

The Commercial Review

Portland, Indiana 47371

www.thecr.com

\$1

County looks at comp time issue

Sheriff allowed ineligible employee to accrue 178 hours

By BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Rules are rules, and they need to be followed.

Jay County Personnel Committee indicated as much Thursday while still recommending payment of a roughly \$3,000 claim for compensatory time accrued by a county employee who should not have been eligible to accrue such time.

Moving forward, it also recommended following rules that dictate certain workers are not eligible for overtime compensation or compensatory time off.

The request moves next to Jay County Commissioners, who meet Tuesday.

Jay County Sheriff Dwane Ford and Jay County Jail matron Kristin Coleman addressed personnel committee about her accumulated compensatory time, which amounted to about 178 hours. She recently requested cashing out the time off.

Coleman, however, is included in a list of county employees — it mainly addresses elected officials and first deputies — that are not entitled to receive overtime compensation or compensatory time off, according to the Jay County personnel policy handbook. (Those positions are not covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act.) Her request was flagged by Jay County Auditor's Office.

According to Coleman, she's not the first to request compensatory time despite being ineligible based on the personnel policy handbook. She said some have already received it and voiced that she felt she was being singled out.

Outgoing personnel committee member and Jay County Council vice president Ted Champ asked how many had been paid for compensatory time they shouldn't have received and how many had been turned down for the same request.

Jay County auditor Emily Franks said she's aware of two situations in which she has denied giving pay for compensatory time because the employees were not eligible. As far as she knows, she said, Jay County Sheriff's Office is the only department that has paid for the compensatory time without authorization to do so.

"You shouldn't have allowed it," council president and committee member Jeanne Houchins said to Ford. "I'm not blaming Emily because she can't look at every piece of paper that comes through her office."

Ford argued Coleman's position cannot be completed at 40 hours a week.

See **County** page 2

FRIGID FRIDAY



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

A City of Portland plow clears snow from Wayne Street near its intersection with Race Street about 8 a.m. today. Portland street department superintendent said that as of about 9 a.m. today all streets in the city had been cleared with the exception of Creagor Avenue, where two cars were stuck.

Residents urged to stay off roads and indoors as windy, frigid conditions make travel hazardous



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

The City of Portland had the heavy equipment out this morning to clear snow from streets in the downtown area. Pictured, an employee pushes snow from the intersection of Meridian and Main streets.

By RAY COONEY and BAILEY CLINE
The Commercial Review

Snow.
High winds.
Frigid temperatures.

Those conditions had local officials urging residents to stay home as a cold front cJay County is under a travel warning, which means roads may be impassable and travel is limited to emergencies only.

Both Jay County Emergency Management director Samantha Rhodehamel and Jay County Highway Department superintendent Eric Butcher advised Jay County residents to stay inside their homes.

"Nobody should be out in this stuff," said Butcher. "It's dangerous."

Rhodehamel added that the travel warning will remain until conditions improve.

"I don't see it coming up until county highway can get out and work on the roads," said Rhodehamel.

Mercer County was placed on a Level 1 snow emergency, the lowest level, at 6:21 a.m. today. Under a Level 1 classification, roadways are considered hazardous with blowing and driving

snow and motorists are urged to drive cautiously.

Blackford, Wells and Adams counties were also on travel warnings as of this morning, with Delaware and Randolph counties on watches. Every county in Indiana with the exception of Posey County in the far southwestern corner of the state was on an advisory, watch or warning this morning.

Light rain fell in Jay County for most of Thursday afternoon and turned heavier in the early evening hours as the high temperature reached the low 40s before dropping enough for the precipitation to shift to snow about 7 p.m. Temperatures plummeted into the single digits just before midnight and continued to fall to minus 8 as of 8 a.m. today. The wind chill value was minus 35.

Rhodehamel explained the 45 to 50 mile per hour winds have made it difficult to measure how many inches of snow have fallen.

Jay County Highway Department supervisor Eric Butcher noted county highway workers have not plowed the roads and don't plan to be out today in the extreme cold.

See **Stay** page 2

State gas tax will drop on Jan. 1

By LESLIE BONILLA MUNIZ
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

Hoosiers will get to ring in the new year with cheaper gas, as Indiana's gas sales tax drops to the lowest it's been in nearly a year.

Starting January 1, the monthly tax will be 19.9 cents per gallon, the Indiana Department of Revenue announced this month. That's down from December's 23.3-cent rate; the last time the tax was lower was back in March.

The changing tax rate reflects

Change reflects lower gas prices statewide

lower gas prices statewide: Hoosiers paid an average of \$2.84 per gallon from November 16 to December 15, according to the revenue department. That's multiplied by the 7% retail rate to

obtain a new monthly gas sales tax rate.

Indiana was averaging \$2.97 a gallon as of December 22, according to AAA, and below the national average of \$3.10.

Hoosiers pay two state taxes on gas: the sales tax (19.9 cents/gallon) and a state excise tax (33 cents/gallon). Both taxes fund state and local road projects.

They also pay a federal excise tax (18.3 cents/gallon) and a second, tiny federal tax funding hazardous waste clean-ups (0.1 cents/gallon).

That adds up to 71 cents of tax on every gallon of gas.

High gas prices pushed Indiana's gas tax revenue to new heights over the summer.

In review

Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District has scheduled a meeting for 6 p.m. Wednesday at the USDA Service Center, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.

Weather

Jay County's high temperature was 42 degrees late Thursday afternoon before plummeting to 4 just before midnight.

Tonight's low will be minus 4 with wind chills as low as minus 30. Expect a high of 9 with continued windy conditions. See page 2 for an extended outlook.

In review

All staffed recycling sites typically provided by Jay County Solid Waste Management District will be closed Saturday.

Coming up

Saturday — An update on the severe weather conditions for the holiday weekend.

Tuesday — A look at progress toward a new Jay County Humane Society shelter.



Spending bill passes through Senate

By AIDAN QUIGLEY

CQ-Roll Call
Tribune News Service

WASHINGTON — The Senate overwhelmingly passed the mammoth fiscal 2023 spending package in a burst of activity on the floor Thursday after finally nailing down amendments deal it took all day Wednesday and into the morning to hammer out.

The vote was 68-29 in support of the 4,155-page legislation. It includes the dozen annual spending bills for every federal agency, supplemental aid for the war in Ukraine and natural disaster victims, and a series of unrelated policies ranging from retirement savings incentives to drift-net fishing regulations.

“This is one of the most significant appropriations packages we have done in a very long

time,” Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-New York, said before final passage. “The range of people it helps is large and deep.”

The package includes \$858 billion in defense spending, a nearly 10% increase over the previous fiscal year, and \$787 billion in nondefense spending, close to an 8% increase. It also would provide roughly \$85 billion in supplemental funding for Ukraine and disaster relief.

Senate passage paves the way for the House to clear the legislation ahead of government spending running out at midnight Eastern time on Friday.

The House planned to take up the measure Friday as early as 9 a.m., Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, announced hours after the Senate vote. House leaders initially had hoped to clear the

bill Thursday night but then determined it would not be ready for floor action in their chamber before midnight, the Maryland Democrat said.

Most of the amendment attempts were unsuccessful, but several were tacked on, including:

•A Bill Cassidy, R-Louisiana, amendment to attach a bipartisan bill he co-authored with Bob Casey, D-Pennsylvania, that would put in place protections for pregnant workers against workplace discrimination. The amendment was adopted on a 73-24 vote.

•An amendment from Jeff Merkley, D-Oregon, to require employers to provide employees with space in the workplace and time off to pump breast milk. It was adopted 92-5.

•A Kirsten Gillibrand, D-New

York, amendment to provide \$1 billion to the World Trade Center Health Fund for first responders who got sick after the 9/11 cleanup effort and extend the program to 2027. It was adopted on a 90-6 vote.

•An amendment proposed by Sens. Bob Menendez, D-New Jersey, and Tom Cotton, R-Arkansas, to provide \$6 billion in compensation payments to a fund for victims of state-sponsored terror, from 9/11 families to families of victims of the 1983 Marine barracks bombing in Beirut. It was adopted, 93-4.

•A proposal from John Cornyn, R-Texas, and Alex Padilla, D-California, to give state and local officials more flexibility in how they spend coronavirus relief dollars. It was adopted by voice vote.

It wasn't immediately clear

how long it would take to package up all the amended paperwork for transmittal to the House. And even after the House clears the bill, it will take time for the measure to be enrolled for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's signature, the last step before it's ready to go to the White House.

So with Christmas fast approaching, the Senate passed, by voice vote, a stopgap measure that would extend current funding through Dec. 30. The latest enacted continuing resolution is set to expire at midnight Friday.

House Appropriations Chair Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., said she didn't think that would be necessary, however. And she expressed confidence the omnibus wouldn't face any hurdles in the House.

“We're going to pass it. It's going to happen,” DeLauro said.

CR almanac

Saturday 12/24	Sunday 12/25	Monday 12/26	Tuesday 12/27	Wednesday 12/28
9/2	13/6	21/9	27/18	40/33
Widespread blowing snow and cold, with wind chill values reaching as low as -25. Wind gusts up to 40 mph.	Christmas Day will be mostly cloudy, with a high of 13 degrees and wind gusts up to 20 mph.	There's a 30% chance of snow. Otherwise, mostly cloudy, with a low around 9 at night.	Another day of mostly cloudy skies is on the horizon for Tuesday, with a low around 18 late.	Partly sunny, with a slight chance of rain at night. The high will jump to 40 degrees.

