

JOHN PAULDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In 2002, at the request of the State of Ohio, all 88 counties were asked to create a County Flag to celebrate Ohio's 200th anniversary in 2003. After voting on many submissions, the winning Paulding County flag was designed and sewn together and is now flying on the south side of the Paulding Courthouse grounds, under the USA and State of Ohio flags.

Following the lead of the Latty Township Trustees who went first in choosing and making a Township flag, and because of considerable interest shown by the public in the county flag project, the John Paulding Historical Society contacted the remaining 11 township trustees to find out if they would be willing to have individual township flags. These flags were to be designed by students, voted on, and then the winning design was to be sewn together into the finished flag.

After contacting the elementary principals of all our county schools, the undersigned and others were invited to speak at assemblies in order to tell the students what would be involved in the project and to suggest that students read about their specific township and perhaps interview

an older township resident before drawing their ideas on paper. Each submission was to also have the township name and year it was formed. To help interested students, Paulding County maps and a copy of the 1892 Paulding County Atlas were donated to each school library. Area art teachers and high school art students kindly made poster-size drawings from the students' rough drafts.

Township trustees were given the task of reviewing all of the entries and finally selecting on for each of the eight participating townships to be made into a cloth flag. Great appreciation should be given to Barb Brink of "Barb's Embroidery" and to Carol Gross of "Custom Creations" for their work on completing these flags, and for the participating Township trustees for their generous funding of the costs of this project.

Although this was a long and intense project, it has been a very fulfilling one. Some of the flag entries were displayed in the Youth Building at the 2006 Paulding County Fair; and the completed flags will be on display at the 2007 Paulding County Fair in front of the Fair Secretary's Office.

None of this could have been accomplished without the cooperation and participation of the Paulding County Schools, teachers, students and principals.

Be sure to watch the West Bend News for future articles highlighting each participating township with a picture of the chosen design and a brief history

—Les Weidenhamer, President of the John Paulding Historical Society

VANTAGE BOARD HONORS LONG TIME EMPLOYEES



Vantage Longtime employees recognized - (seated) Linda Morris, Dave Young and Jo Mohr, 30 years of services at Vantage. (Back, standing) Dick Potter, 20 years; Tammy Eichler, Nancy Keith and MaryJo Wilhelm, 15 years of service. Unavailable for the picture was Marty Bishman, 15 years of service.

The Vantage Board of Education approved resolutions of appreciation to long term employees for their many years of service at the December 7 board meeting. Celebrating 30 years of service at Vantage was Jo Mohr, Trade & Industrial secretary, Linda Morris, junior Early Childhood teacher and Dave Young, Maintenance Supervisor. Recognized for 20 years of service was Dick Potter, Adult Education. Marty Bishman, junior Cosmetology instructor, Tammy Eichler, teacher's aide, Nancy Keith, teacher's aide and MaryJo Wilhelm, Community Relations Coordinator, were recognized for 15 years of service to Vantage.

The treasurer's report included the approval of the November 2, 2006 regular board meeting minutes and financial statements for the month of October, 2006. \$5,000 was advanced into the Uniform School Supply

account until the funds are collected from the students.

Superintendent Dr. Stephen Mercer announced that all current Vantage board members will retain their seats. The following will be starting a new two year term beginning January 1, 2007: Lonnie Nedderman - Crestview, Les Hockenberry - Wayne Trace, Dana Smith-Parkway, Robert Herber - Antwerp and Brian Laudick - Kalida.

In new business, the board:

—Approved a supplemental contract as needed, as scheduled for Penny Baucom, Cafeteria Special Events and Dennis Koester, Welding Repair;

—Approved an addendum to the current contract for Lori Davis, Vantage Treasurer, commencing January 1, 2007;

—Approved employment

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NOCAC SEEKING TO FILL BOARD VACANCY

Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission (NOCAC) is seeking a resident of Paulding County to represent a private-sector organization or business, to fill a vacant seat on the board of trustees. The board consists of 16 members. Each county has one representative from the public, the private and the client sector seated on the board. The board sets policy for the agency. The board meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

NOCAC is a private non-profit, social service agency that serves predominantly low-income residents of Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Williams counties. NOCAC provides preschool programs (Head Start), child care, child care resource and referral, the Paulding County Senior Center, elderly and child nutrition, tutor/mentor, individual development accounts (IDAs), emergency services, energy assistance payments, Weatherization and home repair, temporary emergency and permanent

housing for homeless and formerly homeless, a soup kitchen and case management services. The majority of the funding for these programs is Federal and State grants, however some local funds through United Ways are also utilized.

If you or someone you know may be interested, or for more information, please contact Deb Gerken, NOCAC Executive Director, at 784-5136, ext. 101 or e-mail her at dagerken@nocac.org.

