

TODAY

A couple of showers

75°/54°

THU

A stray t-storm

68°/54°

FRI

A couple of showers

60°/33°

Brian WINEGARDNER

for County Commissioner

Paid for by Friends for Winegardner, Jim Link - Treasurer

**Tigers' speedy sophomore**  
SPORTS • 1C

**Lima's efforts in the Civil War**  
REMINISCE • 6D

**Symphony offers slice of Americana**  
360 • 1D

# Wapak data center considered

**By J Swygart**  
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WAPAKONETA — Administration officials in the city of Wapakoneta publicly addressed a proposed \$600 million data center project under consideration for that city. Local residents will have the opportunity to voice their views during a series of town hall-style meetings to be announced in the near future.

A lengthy statement was posted on the Wapakoneta City

Council's Facebook page Monday in an attempt to assure local residents that due diligence and transparency would take precedence throughout the process of accepting or rejecting a proposal presented by the Wapakoneta Area Economic Development Council earlier this month.

Josh Bloomfield, WAECD executive director, spoke at the Oct. 5 meeting of Wapakoneta council

**Bloomfield**

and updated the lawmakers of the potential for a 30-acre, 50-megawatt data center being constructed within the West Central Ohio Industrial Center.

According to the official minutes of that meeting, Bloomfield said a company — identified by the city as Colocation Technology Services — has been in discussions with the economic development group about the proposed data center. He told city councilors the

company has not requested tax abatements or the extension of additional utilities to the site.

The statement released Monday by city officials said no negotiations have taken place with CTS, no part of the project has been approved and no commitments have been made to the development.

The project, Bloomfield said, would create 25 permanent full-time jobs and would utilize 200 construction workers. Ground-breaking could take place as

early as spring of 2027, although Wapakoneta Safety Services Director Tyler Price said Tuesday there are “a lot of steps that need to happen before that.”

**How it began**

While WAEDC is a nonprofit organization separate from the city, Mayor Dan Lee, Council President Chad Doll and Safety Services Director Tyler Price are

See WAPAK DATA CENTER | 5A

## Voters to decide if ID rule belongs in constitution

**By Sophia Fields**  
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Ohio voters get to decide whether the state's current voter photo identification requirement should be included in the state's constitution.

The proposed state Issue 3 amendment would:

- Require voters to present an approved form of government-issued photo identification in order to vote.
- Allow state law to provide for an alternative method of verifying a voter's identity for a voter who has a sincere religious objection to being photographed, and therefore, does not possess an approved form of government-issued photo identification.
- Require that

voters who do not vote in person provide an approved form of government-issued photo identification, unless the law authorizes those persons to vote by providing a signature and at least one other specified unique identifier.

- Define approved forms of government-issued photo identification, such as an unexpired Ohio driver's license or state identification card; a United States passport or passport card; or a United States military identification card, Ohio National Guard identification card, or United States Department of Veteran Affairs identification card.

If approved, the amendment would take effect immediately.

See ID RULE | 5A

Peter Bonasso | The Lima News  
The former J.M. Sealts Co. building at 330 N. Central Ave. was sold for \$80,000 June 23 to Matt Holtsberry, general manager at Reineke Ford Lincoln of Lima. While Holtsberry plans to use the building for his friend's vehicle storage at the moment, he recognizes its potential for development and is open to hearing ideas.

## Building enters next chapter

**By Peter Bonasso**  
[pbonasso@limanews.com](mailto:pbonasso@limanews.com)

LIMA — It might be some time before a major development, but history and opportunity will stand tall at 330 N. Central Ave.

The former J.M. Sealts Co. Warehouse building, constructed in 1906, supplied independent grocers across northwest Ohio and

beyond for more than a century. That legacy earned the building a spot among Lima's 25 other entries into the National Register of Historic Places in 2021, even as it stood empty.

Since being forfeited to the state in May 2017, the warehouse underwent a flurry of speculation on redevelopment plans that ultimately fell flat. With its

latest sale for \$80,000 on June 23, however, the building enters as strong of a position as ever for revival.

**Looking back**

The J.M. Sealts warehouse was built near the railroad at a time when “large-scale wholesale distribution was done by rail

See NEXT CHAPTER | 5A

## Kaptur, Merrin compete for Ninth

**By Deesarine Ballayan**  
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OTTAWA — The congressional race for the Ninth District in Ohio features the longest-serving female in Congress against a former state legislator in a newly redistricted area that now includes Putnam County. U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur, D-Toledo, faces Derek Merrin, a Republican and former Ohio state legislator.

Putnam County is no longer a Fifth District county, which is currently represented by Bob Latta. The Ninth District was redrawn this year and now consists of Erie, Ottawa, Lucas, Henry, Fulton, Defiance, Paulding, Williams and Putnam counties.

Kaptur, a Toledo native, started her career as a domestic policy advisor to President Jimmy Carter

See NINTH | 5A

**OHIO LOTTERY**  
**MEGA MILLIONS (Friday)**  
2-7-16-63-70  
Mega Ball: 8  
Jackpot: \$364 million

**POWERBALL (Saturday)**  
1-4-19-33-51  
Powerball: 15 Power Play: 2  
**POWERBALL (Monday)**  
22-28-38-51-69  
Powerball: 9 Power Play: 3  
Jackpot: \$538 million

**CLASSIC (Saturday)**  
1-8-11-25-32-37  
KICKER: 765977  
**CLASSIC (Monday)**  
3-4-6-11-37-48  
KICKER: 878859  
Jackpot: \$4.1 million

**A NEWS**  
Opinion: 4A

**B REGION & OHIO**  
Obituaries: 2B  
Weather: 6B

**C SPORTS**  
BuckEyes: 4C  
Classified: 5C

**D 360**  
Puzzles: 3D  
Comics: 5D  
Reminisce: 6D

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**FIRST RESPONDERS DAY**  
OCTOBER 28

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