Lotteries

Powerball Estimated jackpot: \$186 million	25-26-35-26-43-45-56-59-63-64-65-67-68-73-75-77 Cash 5: 9-17-26-31-37 Estimated jackpot: \$75,000
Mega Millions Estimated jackpot: \$510 million	Ohio Midday Pick 3: 4-8-7 Pick 4: 9-2-9-8 Pick 5: 5-9-7-2-6 Evening Pick 3: 0-2-1 Pick 4: 0-2-7-2 Pick 5: 2-1-6-2-7 Rolling Cash: 1-20-22-25-28 Estimated jackpot: \$120,000
Hoosier Midday Daily Three: 9-4-2 Daily Four: 3-1-9-7 Quick Draw: 1-2-9-15-24-25-28-29-33-36-39-40-42-43-48-55-64-72-73-74 Evening Daily Three: 9-3-4 Daily Four: 2-7-6-5 Quick Draw: 10-19-24-	

Markets

Cooper Farms Fort Recovery Corn.....6.88 Jan. corn.....6.87 Wheat6.83	Wheat 7.11 July wheat7.57
POET Biorefining Portland Corn.....6.84 Jan. corn6.84 Feb. corn6.83	Central States Montpelier Corn.....6.59 Jan. corn.....6.61 Beans14.69 Jan. beans14.69 Wheat7.58
The Andersons Richland Township Corn6.65 Jan. corn6.65 Beans14.69 Jan. beans14.74	Heartland St. Anthony Corn.....6.35 Jan. corn6.37 Beans14.54 Jan. beans14.59 Wheat7.22

Today in history

In 1783, George Washington resigned his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army at the Maryland State House in Annapolis, where the Continental Congress was meeting.

In 1913, the Own-Glass Act created the Federal Reserve System when it was signed into law by President Woodrow Wilson.

In 2006, the Fort Recovery High School boys basketball team ran its record to 5-1 with a 64-52 victory over the Arcanum Trojans. Tony Diller led the Indians with 14 points.

In 2020, the Jay County High School wrestling team defeated Norwell, Union City, Greenville and Monroe County Central in the Jay County Super Duals, and event put together in place of the annual East Central Indiana Classic during the coronavirus pandemic. —The CR

Citizen's calendar

Tuesday
9 a.m. — Jay County Commissioners, commissioners' room, courthouse, 120 N. Court St., Portland.
3:30 p.m. — Jay County Solid Waste Management District, 5948 W. Indiana 67, Portland.
4 p.m. — Portland Board of Works special meeting, mayor's office, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
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
3 p.m. — Portland Police Pension Board, city hall, 321 N. Meridian St.
6 p.m. — Dunkirk Park Board, city building, 131 S. Main St.
6 p.m. — Jay County Soil and Water Conservation District, USDA Service Center, 1331 W. Indiana 67, Portland.

Frigid ...

Continued from page 1
“If they're out there with poor visibility and they get sucked down in the ditch, and their truck dies, they're stuck out there with no heat, so that's — we can't risk that,” said Butcher. “It would be counterproductive trying to fight this.”

He and road foreman Bob Howell ventured out about 6 a.m. today to survey road conditions, finding several north and south roads covered in a heavy blanket of snow. East and west roads have slick surfaces, he added, with some drifts in places such as on Como Road being impassable.

“There are definitely roads that shouldn't be traveled on just because they're treacherous,” Butcher said.

Although the highway department is closed, it is on standby for emergencies. About six employees took plow trucks to their homes in case they are needed, such as to respond to 911 calls at Jay County Sheriff's Office.

The situation in Portland was better, as most streets were passable early this morning even if they had not yet been fully cleared. Once plows had a chance to be out — street department superintendent Tom Leonhard said they started about 6 a.m. — they were able to keep most of the snow away.

“Not too bad, really,” said Leonhard, assessing the situation at 8:50 a.m. today. “It's not filling back in as quick as I thought it would. We've just about got everything opened up.”

He said all roads had been cleared with the exception of Creagor Avenue, where two cars were stuck. Industrial Park Drive, Lafayette Avenue and Creagor Avenue were the most heavily affected by the blowing snow, he added.

“Those were the worst, where it's wide open,” he said.

City crews began applying salt Thursday evening.

“As soon as it stopped raining and it wasn't going to wash the salt off, I had them go out and start salting,” said Leonhard. “That was it would at least get the ice melted at the intersections before the snow got on it. It



The Commercial Review/Ray Cooney

Bob May clears the sidewalk this morning in front of Bob and Sons Insurance on Main Street on the east side of Portland's downtown area.

helped a little bit in some areas. In some areas, it didn't.”

Jay County Emergency Management Agency placed the county under a travel watch at 11:38 p.m. Thursday, meaning conditions were threatening and only essential travel was recommended.

Leonhard said he checked on conditions about every two hours overnight.

“There were times that I couldn't see the front of the truck,” he said.

Rhodehamel said the county started receiving calls from folks who had slid off the road about 4 a.m.

The travel watch was pushed to a warning at 5:10 a.m. today.

At 6:36 a.m. today, Jay County Sheriff's Office alerted residents that its deputies were finding roads becoming impassable. It asked that travel be avoided except for emergency situations.

A winter storm warning remains in effect for northeast Indiana and

northwest Ohio until 7 a.m. Saturday. The National Weather Service warns of dangerous wind chills and blowing and drifting snow, with winds gusting as high as 50 miles per hour. Wind chill values were expected to drop as low as negative-40 today. Minimal additional snowfall is expected.

Rhodehamel pointed out Jay County Jail's lobby is open until 8 p.m. tonight. Portland and Dunkirk fire departments are also open for folks needing emergency shelter.

Though not as severe, windy conditions with temperatures below 20 are expected to remain through the Christmas weekend.

Rhodehamel asked that residents avoid calling 911 for weather conditions, instead suggesting they check alerts from Jay County Sheriff's Office, Jay County Emergency Management Agency's Facebook page or in.gov/dhs/traveladvisory for updates.

County ...

Continued from page 1
He also said he was not aware of the policy — it dates back to at least January 2019 — and he had been following guidelines for compensatory pay he believed were in place in the past.

Other personnel committee members also chided Ford for not addressing the issue with county officials.

“You should've come to us, Dwane,” said Champ. “We have a policy to follow.”

Commissioner and personnel committee member Chad Aker said policies in place need to be followed. He added that Ford could have approached county officials about the policy needing to be changed and they could have addressed it.

“I hate to be a Grinch, especially around Christmas, but the rules are there for a reason,” said Aker. “Otherwise we have 14 (some) other people saying, ‘Why didn't you do this for me?’”

County attorney Bill Hinkle pointed out the county needs to either enforce or change its rules moving forward.

Part of the problem, added Franks, is the difference in time clocks across county departments. Houchins suggested looking into a county wide time clock system. The county has looked into options before, noted Aker.

Personnel committee members ultimately agreed to recommend commissioners pay Coleman's claim. They also emphasized that moving forward, county policy must be followed.

SERVICES

Tuesday

Stevens, Betty: 1 p.m., Walker & Glancy Funeral Home, 109 W. Windsor St., Montpelier.

Wednesday

Powell, Rex: 2 p.m., Baird-Freeman Funeral Home, 221 N. Meridian St., Portland.

Jan. 14

Theurer, Donald: 1:30 p.m., Williamson-Spencer and Penrod Funeral Home, 208 N. Commerce St., Portland.

Service listings provided by

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Learn the difference in virus symptoms

By JULIA MARNIN

McClatchy Washington Bureau
Tribune News Service

There's a trio of viruses spreading in the U.S. — COVID-19, the flu and RSV — and some in the medical world are calling it a "triple epidemic."

Public health officials have seen elevated levels of all three viruses circulating in the U.S. ahead of the approaching winter holidays, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Rochelle Walensky warned at a Dec. 5 media briefing.

If you're feeling sick, it can be tough to differentiate among COVID-19, the flu and RSV because they share similar symptoms and can also look like the common cold.

When it comes to COVID-19, the CDC reports cases and deaths have risen in the past few

weeks, as of Dec. 16. Meanwhile, Walensky said at the briefing that flu and RSV cases are higher than what's been historically typical this season.

It's possible that you might be sick with one of the viruses. But keep in mind that from late August through March, it's also a prime time to get a cold, according to Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Here's what your symptoms may mean.

Am I sick with COVID, RSV, the flu or simply a cold?

Before getting into symptoms, one characteristic COVID-19, the flu and RSV shares is that they're respiratory infections affecting the airways, lungs, sinuses and throat. The cold is similar in that

it is an upper respiratory infection affecting the nose and throat.

COVID-19 and the flu have quite a few overlapping symptoms, according to the CDC, including:

- Fever
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Feeling tired
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Vomiting
- Runny or stuffy nose

Diarrhea is listed as a flu and COVID-19 symptom by the CDC. However, while anyone with COVID-19 can experience diarrhea, it is more likely that children with the flu will experience the symptom, according to the agency.

The CDC notes that COVID-19 symptoms may take longer to show up after an initial infection

compared with the flu. Overall, the flu is the most likely to result in muscle aches and a fever compared to COVID-19, a cold and RSV, according to NYU Langone Health.

In the U.S., the flu and RSV is hitting children hard and overwhelming hospitals, NPR reports.

RSV, or respiratory syncytial virus, can affect anyone with "cold-like" symptoms and has the potential to be most severe for babies and older adults, according to the CDC.

The most common symptoms of RSV and a cold

Similarly to COVID-19 and the flu, RSV symptoms, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics, include:

- Fever

- Cough
- Trouble breathing, including wheezing and shortness of breath
- Feeling tired
- Stuffy nose

Other symptoms include sneezing, flaring nostrils, lack of appetite, and "head bobbing or chest caving in between and under ribs with each breath," the American Academy of Pediatrics reports.

