valley — 10 a.m.

Monday
Jay County — Swimming at South Adams — 5:30 p.m.; Junior high boys basketball at Blackford — 5 p.m.; Junior high girls basketball vs. Muncie Northside — 6 p.m.

Fort Recovery — Freshman boys basketball vs. Coldwater — 6 p.m.; Middle school boys basketball vs. St. Marys — 5 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at St. Marys — 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday
Jay County — Swimming vs. Delta — 6 p.m.; Boys wrestling vs. Norwell — 6 p.m.
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball at St. Marys — 6 p.m.; Middle school girls basketball at Versailles — 5 p.m.

TV sports

Today
10 a.m. — Soccer: World Cup quarterfinal (FOX)

Noon — College football: Holy Cross at South Dakota State (ESPN)

Noon — College basketball: Drexel at La Salle (USA)

1 p.m. — College basketball: Georgetown at Syracuse (ABC); Oklahoma at Arkansas (ESPN2)

2 p.m. — Soccer: World Cup — France vs. England (FOX)

2:30 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour — QBE Shark Shootout (NBC)

3 p.m. — College football: Navy at Army (CBS)

7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Brooklyn Nets at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)

8:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Boston Celtics at Golden State Warriors (ABC)

10 p.m. — Mixed martial arts — UFC 282 (ESPN2)

Sunday

1 p.m. — NFL football: Minnesota Vikings at Detroit Lions (FOX); Cleveland Browns at Cincinnati Bengals (CBS)

2 p.m. — Golf: PGA Tour — QBE Shark Shootout (NBC)

3 p.m. — NHL hockey: Colorado Avalanche at St. Louis Blues (ESPN)

4 p.m. — NFL football: Tampa Bay Buccaneers at San Francisco 49ers (FOX)

8 p.m. — NBA G League basketball: Stockton Kings at G League Ignite (ESPN2)

8:15 p.m. — NFL football: Miami Dolphins at Los Angeles Chargers (NBC)

Monday
7 p.m. — NBA basketball: Miami Heat at Indiana Pacers (Bally Indiana)
8:15 p.m. — NFL football: New England Patriots at Arizona Cardinals (ESPN)

Tuesday
2 p.m. — Soccer: World Cup — Semifinal (FOX)

7:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Golden State Warriors at Milwaukee Bucks (TNT)

9 p.m. — NHL hockey: Washington Capitals at Chicago Blackhawks (ESPN)

10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Boston Celtics at Los Angeles Lakers (TNT)

Schedule your advertising
TODAY!
1/2 page color ad
(10.5 inches by 10.5 inches)
(including in Christmas Greetings)
\$500
Pick-up in color **\$400**
Pick-up in B & W **\$300**

1/4 page color ad **\$375**
Pick-up in color **\$275**
Pick-up in B & W **\$250**

Three 3x5 ads
black and white
\$250
(regular price - \$585)

Special Pricing
Dec. 1-31

**BUY LOCAL
SHOP LOCAL
BUY LOCAL**

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

ATTENTION
Small Businesses
BIG THINGS
come in Small Packages

Package A
8
2x2 Ads
\$222⁰⁰ 32 inches per month

Package B
4
2x4 Ads
\$222⁰⁰ 32 inches per month

Package C
3
3x4 Ads
\$222⁰⁰ 36 inches per month

What works better than frequency in advertising?
NOTHING!!

Those who advertise, and do it with a consistent plan, **WILL SEE RESULTS** that they want.

Call us today about this great package deal!

Advertising Staff
(260) 726-8141

Redkey Veterinary Clinic
8909 W. St. Rd. 67
Redkey, IN
765-369-2526

Dunkirk American Legion
118 W. Commerce St.
Dunkirk, IN
765-768-6281

Dunkirk Police Department
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-6061
Chief
Dane Mumbower

Shields Garage
Eaton Pike
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-7362

Renegade Customs
730 S. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
(260) 726-7555

Phil Laux Plumbing
Portland, IN 47371
260) 729-2082

Portland Fire Dept
260-726-4500



Jay Co. Drug Prevention
100 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN
260-251-3259

Jay County Public Library
315 N. Ship St.
Portland, IN 47371
260-726-7890

Color this picture merry and bright then submit it to
The Commercial Review.
Your colored picture will be on display in our office
during the holiday season.
The winners will be featured in the papers the week of Christmas.

Display Craft
630 E. Votaw St.
Portland, IN
260-726-4535

May Financial Group
111 W. Main
729-5200



Barnum/Brown Insurance
Aaron Walter
211 S. Main St.
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-6721

Mark Aker Plumbing
511 N. Commerce St.
Portland
(260) 726-8234

Newsome Tree Service & Stump Removal
Rick Newsome
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-6757

Dunkirk Public Library
127 W. Washington St.
Dunkirk, IN 47336
765-768-6872

I.D.C Restaurant
St. Rd. 1
Pennville
260-731-7654

Jay County REMC
260-726-7121

COLORING CONTEST RULES

1. Contest age groups are 6 & under, and 7-10
2. Crayons, colored pencils or markers may be used. Adults may assist in completing the entry form, but not in the coloring.
3. Entries must be in by Tuesday, December 20, 2022 Noon
4. Submissions are considered property of this newspaper and may be printed by this newspaper.
5. Decisions of the judges are final.

SEND ENTRY FORM AND COLORED PICTURE TO:

2020 Coloring Contest
The Commercial Review/News & Sun
P.O. Box 1049
Portland, IN 47371

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Age: _____

Moose Family Center
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-7601

Portland True Value
(260) 726-6263
1100 N. Meridian St.
Portland, IN

CrossRoads Financial Federal Credit Union
Portland, Dunkirk
Winchester

Roy Padgett Sales & Service
Lawn & Garden Equipment
1125 W. Walnut St.,
Albany, IN
765-789-9037

Dunkirk City Building
131 S. Main St.
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-6565

West Jay Community Center
125 N. Hoover
Dunkirk, IN 47336
765-768-1544

Bollenbacher & Associates
915 N Meridian
Portland
260-726-4207

Thomas Banta Family Dentistry
260-726-7822

Jay County Sheriff's Office

Jay County Fair Association
P.O. BOX 328
PORTLAND, IN
260-726-9616

Jay Community Center
115 E. Water St.
Portland
(260) 726-6477

MJS Mortuaries
Dunkirk - 765-768-6012
Redkey - 765-369-2016
Ridgeville 765-857-2288
Farmland 765-468-6390

Adair's Processing
Pennville, In
260-731-3221

Classique Beauty Shop
206 S. Main St.
Dunkirk, In 47336
765-768-7375

Redkey Volunteer Fire Dept.

Merry Christmas
Tom, Mary Ann,
Mark, Amy, Evie,
Cain Johnson
Dunkirk, In 47336

Dunkirk Volunteer Fire Dept.
Dunkirk, In 47336
To report a Fire
911
Other Purpose
765-768-6122

Best One Tire & Auto Care
210 N. Meridian St
Portland, IN
260-726-9321

The Glass Museum
309 S. Franklin
Dunkirk, IN 47336
765-768-6872