

# The Journal-Register

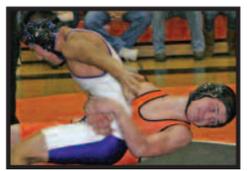
## CHRISTMAS CHEER

ROTARY ADOPTS LOCAL FAMILY,  
PROVIDES THEM WITH GIFTS LOCAL/3



## ALBION DOWN

LYNDONVILLE PINS SPARK TIGERS TO  
WIN IN NON-LEAGUE WRESTLING SPORTS/11



### INSIDE TODAY



**Orleans County Historian C.W. Lattin was presented with an award from the Daughters of the Revolution. LOCAL, 3**

### HAVE YOU HEARD?

Tidbit for today's talkers

### Profiling lawsuit could add to sheriff's troubles

PHOENIX — The self-described "America's toughest sheriff" has survived firestorms in the past, but none in the past decade have been as bad as what the lawman has been hit with in the past few weeks.

And in a few days, a federal judge could make things worse for Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio.

On Thursday, U.S. District Judge Murray Snow heard arguments over a lawsuit from a handful of Latino residents alleging racial profiling during Arpaio's immigration sweeps. He could send it to trial, throw it out, or declare that Arpaio uses racial profiling in his immigration enforcement.

The accusations echo those in a scathing U.S. Justice Department report last week that resulted in the sheriff's office losing its power to check inmates' immigration status.

Arpaio on Wednesday questioned the timing of the report's release.

"Why couldn't they wait? Were they trying to poison our (racial profiling) case?" Arpaio said. The sheriff did not attend the hearing Thursday.

The Latinos claim officers based some traffic stops on the race of Hispanics in vehicles, pulling them over without probable cause to inquire about their immigration status. The stops were made during his department's immigration patrols in metropolitan Phoenix.

They are seeking a declaration that the sheriff's office violated their constitutional rights and must establish stronger policies that protect against racial profiling.

### AREA DEATHS

• Joseph M. DiNardo Jr.  
Full obituary on page 4.

### WHERE TO TURN

STATE LOTTERIES  
Please see page 3

AREA OBITUARIES  
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WEATHER  
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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2011

# Cultural investment made in Albion

ARTS: Ballet school starts in Pratt performing space.

BY JIM KRENCIK  
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The buildings lining Albion's downtown will see a great deal of financial investment in the next few years thanks to recently awarded grants, but inside the Pratt Opera House Building there a cultural investment is already being made.

The opera house was one of the building projects that were listed as possibilities

## CLASSICAL BALLET SCHOOL

- WHERE: Pratt Opera House Building, Albion
- WHEN: Classes from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday
- CONTACT: 466-4701

for investment in the Town of Albion's successful grant bid, which will bring nearly \$400,000 in matching grants for building improvements. It will take a lot of work to bring the building's third-floor the-

ater back to its original glory, but classically trained Russian ballet artist Inna Esipova has already brought a centuries-old tradition to the building's performance space.

"For the Russian people, it is very important to have a respect for history and traditions," said Esipova, who graduated from the Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow. "Ballet is part of our history."

Esipova worked as a ballet artist in the Soviet Union and traveled the world with touring ballet companies. She teaches the Vaganova method of ballet,

a traditional and technical style.

"Classical ballet is not easy," Esipova said. "But people can see how they move and dance — it's beautiful."

The Classical Ballet School will have classes scheduled throughout the day on Mondays through Thursdays and Saturdays; Esipova will teach private lessons next week.

On Wednesday, Esipova had time to work on the barre with her son Roman, 4, who was eager to run through the ballet exercises. It's something Inna and her husband Dmitri are

happy to see.

"Roman started when he was 1 year old," Dmitri said. "He loves classical ballet. During a karate class, he started to do ballet — he was ready to dance."

Esipova said she wants to share her expertise to teach a wide range of ages and skill levels.