The common cold also shares overlapping symptoms of COVID-19, the flu and RSV, according to Mayo Clinic.

- Some include:
- Low-grade fever
 - Cough
 - Runny or stuffy nose
 - Congestion

Meanwhile, sneezing, body aches and a mild headache are also cold symptoms.

Getting evaluated for COVID-19 or the flu

With COVID-19 and the flu, the CDC reports that "you cannot tell the difference between" the pair based on symptoms.

Luckily, there is a test that can detect whether you have COVID-19, the flu and even RSV that you can get through a health care provider. Options include a test made by Labcorp and another created by Quest Diagnostics.

If all three are ruled out, there's potential that you could have a cold.

Generally, good habits to prevent yourself from getting sick include washing hands, avoiding touching your face, avoiding close physical contact, staying home and cleaning surfaces, according to Intermountain Health-care based in Nevada.

Couple in long-distance relationship make plans

DEAR ABBY: I am a senior in high school in a long-distance relationship. My boyfriend, "Grant," and I live two states apart and have visited each other several times. He's four years older than I am. We met three years ago, when Grant was 19 and I was 15, and became friends through banter online. However, he had a girlfriend and we were nothing more than friends. I developed feelings, but he did not reciprocate because I was underage. Later, after he and his girlfriend broke up, I told him how I felt and we became a couple. That was 10 months ago.

Grant asked me to move in with him next year, and I have decided to do so. His college tuition and housing are paid for, and he wants to help in paying mine while we pursue an in-

son relationship. Some of my relatives know about my decision, but the two family members I live with do not. They are very serious and old-fashioned in their beliefs and do not respect my relationship in any way.

I'm not sure how to tell them about my decision to move 900 miles away to a state where neither Grant nor I have friends or family. I'm looking for any advice possible. — BIG PLANS IN INDIANA



Dear Abby

DEAR BIG PLANS: I'm glad you are seeking advice about this because I have serious reservations about what you are planning. If you move in with Grant (as generous as his offer may be), you will be denying him and yourself an important aspect of the college experience. This is a chance for each of you to complete your education, as well as grow and define yourselves as INDIVIDUALS. Both of you will meet new people and develop interests apart from the other, which is both challenging and healthy. Please do not deny yourself or Grant this important experience.

DEAR ABBY: Our family is worried about my brother. Ever since he met and married his

wife, he has changed. There was a "surprise" baby. Access to the baby is limited — even my parents, who visit only once a year, must schedule an appointment at least two days in advance. My brother now rarely leaves the house. He has begun questioning my parents about their will. He is asking to be bought out of the family business, which he has stated numerous times that he absolutely loves being a part of.

Abby, I know you typically say to stand aside and offer support if asked, but some of his decisions, like wanting to leave the family business, will have serious negative impacts on the whole family. Is there anything we can do? — CONCERNED BIG BROTHER IN WASHINGTON

DEAR BIG BROTHER: Your brother's wife appears to be very controlling. Is he all

right? I ask because you wrote that he has always loved the family business. Because his request to be bought out will affect everyone, all of the principals — including your brother — should meet with your attorney as well as your financial adviser to discuss what that will mean for all of you. If this is being caused by your brother's wife, do not allow her to isolate him. Assure him that you will always be there for him regardless where his path may lead.

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@theccr.com.

Saturday

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

Sunday

A BETTER LIFE — BRIANNA'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.

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.

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.

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.

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

A BETTER LIFE — BRIANNA'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. Creagor 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.

Sudoku

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

Level: Advanced

Thursday's Solution

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

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

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Trend heading in wrong direction

News and Tribune
(Jeffersonville & New Albany)

The past decade has brought improved medical technology, services and access, yet the average life expectancy has declined.

The Governor's Public Health Commission released its initial report in July focusing on multiple areas. It points out that life expectancy gains achieved in the 20th Century were largely attributable to public programs and intervention.

But it calls to attention the troubling fact that Indiana's life expectancy has been declining since a 2010 peak of 77.5 years. In 2019, Hoosiers' life expectancy, at 77 years, was almost two years below the national average, giving the state a 40th ranking.

The report highlights public health concerns contributing to the decline, including:

- Rising deaths from drugs, alcohol and suicide

Hoosier Editorial

- Rising rates of adult and child obesity

- Persistently high rates of adult tobacco use and teen vaping

- Continuing risks from drug-resistant disease agents and infectious diseases such as measles, hepatitis, tuberculosis, HIV/ AIDS, COVID-19 and others — each with the potential to spread rapidly across the state, across the country and around the world.

Indiana consistently ranks in the bottom tier for states in public health metrics, according to the report. The commission asserts that such problems contribute to

“unnecessary suffering, lost productivity and weaker communities.”

Funding is an issue. “Chronic underfunding and fragmentation of the public health system are now reducing those life expectancy gains,” the commission states in the report.

The commission set a goal of increasing Indiana's per capita spending of \$55 per person on health care to the national average of \$91 per person.

This is where the Indiana Legislature can help. Lawmakers can identify funding to address these issues, from bolstering local health departments to deal with infectious diseases to providing more money for education on substance abuse, obesity and tobacco use.

Speaking of tobacco, Indiana hasn't raised its tax on a pack of cigarettes since 2007. The state's

tax is almost \$1 less than the national average of \$1.91 per pack.

As former State Health Commissioner Dr. Richard Feldman recently wrote in a column, increasing the tobacco tax would serve two purposes: providing funding for health initiatives, and discouraging Hoosiers from smoking.

Both of those outcomes would improve public health in Indiana.

The opioid epidemic has ravaged communities, killing thousands of people including Hoosiers. Indiana recently garnered millions in settlement funds from prescription drug and pharmacy companies, which will help those battling addiction. Lawmakers should leverage those funds with more state money to treat and prevent addiction.

While these actions would cost

taxpayers upfront, they could save money in the long run. More importantly, they could save lives. The Legislature could also utilize surplus funds for public health initiatives.

But the government can't solve every problem. The commission's report points out health issues that we can control.

Better choices can reduce obesity rates. Parental supervision can thwart underage alcohol use as well as substance abuse. Vaccinations can reduce community spread of many infectious diseases.

Indiana is heading the wrong way in terms of health. As the new year approaches, let's resolve to live longer, healthier lives.

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HSPA Infonet is a content-sharing service for newspapers that are members of Hoosier State Press Association.

Bring back full child tax credit

By SHAILLY GUPTA BARNES
Progressive Perspectives
Tribune News Service

It's been one year since the last monthly Child Tax Credit (CTC) payment was issued.

For six months in 2021, these payments reached more than 61 million children. They lifted nearly 4 million children above the poverty line, reducing hunger and housing insecurity while improving household health and well-being.

But when lawmakers refused to extend the program and those payments ended, these gains were swiftly undone. Child poverty shot back up and many families again went hungry.

Despite a final push by progressives to revive the expansion before Republicans take control in the House, congressional leaders left the measure out of their final spending proposal for the year.

That is unacceptable. Reviving this program should be a top priority for three reasons:

1. When anti-poverty policies are more inclusive, they're more effective — and more popular.

When it was first enacted in 1997, the CTC imposed income requirements that excluded nearly one-third of children from receiving full benefits. The poorest households received nothing because they did not have an income to offset with a tax credit.

The American Rescue Plan Act changed this by making the CTC “fully refundable,” extending the full value to children whose parents hadn't earned enough before.

The legislation increased the amount of these payments without imposing any work requirements. These monthly payments helped low-income parents continue working by filling the gap between their low wages and what they needed in order to provide for their families. In 2021, the United States saw the lowest child poverty rates on record. And the credit's broad inclusivity, supporting the poorest to middle-income families, contributed to its popularity across party lines.

2. Policies that prioritize the poor are good for the whole economy.

Families spent their monthly payments on basic needs like food, utilities,

Shailly Gupta Barnes



rent and education, putting billions of dollars into local economies. New research shows that an expanded CTC could generate nearly 10 times more in social benefits than it costs each year.

3. Programs like the expanded CTC can revive our democracy.

Before the pandemic, there were 140 million poor and low-income people in the country. Programs like the CTC helped bring that number down to 112 million.

Among these millions of poor and low-income people are tens of millions of eligible voters. For many, their main priorities are their health and economic well-being. Yet every Senate Republican — plus Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va. — voted against extending the expanded CTC, even though it benefitted their own constituents.

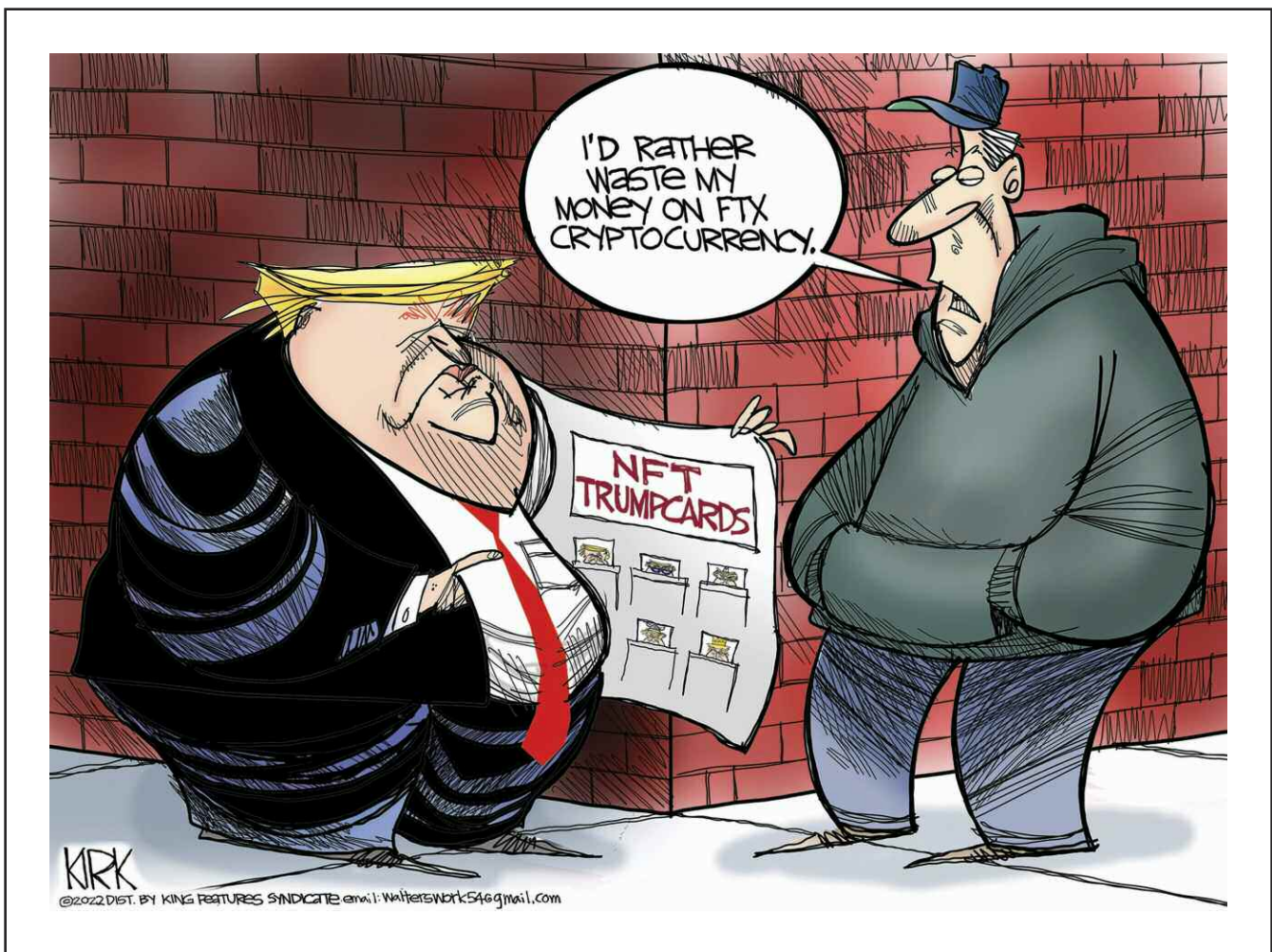
After the payments ended, Pam Garrison, a leader in the West Virginia Poor People's Campaign, told her senators, including Manchin: “My daughter's got an 8-year-old son she's raising ... For a few months she got a \$300 a month child tax credit, she wasn't getting notices about getting her utilities cut off anymore.

“But now you're cutting her off, before Christmas?” Garrison decried. “You didn't care about the deficit and inflation when you gave out trillions of dollars to the banks. The only time you care about it is when it goes to us poor and working people.”

Proving that the government can work for everyday people is essential to defending our democracy, which remains on fragile ground as we head into 2023. For now, our elected representatives have another chance to show that democracy is about caring for one another.

We already have a model for what works. It's time for our lawmakers to lift from the bottom.

.....
Barnes is the public director of the Poor People's Campaign: A National Call for Moral Revival.



We need to learn more, not less

By MICHAEL LEPPERT
Indiana Capital Chronicle
indianacapitalchronicle.com

If I could go back a few decades and change what was a part of the public education offered to me, I exclusively regret what my schools did not teach me. I can't recall a single thing they taught that I wish I hadn't learned. Try it yourself. Really try to think about an actual lesson you learned that you wish had not been taught.

Dodge ball? I can't complain about that, I was a champ at it. Choir? Loved it. That second entire year of Physics? Admittedly, I wish I could trade that for a year of Spanish, but it does help me with “Jeopardy” from time to time.

How fantastic it must be for a state legislature, in any state, to believe that one of its problems is that its schools are teaching too much. Delusions usually are fantastic, coming from the word's root, “fantasy.” I learned things like that in school.

So, when Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed its “Don't Say Gay” law earlier this year, I thought to myself, only the delusional can possibly believe that learning less will actually make us smarter. But that's the ridiculous, fantastical premise of the new law. I'm sure the law has been a smashing success, right? After all, it is months old and there is data to show how much smarter Floridian children have become now that they can't say “gay” in those schools, right?

Again, more fantasy. This has nothing to do with the education of our children. It is entirely a debate about the political whims of those looking to benefit from these particular political whims. It is disguised as an issue of “parental rights,” so, let's discuss that fallacy as a subset of the larger fantasy for a moment.

Michael Leppert



Florida law is “deliberately vague.” It “prohibits ‘instruction’ on sexual orientation or gender identity in kindergarten through third grade and, beyond them, in a manner that is not age appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.”

I learned about vagueness in school too, but I became more of an expert at strategic vagueness much later in life as a political operative. It really means whatever the politicians in charge want it to mean and for whatever purpose. As an education policy, fundamentally, it is designed to prevent or restrict learning, not enhance it.

One recent metric of concern in Indiana is how fewer Hoosiers are now going to college. “Indiana's sharp one-year college-going decline is alarming, and we have to treat it as such,” said Indiana Commissioner for Higher Education Chris Lowery in June to the Star. Driving this number up has been an Indiana goal since the days of Governor Mitch Daniels, an endeavor that has failed thus far.

This could be the reason Indiana House Speaker Todd Huston recently announced a desire to “reinvent” high school in the state at an Indiana Chamber of Commerce event in November.

If we really want to go back to the drawing board, let's start by getting a few things straight. Public education exists for the benefit of the public. To have smarter people, they need to learn more, not less. And most of all, being gay will always be better than being stupid.

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

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Sunday Ticket going to YouTube

By **STEPHEN BATTAGLIO**
Los Angeles Times
Tribune News Service

In a move that further deepens the tech industry's move into streaming live televised sports, the NFL has awarded the rights to its Sunday Ticket package to Google.

The NFL and the Mountain View, California-based company announced Thursday that the package, which gives viewers access to out-of-market network TV broadcasts of the league's Sunday afternoon games, will be offered as a subscriber product through its YouTube TV streaming service starting in the 2023 season.

"For a number of years we have been focused on increased digital distribution of our games and this partnership is yet another example of us looking towards the future and building the next generation of NFL fans," NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell said in a statement.

The league did not reveal the price for the rights, although reports put the annual figure for Google at \$2.5 billion — an increase of \$1 billion over what current rights holder satellite TV provider DirecTV is paying. Around 2 million DirecTV subscribers currently shell out \$300 a year for Sunday Ticket, which the company has offered since 1994.

Google said Sunday Ticket will be available as an add-on service for YouTube TV subscribers. The company did not reveal if the annual price will change.

It will also be offered as a stand-alone service on YouTube's PrimeTime Channels. The company did not reveal any details whether pricing will change.

Amazon, Apple and the Walt Disney Co.'s ESPN — which wanted Sunday Ticket for its ESPN+ streaming service — were the other contenders.

Apple, which already has Major League Baseball games and is exclusive rights holder to Major League Soccer regular season contests, was considered the best bet to nab Sunday Ticket.

Amazon, which has the rights to "Thursday Night Football" and demonstrated its ability to provide an exclusive game to a mass streaming audience, was also believed to have an inside track.

But Google prevailed, and it appears the company is prepared to use Sunday Ticket as a loss leader aimed at boosting its YouTube TV service, which streams cable and broadcast channels for a monthly fee. Google would need around 8 million subscribers at the current \$300 a year price to cover the rights fee.