"It's very important how you do the exercises, you need to think how to do it correctly," Esipova said. "Ballet is all about concentration, discipline and style — If you know what to do and how to do it, it's easy."

SEE BALLET ON PAGE 5

# CHRISTMAS GIFT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**TOY DONATION:** Holley Elementary School's Mental Health Team — Psychologist Holly Curtis, School Counselor Wanda Farrell and Social Worker Micaela Lauer with some of the vast number of toys donated for the Holiday Days of Shopping to benefit children in the district.

## Community donates toys for 78 families, 207 children

### STAFF REPORTS

Because of generous donations from the Holley community, the holidays will be much brighter for 207 children within the Holley School District. Hundreds of toys, games, books, puzzles, videos and stocking stuffers were donated to the first ever Holiday Days of Shopping.

The goal was to help any family in need in the Holley School District.

"Every year, our mental health team finds out about a few families that can use our help, but we know that there are many more out there," said Micaela Lauer, elementary school social worker. She

organized the event with the help of staff, students, and Board of Education President John Heise.

"We began collecting donations back in October," said Lauer. "People would drop off items at the schools then I'd take them to John's house after school to be stored until the event."

When it came time to pick up the donations, a group of students from the high school didn't hesitate to roll up their sleeves and get the job done. Kelly Bates, Brianna Blackburn, Ashley Bradoc, Marissa Callahan, Nohely Costillo, Nick Cuccaro, Zach DeLuca, Andrew Heath, Sam Mauro, Melissa Quayley, Camron Quaranto, Malia

Rodriguez, Alexis Roniger, Kacey Sauer and Pat Stetzel loaded up the district's delivery truck and courier Debbie Henry dropped off the items at the school. Students were waiting to unload it and set up everything in the elementary school primary gym.

In addition to the items, cash donations were received from the Clarendon Lions Club, Napa Auto Parts and a private donor, which were used to purchase gifts for older children and supplies. When it came time to open the doors and welcome the parents in to shop, the gym looked like a toy store.

SEE GIFT ON PAGE 5

# THE SPIRIT OF GIVING



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**FOOD DONATION:** Mr. Valley's homebase collected 643 items to donate to the local food pantry this holiday season as part of Wise Middle School's annual food drive. Pictured are students Emma Wilson, Madison Wickham, Joe Velez, Baylee Vercruysse, Andrea Toussaint, Tyler Valley, Corey Strickland, Tyler Waldriff, Gavin Stiles, Ryan Webber, Hunter Sturtevant, Alexis Wragg, Connor Allport, Austin Sullinger, Ian Winter, Stephen Wolf and Jonathan Wasnock.

### POLITICS

## House caves on payroll tax cuts

**POLITICS:** Short term renewal spares workers \$20 weekly increase.

BY ANDREW TAYLOR AND LAURIE KELLMAN  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Republicans on Thursday caved to demands by President Barack Obama, congressional Democrats and fellow Republicans for a short-term renewal of payroll tax cuts for all workers. The breakthrough almost certainly spares workers an average \$20 a week tax increase Jan. 1.

After days of wrangling that even Speaker John Boehner acknowledged "may not have been politically the smartest thing in the world," the Ohio

SEE TAX ON PAGE 5

### ECONOMY

## Benefit claims lowest since '08

**ECONOMY:** Job market shows signs of improvement.

BY DANIEL WAGNER AND MARTIN CRUTSINGER  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In the latest sign that the economy is surging at year's end, unemployment claims have dropped to the lowest level since April 2008, long before anyone realized that the nation was in a recession.

Claims fell by 4,000 last week to 364,000, the Labor Department said Thursday. It was the third straight weekly drop. The four-week average of claims, a less volatile gauge, fell for the 11th time in 13 weeks and stands at the lowest since June 2008.

While the economy remains vulnerable to threats, particularly a recession in Europe, the steady improvement in the job market is unquestionable.

SEE CLAIMS ON PAGE 5