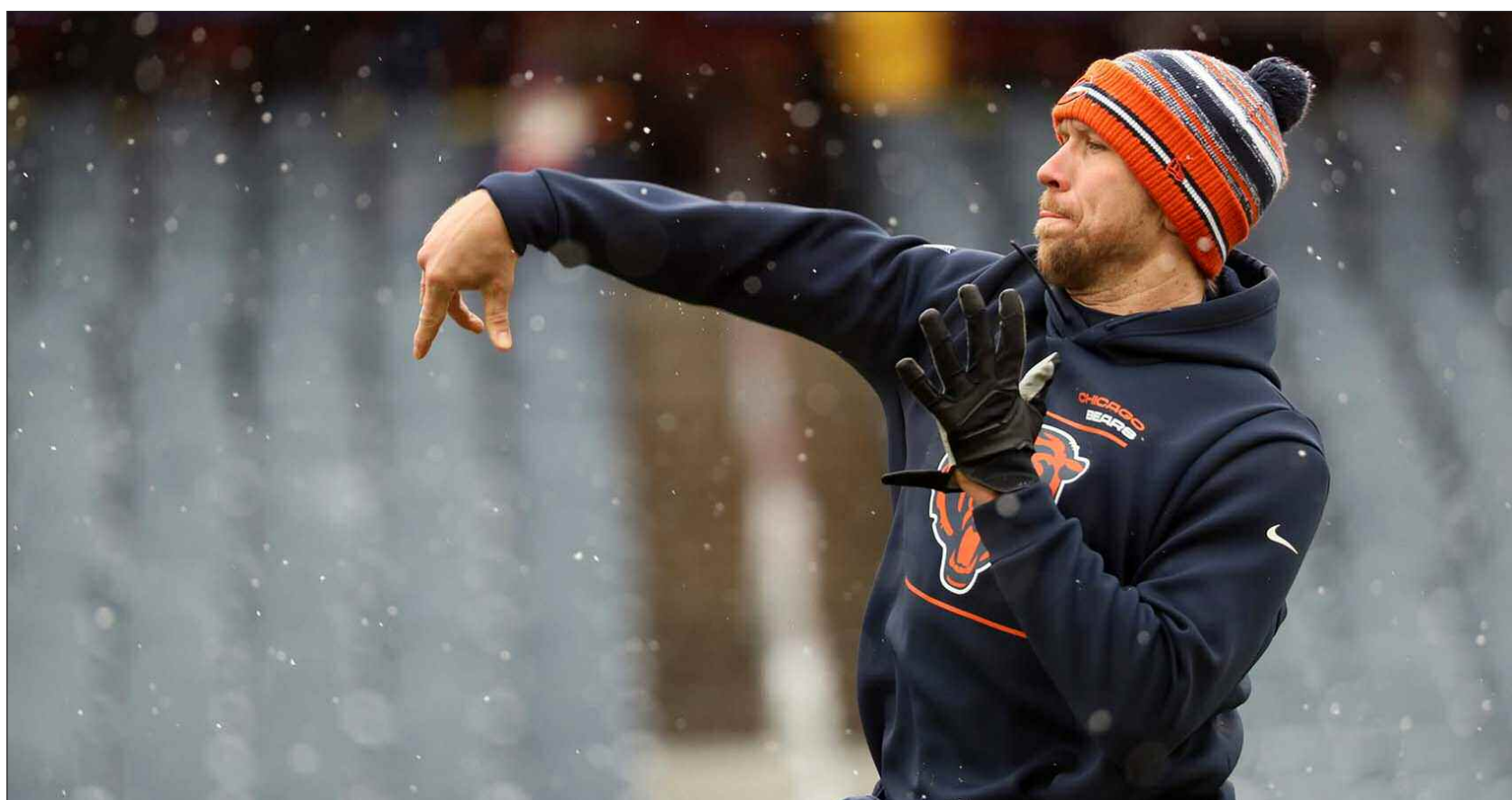
The NFL is by far the most popular live TV attraction — through the first half of the current season, games averaged around 16 million viewers, towering over all other programming. But it would take a lot of passionate fans with favorite teams outside of their home markets to get Google over the 8 million subscriber threshold.

The best Sunday NFL matchups are scheduled for late afternoon or prime time and are available on free TV.

The move from the struggling DirecTV to a streaming service is not a surprise, as more consumers, especially younger ones, are bypassing traditional cable and satellite TV subscriptions.

The deal has no immediate effect on the NFL's deal with its traditional broadcast network partners Fox and CBS, which have the rights to Sunday afternoon games through 2032.

But it does point to a future where streaming could be the primary delivery system for sports programming.



Tribune News Service/Chicago Tribune/Stacey Wescott

Chicago Bears quarterback Nick Foles (9) warms up before the start of a game against the New York Giants on Jan. 2 at Soldier Field in Chicago. Foles, a nomadic usually backup quarterback who led the Philadelphia Eagles to a Super Bowl win following an injury to Carson Wentz during the 2019 playoffs, has been named the Indianapolis Colts' starting quarterback for Monday's game against the Los Angeles Chargers.

Indianapolis turns to Foles

By **GEORGE BREMER**
The Herald Bulletin (Anderson)
Tribune News Service

INDIANAPOLIS — Nick Foles is no stranger to late-season calls to action, so maybe it was inevitable this maddening Indianapolis Colts season would find its way into the veteran quarterback's hands.

Foles will start Monday night's home game against the Los Angeles Chargers, marking the second time this year Matt Ryan has been benched by Indianapolis.

Interim head coach Jeff Saturday announced the decision during his weekly Wednesday news conference and gave a nod to the fact Foles will be the third different starting quarterback in a seven-game stretch.

"We'll evaluate it the same way we do every week," he said of Foles' grip on the starting job.

"We'll look at it. Hopefully, he plays well enough that it leaves no doubt who it's going to be, right? That's the intent."

Foles' most recent start also came on Dec. 26 when he guided the Chicago Bears to a 25-24 road victory against the Seattle Seahawks in Week 16 last season.

He's played only two snaps for the Colts (4-9-1) this season, with both coming at the end of a 24-0 loss against the Jacksonville Jaguars in Week 2. Foles has not attempted a pass and has been inactive for five games.

Now, he'll be entrusted to run the Indianapolis offense in a prime-time matchup with playoff implications for the Chargers (8-6).

And his first thoughts were with his closest teammates.

"I mean, it's been a crazy year for this organization and everyone involved," Foles said. "It's tough

for — as a QB room, we're really close. I'm with two great quarterbacks with Matt and Sam (Ehlinger). The biggest thing we talk about is having a good group that cares for each other. That's the most important thing, and we've been really put to the test this year with all the different changes."

Foles' most famous replacement job came with the Philadelphia Eagles during the postseason following the 2017 regular season.

He completed 72.6% of his passes for 971 yards with six touchdowns and one interception during the Eagles' three-game run to the Super Bowl championship. He was 28-of-43 for 373 yards with three touchdowns and one pick in the title game against the New England Patriots and was named the Super Bowl MVP.

But he's never made more than 11 starts in a single season and has

a 29-27 career record as a starter. Foles has completed 62.4% of his passes for 14,003 yards with 82 touchdowns and 43 interceptions in 69 games.

The hope is his penchant for the deep ball can bring a much-needed boost to the NFL's 29th-ranked scoring offense and 19th-ranked passing game.

"It's no secret we haven't converted in the red zone, and ultimately you've got to make plays in the NFL, and we're not making nearly enough explosive plays and not making plays in the red zone," Saturday said. "Again — I've said before — this is not all on Matt. This is us entirely on an offensive perspective, but ultimately that leads into it."

"I feel like Nick will give us a better chance to go win these last three games, and that's why we're heading that way."

Falcons win frigid Armed Forces Bowl

By **RICKY MOORE**
Fort Worth Star-Telegram
Tribune News Service

Leading 9-7 at halftime, Air Force scored touchdowns on three of its first four second-half possessions as the Falcons defeated Baylor, 30-15, Thursday in the 20th annual Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl at Amon G. Carter Stadium in sub-freezing temperatures.

The win marked the first time the Falcons (10-3) defeated Baylor in four attempts. The Air Force's last win in the Armed Forces Bowl came in 2008 with a 47-20 victory over Houston. The Falcons are now 15-13-1 in bowl games and 2-4 in the Armed Forces Bowl.

Quarterback Haaziq Daniels, who was honored as Air Force's Most Outstanding Player, made the Falcons' offense go Thursday night. Daniels contributed a 15-yard touchdown pass to Caleb Rillos and a two-yard score. Daniels threw for 103 and carried 15 times for 81 yards.

"Our coaches did a great job of calling the right plays tonight and we executed them well," he said afterward.

Fullback Brad Roberts also had a big win

for the Falcons. Roberts scored on a pair of one-yard runs and finished with 116 yards on 37 attempts.

Air Force's current senior class has reached the 10-win plateau three times.

"I thought we played really complete football in all phases,"

Air Force coach Troy Calhoun said. "We encountered a good team in Baylor, but I can't say enough about our guys about the will and fight, the dedication. It is what you want for your seniors to graduate in May from the Air Force Academy."

Baylor (6-7) closed to within 9-7 with five seconds to play in the first quarter thanks to an eight-yard touchdown pass from Blake Shapen to Hal Presley. Late in the game, Shapen hit Gavin Holmes for a 14-yard touchdown. Shapen threw for 188 yards and a pair of scores.

But Air Force answered Baylor's challenge with 21 points to take a 30-7 lead in the fourth quarter.

"I'm disappointed with the outcome tonight," Baylor coach Dave Aranda said. "There is a lot to be learned for our returners and younger people. A lot to look at and try to emulate as well."

Sports on tap

Local schedule

Today
Fort Recovery — Girls basketball vs. Tri-Village — 5:30 p.m.; Boys basketball vs. Tri-Village — 6:30 p.m.

Friday
3 p.m. — College football: Radiance Technologies Independence Bowl — Louisiana vs. Houston (ESPN)
6:30 p.m. — College football: Union Home Mortgage Gasparilla Bowl — Wake Forest vs. Missouri (ESPN)
7 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Kennesaw State at Indiana (BTN)
8 p.m. — NBA basketball: Indiana Pacers at Miami Heat (Bally Indiana)
9 p.m. — Men's college basketball: Grambling State at Wisconsin (BTN)
10 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Phoenix Suns (ESPN)

Saturday
1 p.m. — NFL football: Buffalo Bills at Chicago Bears (CBS); Seattle Seahawks at Kansas City Chiefs (FOX)
4 p.m. — NFL football: Philadelphia

Eagles at Dallas Cowboys (FOX)
8 p.m. — College football: Easypost Hawai'i Bowl — Middle Tennessee vs. San Diego State (ESPN)

Sunday
Noon — NBA basketball: Philadelphia 76ers at New York Knicks (ABC/ESPN)
1 p.m. — NFL football: Green Bay Packers at Miami Dolphins (FOX)
2:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Los Angeles Lakers at Dallas Mavericks (ABC/ESPN)
4:30 p.m. — NFL football: Denver Broncos at Los Angeles Rams (CBS)
5 p.m. — NBA basketball: Milwaukee Bucks at Boston Celtics (ABC/ESPN)
8 p.m. — NBA basketball: Memphis Grizzlies at Golden State Warriors (ABC/ESPN)
8:15 p.m. — NFL football: Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Arizona Cardinals (NBC)
10:30 p.m. — NBA basketball: Phoenix Suns at Denver Nuggets (ABC/ESPN)

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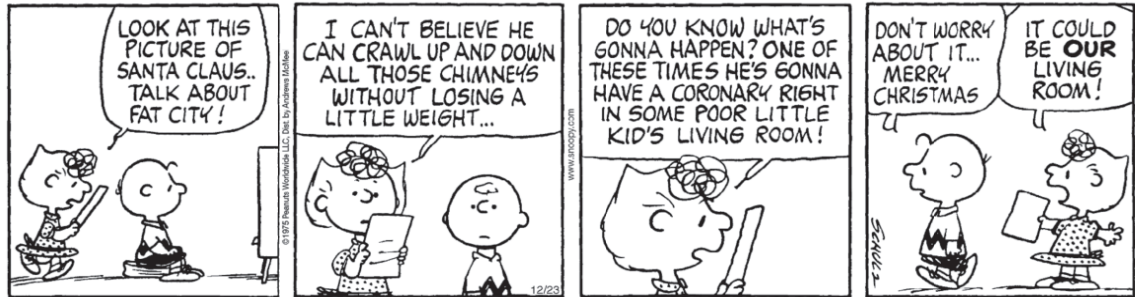
SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



Peanuts



Rose is Rose



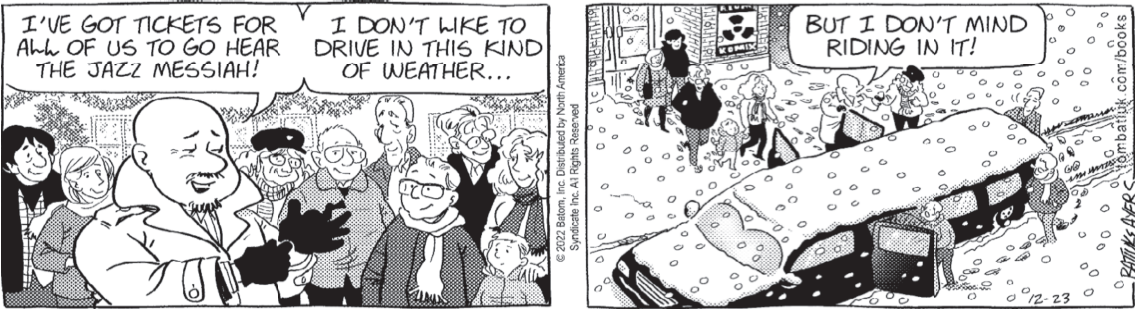
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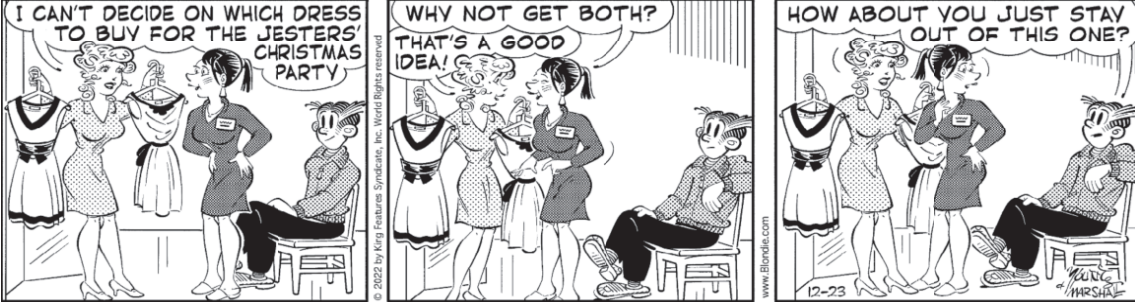
Hi and Lois



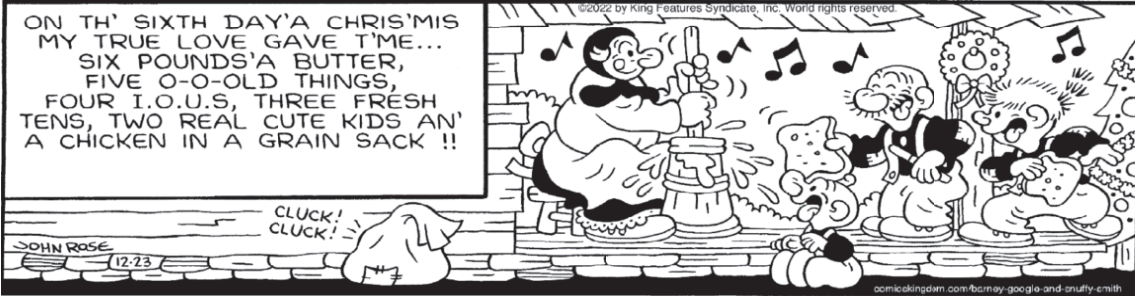
Funky Winkerbean



Blondie



Snuffy Smith



Beetle Bailey



Contract Bridge By Steve Becker

Bidding quiz

You are South, neither side vulnerable, and the bidding has gone:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
2 ♥ Pass ?
What would you bid now with each of the following four hands?
1. ♠ A9 ♥ QJ95 ♦ Q7 ♣ K984
2. ♠ K54 ♥ KJ872 ♦ 95 ♣ Q63
3. ♠ 10 ♥ K97632 ♦ Q83 ♣ A95
4. ♠ J8 ♥ KJ73 ♦ K962 ♣ KQ7

1. **Three notrump.** Since you have an opening bid facing an opening bid, there is no question about reaching game. Only two game contracts are feasible — three notrump or four hearts — and the best way of reaching for one of them is by jumping to three notrump. It would be wrong to bid only two notrump, which partner might pass.

2. **Pass.** Partner has 13 to 15 points, some of which might be distributional in value. Game is therefore unlikely, and by passing, you will almost surely end up with a plus score instead of the minus that might result from bidding, say, three hearts. It is true that you have a king more than you might have had for your one-heart response, but that is not a good-enough reason for continuing to bid when the prospect for game is remote.

3. **Four hearts.** The strength of this hand lies as much in its distribution as in its high cards. Granting that you have only nine high-card points, the fact is that you have lots of tricks — and that's the bottom line in bridge. Another way of assessing your prospects is to ask yourself: "Am I likely to lose four tricks with this hand after partner opens one diamond and raises hearts?" If the answer is no, as it ought to be, you should go directly to game.

4. **Three clubs.** You are on the way to game but can't tell whether to play in hearts, diamonds or notrump. Three diamonds (also forcing) might seem a more truthful bid, but it is not as helpful as three clubs in reaching for a notrump game — if that is the right contract. Partner might have something like ♠ AQ9 ♥ A85 ♦ QJ753 ♣ J4 and be unable to bid three notrump over three diamonds.

Tomorrow: A disastrous discard.
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12-23

CRYPTOQUIP

BY CJADMJTL QJADC EU YVJA
KWD QJST ZUT MDFEUC CQJSTEUF
LJX, KWDL'VD ZKKZQHEUF
GKWKJXK GZVAEUF.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SHE'S DESTINED TO WED SOMEONE WITH THE SAME NAME AS ACTOR FERRELL. IT'S A WILL-FATED ROMANCE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: F equals G

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Lush (small dog) residence
8 Fine spray
12 J. Edgar's org.
13 Composer Stravinsky
14 Related
15 Forest evergreen
17 Sleeveless garment
18 "Heavens!"
19 Ram's mate
21 Ger. neighbor
22 Flip-flop
26 Young horses
29 "Awesome!"
30 PC program
31 Buckeye state
32 Surpass
33 Pirate's drink
34 HBO rival
35 Saute

DOWN

16 Poet's muse
20 Bankroll
23 Olympic swimmer Torres
24 Mil. addresses
25 Women's links org.
26 Expense of test
27 Surprised greeting
28 King of the jungle
29 Trigger's rider
32 Join an environmental protest
33 Specter
35 Aviate
36 Hereditary
38 Blunder
39 Pirate's plunder
42 Showy flower
43 Head, to Henri
44 Fair-hiring org
45 Hot tub
46 Aachen article
47 Long. crosser
49 Stolen

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

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Felony court news

Destructive device

A man was found guilty by a Jay Circuit Court jury of possessing a destructive device and dealing drugs.

James L. Weaver, 38, was found guilty of possession of a destructive device, a Level 5 felony, and dealing methamphetamine, a Level 2 felony. He was sentenced to 20 years in Indiana Department of Correction. Weaver was assessed \$185 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 drug abuse, prosecution, interdiction and correction fee.

Weaver was recommended for purposeful incarceration, meaning upon completing a substance abuse treatment program, the court will consider modifying his sentence.

His initial charge for having a destructive

device was filed as a Level 2 felony.

Drunk driving

A Muncie man pleading guilty to drunk driving was sentenced to jail time.

Donald H. Huff, 49, 309 N. Pershing Drive, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to operating a vehicle while intoxicated, a Level 6 felony. He was sentenced to 270 days in Jay County Jail and given 52 days credit for time served.

Huff was assessed \$185.50 in court costs and ordered to pay a \$200 alcohol and drug countermeasures fee. The court recommended Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles suspend his license for one year retroactive to March 15, 2021.

As part of his plea agreement the following charges were dismissed: a Level 6 felony for possession of

methamphetamine, a Class A misdemeanor for driving with a suspended license and a Class C misdemeanor for possession of paraphernalia.

Criminal confinement
A Portland woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to criminal confinement, a Level 6 felony.

Danielle L. Ingram, 19, 628 E. Main St., Portland, was sentenced in Jay Circuit Court to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 24 months suspended, given 24 days credit for time served and placed on probation. She was fined \$25 and assessed \$185 in court costs.

As part of her plea agreement, her charge was lessened from a Level 5 felony, and a Level 5 felony charge for domestic battery resulting in bodily injury to a

pregnant woman was dismissed.

Burglary
A Portland man was sentenced to prison after pleading guilty to burglary.

Colin J. Bradburn, 47, 904 W Arch St., Portland, pleaded guilty in Jay Circuit Court to the Level 4 felony. He was sentenced to nine years in Indiana Department of Correction with all but 45 days suspended and just under nine years of probation. He was given credit for time served, fined \$1 and assessed \$185 in court costs.

Theft
A Dunkirk woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to theft.

Yvonnea M. Newman, 42, 333 S. Indiana St., Dunkirk, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to the Level 6

felony. She was sentenced to one year in Jay County Jail with all but 282 days suspended and given 282 days credit for time served.

Newman was fined \$1, assessed \$185 in court costs and placed on probation for 83 days. She was ordered to pay \$80 in restitution to the benefit of James M. Hurst.

Nonsupport
A Portland woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to nonsupport of a dependent.

Haley C. Williams, 26, 1237 N. U.S. 27, pleaded guilty in Jay Superior Court to two counts of the Level 6 felony. She was sentenced to 545 days in Jay County Jail with all but 102 days suspended and given 102 days credit for time served.

She was assessed \$185 in court costs and

ordered to pay \$25,860.10 total in restitution to the benefit of Shawna Williams. Williams was placed on probation for 443 days.

Common nuisance
A woman was sentenced to jail after pleading guilty to maintaining a common nuisance, a Level 6 felony.

Billie J. Steed, 54, was sentenced in Jay Circuit Court to two years in Jay County Jail with all but 374 days suspended, placed on probation for 11 months and given credit for time served. Steed was assessed \$185 in court costs.

Cases dismissed
Indiana v. Yvonnea M. Newman, Level 6 felony
Indiana v. Eric A. Shultz, Level 6 felony

90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	90 SALE CALENDAR	110 HELP WANTED	130 MISC. FOR SALE	200 FOR RENT
OUTSTANDING NEW YEARS EVE Auction Located 806 E Votaw St., Portland, IN Bubp Building at Jay Co. Fairgrounds. Saturday December 31st, 2022 9:30 A.M. GRUBEAUCTIONEERING.HIBID.COM Full Bobcat mount, Pheasant mount, #5 Western Stoneware crock, Beehive Cocks, Cobalt Blue Bird Stoneware, Crock, #5 Blue Ribbon Stoneware Crock, large selection of Fenton & Indiana glass, large selection of Weller/Roseville & Blue Ridge Pottery, 1790 heirloom quilt, 1800s coverlet, Victorian Etagee credenza, early 1800s oak heavily carved buffet w/29 carved heads, 1800s walnut cylinder desk, heavily carved buffet w/18 bubble glass door inserts, oak ice box, cowboy desk secretary w/drop front, Shirley Temple pitcher, pickle jar, cookie jars, Coca-Cola pop crate, washboards, too much to list it all... Note: Pickup is Saturday, Dec. 31 until 4 p.m. & Sunday Jan. 1, 2023, from 11:00-1:00 pm. Grube Auctioneering, LLC Adrian Grube AU11500034 419-305-9202 PUBLIC AUCTION THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022 9:00 A.M. LOCATED: 3430 W State Road 67, Portland, IN BACKHOE-TRACTORS-COMBINES-SPRAYER CAT 420 E-loader backhoe 4x4 w/extend a hoe and 4 in 1 bucket; IH 5088 tractor CHA 7646 hrs. w/duals and weights, Century 1000 gallon sprayer w/60' boom. FARM EQUIPMENT Case IH 200 Tiger Mate 40' field cultivator w/harrow att; Brillion XXL Series 40' cultipacker;	Case IH 28' soil finisher w/5 bar harrow att; Case IH 28' disc; Kewanee 1010 30' disc; Ford 25' disc. VEHICLES-TRAILERS-COLLECTABLES-MISC. 2007 Toyota Tundra Crewmax Limited 4x4 156,600 miles; 2004 Ford F350 4x4 6.0 dsl. 142000 miles; 2009 Int. single axle dump truck, 20' w/dovetail and ramps; 2020 Stealth 16' enclosed trailer w/ramp door; 2006 Neckover 24' gooseneck livestock trailer; PTO generator on transport; large lot of wood working and other tools. NOTE: This is a live and online auction, starting online at 9:30 with ProxiBid.com. AREA CONTRACTORS & FARMERS OWNERS AUCTIONEERS Zane Shawver Lic. #AU10500168 260-729-2229 Pete D. Shawver Lic. #AU19700040 260-726-5587 www.auctionzip.com – Auctioneer ID #4243 250 PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice STATE OF INDIANA COUNTY OF JAY IN THE JAY CIRCUIT COURT CASE NO: 38C01-2209-DN-000073 IN RE THE MARRIAGE OF: MARLANA GUTIERREZ Petitioner, V. FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ Respondent. SUMMONS [For Dissolution of Marriage Cases Only] The State of Indiana to Respondent: FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ 151 EAGLEROCK DRIVE SAN ANTONIO TEXAS 78227 You have been sued by your spouse for dissolution of marriage. The case is pending in the Court named above. If this Summons is accompanied by an Order Setting Hearing, you must appear in Court on the date and time stated on the Order Setting Hearing. IF YOU DO NOT APPEAR, EVIDENCE MAY BE HEARD AND A DECISION MAY BE MADE BY THE COURT. If a Temporary Restraining Order is issued, it is effective immediately upon your receipt or knowledge of the Order. If you wish to retain an attorney to represent you in the matter, it is advisable to do so before the date stated on the Notice of Provisional Hearing. If you take no action in this case after receipt of this Summons, the Court can grant a Dissolution of Marriage and/or make determinations that may include but not limited to any of the following: paternity, child custody, child support, maintenance, parenting time, property (real or personal), and other distribution of assets and debts, attorney fees and costs. Dated: 9/8/2022 Jon Eads, Clerk Jay County NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING The Petitioner has filed a Motion for a Final Hearing which the Court has considered and now grants. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the final hearing for this matter shall be held on 30th day of January, 2023 at 11:30 AM. CR 12-16,23,30-2022- HSPAXLP	PUBLIC AUCTION Located: Bubp Building at the Jay County Fairgrounds East Votaw St. Portland, IN. SATURDAY, JANUARY 7, 2023 10:00 A.M. REAL ESTATE Tract 1- Located at 204 W. Votaw St. Portland, IN. Going business to include Real Estate and inventory. Tract 2- Located at 220 W. Votaw St. Portland, IN. Tract 3- Located at 203 W. McNeil Street, Portland, IN. NOTE: Real Estate is being offered at 10:00 a.m. at the Bubp Building. Will be offered in parcels and combinations. For a private showing phone auctioneers. Camper-Skid Loader-Vehicles-Trailers 1998 Chevy Georgie Boy Swinger motor home, 34,500 miles, 2004 Ford Explorer XLT 147,000 miles; West Coast Chopper mini bike (new). Antiques-Furniture-Household (2) Duncan Phyfe drum	tables; wooden trunk; large lot of Tiffany style lamps; lot of Star Trek Memorabilia; crocks; galv. Washtubs; old bicycles; Coca Cola items; Colts grill; Smoker; and many items not mentioned. OWNERS: ROGER LOCKER, DECEASED Shawver Auctioneering and Real Estate AC31800004 AUCTIONEERS Pete D. Shawver AU19700040 260-726-5587 Zane Shawver AU10500168 260-729-2229 Check Auctionsoft and AuctionZip for more photos. 100 JOBS WANTED AMISH CREW LOOKING FOR any work. No job is too big or small. Pole barns, roofing, remodeling. 260-849-2489. READ THE CR THEN RECYCLE	Cook & Server position. No experience needed, Fair wages, Nights & Weekends Southside in Coldwater Ohio 419-678-3715 CDL OTR DRIVER NEEDED Flexible home times / schedule, Home Weekly, FRT Coronado 13 spd, RGN, SD Trailer, Vac/Holiday Pay, \$91000 yearly/ \$.70/Mile with drop wages. Must have 3 years' experience. 260-273-9169 THE CITY OF DUNKIRK IS HIRING Sewage Dept. is looking for a full-time employee also a part time employee for various depts Please come to City Building for a Application.	PAPER END ROLLS FOR SALE Various sizes and prices. Call The Commercial Review at 260-726-8141 for more information. 190 FARMERS COL-UMN AG RENTAL Spreaders: BBI, Artsway Vertical. New Holland 228 skid loaders w/full cab, heat/ac. 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260 PUBLIC AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION

LOCATED: 3430 W SR 67, PORTLAND, INDIANA 47371

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2022

9:00 A.M.

BACKHOE-TRACTORS-COMBINES-SPRAYER

CAT 420 E-loader backhoe 4x4 w/extend a hoe and 4 in 1 bucket; IH 5088 tractor CHA 7646 hrs. w/duals and weights, JD 4430 tractor quad shift, w/duals and weights; Farmall 460 tractor WF; Ford 4000 gas tractor w/Freeman loader; F12 on steel w/bottom plow; 1928 McCormick Deering 1020 tractor; Case IH 2188 combine; Case IH 1083 corn head; Case IH 1020 grain head; JD 9500 combine 2800 hours; JD 643 corn head; JD 970 grain head; JD 925 grain head; Rotagator 854 sprayer w/85' booms; Century 1000 gallon sprayer w/60' boom; NH L-125 Skid loader w/898 hrs.

FARM EQUIPMENT

Case IH 200 Tiger Mate 40' field cultivator w/harrow att; Brillion XXL Series 40' cultipacker; Case IH 28' soil finisher w/5 bar harrow att; Case IH 28' disc; Kewanee 1010 30' disc; Ford 25' disc; M&W 1465 Earth Master disc chisel; JD 35' field cultivator w/5 bar harrow; JD 712 9 shank disc chisel; JD 3710 plow; UM 20' rolling basket; Glenco 15' soil finisher; P&M 25' cultimulcher; NI 9' cultimulcher; AC 1200 field cultivator; JD 1770 Max Emerge Plus 24 row planter w/monitor, precision and bean meters; JD 7000 12 row planter w/ Kinze bean meters and JD fingers; Great Plains 13' grain drill; Mayrath 60' 10" auger w/swing (used one season); Mayrath 60' 8" auger w/swing; Mayrath 30' 8" PTO auger; Westfield MK 100-71 auger w/swing; Brent 770 grain cart; J&M 350 bu. wagon w/auger; J&M 200 bu. hopper wagon; Bradford 16+0 bu. hopper wagon; Claas Rollant 46 round baler; Hybird Hay Runner 12 wheel hay rake; 18' hay wagon w/JD gear; NH 411 disc bine; (2) Gehl 920 silage wagons; Gehl silage blower; NH 790 2 row silage chopper; 1979 IH tandem axle grain truck w/ tarp; 1967 IHC Loadstar 1800 tandem axle grain truck w/Omaha bed; Land Pride 5' rotary mower; Frontier 4' box blade.

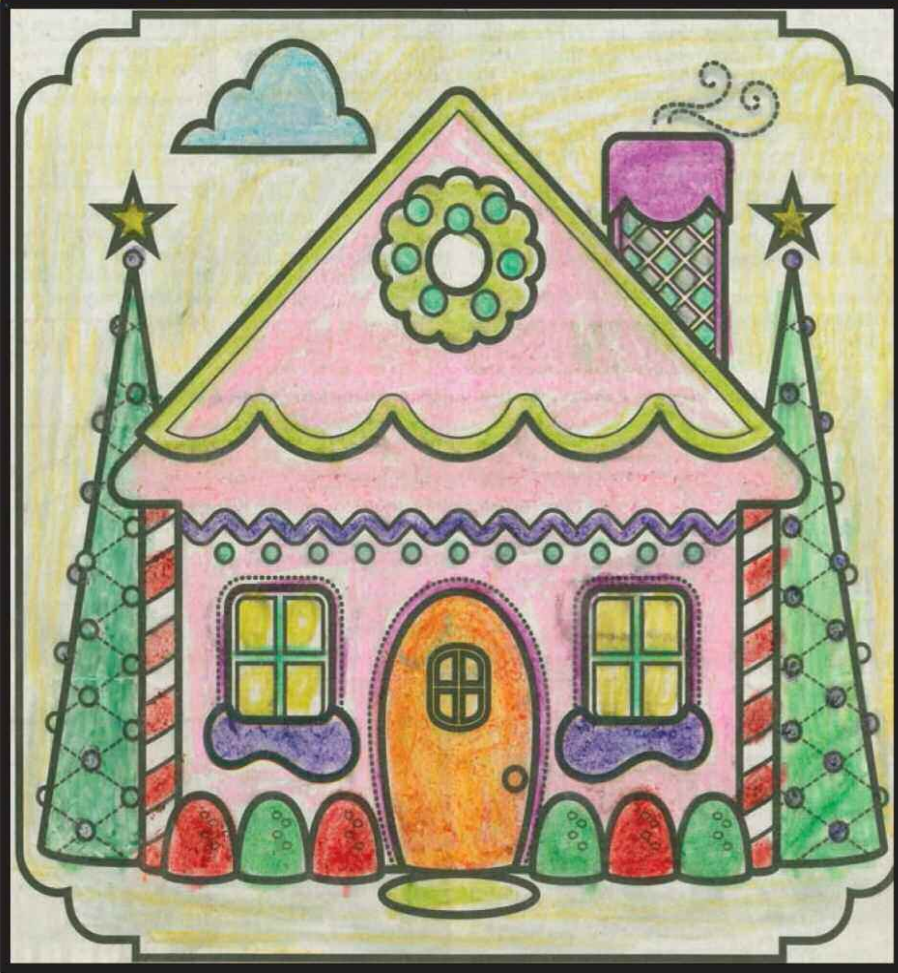
VEHICLES-TRAILERS-COLLECTABLES-MISC.

2007 Toyota Tundra Crewmax Limited 4x4 156,600 miles; 2004 Ford F350 4x4 6.0 dsl. 142000 miles; 2009 Int. single axle dump truck w/DT 466 E engine and Allison automatic trans; 12,500 actual miles; 2001 Eager Beaver 20,000 lb. pintle hitch trailer, 20' w/dovetail and ramps; 2020 Stealth 16' enclosed trailer w/ramp door; 2006 Neckover 24' gooseneck livestock trailer; Tandem axle utility trailer w/ramp; 1999 Trailmobile 48' reefer trailer; 1950's Wayne poly gas pump (restored); Porcelain signs; one bottom McCormick Deering plow; IH Little Wonder 2 bottom plow on steel; set of steel wheels for Farmall F12; Kabota RTV 500 4x4 801 hrs; Simplicity Colt ZT 235 mower; JD 210 riding mower; Lundell 8' PTO snowblower; Avalanche 12' snowbox; 12' van box w/roll up door; 5 shank manure app. w/wheel hose and gun; Cattle head chute; 100 small sq. bales of straw; hog incinerator; IH axle mount duals and weights; A complete line of Snap On tools including roll away tool boxes; racing tool box on transport; wood pellet grill; Reddy heaters; lawn sparyer; tree stand; Craftsman and other battery power tools; ss hog feeders; metal hog gates; PTO generator on transport; large lot of wood working and other tools.
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Christmas Fun

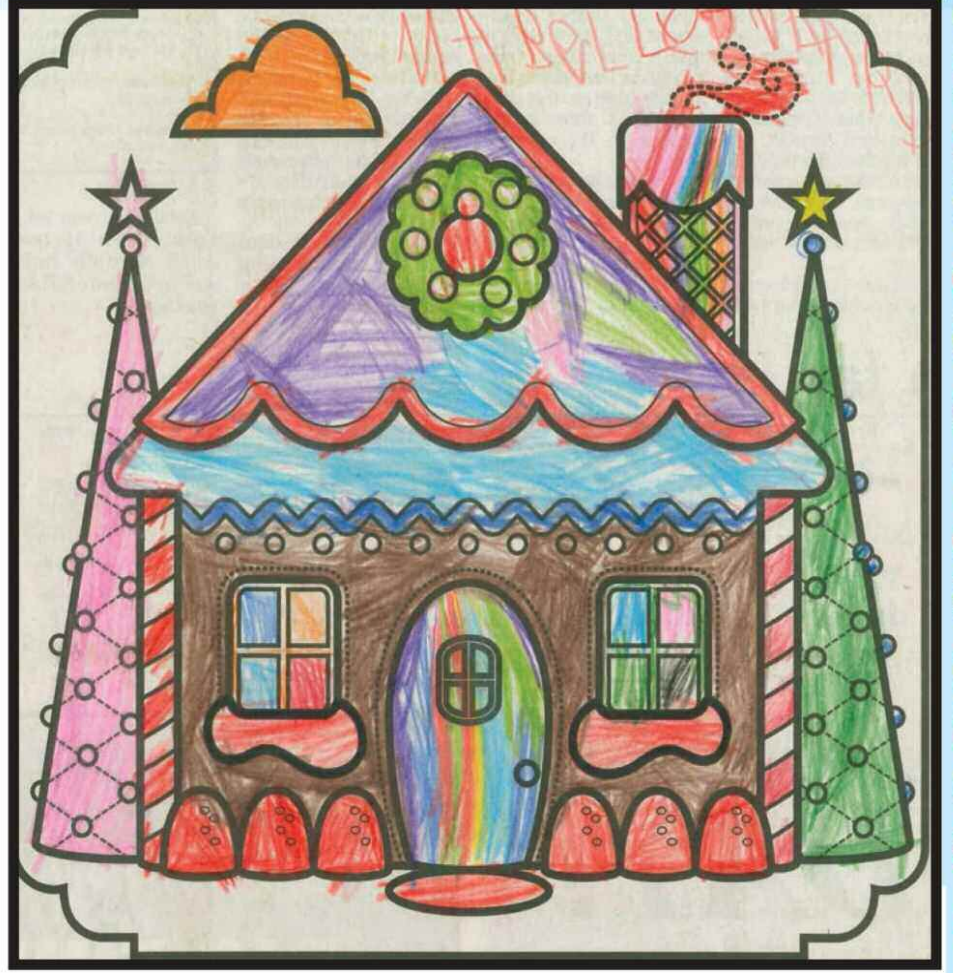
Coloring Contest Winners

Ages: 1 - 6 Winner



Maitlynn Castillo

1 - 6 Honorable Mention



Mabel Leonhard

Ages: 7-10 Winner



Isabelle Byrum

7-10 Honorable Mention



Corbin Gaston

AGE GROUP 1-6:

- Sophia Jellison 5
- Lilly Lewellen 5
- Maitlynn Castillo 6**
- WINNER**
- Jameson Watson 5
- Mabel Leonhard 5
- Nora Stultz 5

AGE GROUP 7-10:

- Jaycee Rowe 8
- Emma B. Schwartz 10
- Lochlond Mills 9
- Maryann H Wickey 9
- Corbin Gaston 10
- Isabelle Byrum 9**
- WINNER**
- Nathan Kunkler 10

AGE GROUP 7-10:

- Julisa Antoneo 8
- Josie Haskett 8
- Murphy Link 10
- Emma Graber 8
- Carmen Laux 6
- Melanie Laux 8
- Brenna Weitzel 10
- Luke Hopkins 7
- Susanna Neuenschwander 8

MERRY CHRISTMAS