ANTWERP FIRE HOUSE HOSTS SANTA CLAUS

On December 16 at 1:00 p.m. Santa Claus will be at the Antwerp Fire House. Photos will be available. Parents, enjoy coffee and donuts while the kids visit with Santa.

PLEASE BE AWARE

Next Week (Dec. 20) is the last issue of the year. Be sure to get your ads and news in by Friday Dec. 15 at 5 p.m.

Holiday Hours:
We will be closed
Dec. 25 and Jan. 1st.

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Jeff Stout

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*I do not need a special day to bring you to my mind.
The days I don't think of you are impossible to find.
Each morning when I wake I know that you are gone.
And no one knows my heartache as I try and carry on.
My heart still aches with sadness and tears still flow.
What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.
My thoughts are always with you.
Your place no one can fill.
In life I loved you dearly, in death I love you still.*

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OBITUARIES

Margaret Hitzeman Petersen, 90, died at Hickory Creek of Hicksville on December 5.

She was born on April 12, 1916 in Hocomb, Missouri the daughter of William and Martha (Griffith) Herndon.

She graduated as Valedictorian of Boswell High School in 1933. She married Vincent E. Hitzeman in 1938. He preceded her in death in 1969. She then married Edward Petersen in 1988. He preceded her in death in 1993.

She was an LPN nurse for fifty years at Community Memorial Hospital and Hickory Creek, both in Hicksville. She was a member of West Milford Church of Christ, Hicksville; Eastern Star Bryan Chapter 248, where she was past worthy matron; Eagles Aerie 2556, Hicksville; and bowling leagues at Hi-Lanes for many years.

She is survived by two sons: Larry (Deb) Hitzeman and Noel (Donna) Hitzeman both of Hicksville; two daughter-in-laws: Kathy (the late Michael) of Bellefontaine, OH and Vonda (the late Vincent Jr.) of Hicksville; 15 grandchildren; 34 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by two sons: Michael and Vincent Jr.; four brothers; and seven sisters.

The funeral services were December 8 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville. Pastor Lloyd Mealer officiated. An Eastern Star service was held on December 7. Burial was at Scipio Cemetery, Harlan, IN.

Preferred memorials to Hospice the Caring Way of Defiance County.

Be sure to tell the businesses you patronize, that you saw their ad in the West Bend News.



Larry Jay Tumbleson, 61, of Payne passed away December 5 at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, Allen County, IN.

Born in Decatur, Indiana on June 9, 1945, he was the son of the late Francis H. and Inez (Imler) Tumbleson.

Larry was a U.S. Navy veteran. On August 3, 1969 Larry married Carol Smith, who survives.

Larry worked at Dana in Lima but also worked at the Antwerp Plant and spent 27 years at Goodrich in Woodburn. He was a member and custodian of Payne Church of the Nazarene. Larry enjoyed hunting and was a member of the Broughton Fox & Hound Club.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Carol; daughters: Tammy Tumbleson, Tracy (Jason) Hower both of Payne, and Wendy Tumbleson of Smyrna, GA; son, David (Holly) of Woodburn, IN; brothers, John and Ted both of Wren, Ohio; and two grandsons: Zachary Tumbleson and Colton Hower.

Funeral service was at Payne Church of the Nazarene, Payne on December 9 with Rev. Mike Harper officiating.

He was laid to rest at Wiltsie Cemetery, Payne with military honors from Payne American Legion Post 297.

In his memory contributions may be made to the church. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

Nola M. Dunmire, 87, of Hicksville, died on December 8, at Park View Nursing Center, Edgerton, Ohio.

She was born on August 25, 1919 in Allen County, IN the daughter of Clarence and Jane (Dorsey) Hissong.

She married Robert Dunmire on April 29, 1939. He preceded her in death.

She retired from Community Memorial Hospital, Hicksville; was a life member of the VFW Auxiliary; and a member of the United Methodist Church.

She is survived by a daughter, Nellie (Robert) Hathaway of Antwerp; a son, Gerald Dunmire of Defiance; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a brother, Richard (Betty) Hissong of Pleasant Lake, IN; three sisters: Rosa (Glen) Hanna of Farmer, Dorothy Carlisle of Paulding, Virginia Johnston of Traverse City, MI; and two sisters-in-law: Dora Hissong of Hicksville and Mary Ellen Hissong of Ney, OH.

She was preceded in death by four brothers: Ernie, Robert, Harold, David; and three sisters: Florence Mathes, Helen Mathes, and Edith Schipper.

Funeral services were December 11 at North Scipio United Methodist Church, Harlan, IN. Burial was at Scipio Cemetery, Harlan, IN. Preferred memorials to Donor's Choice.

Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville handled the arrangements.

Donald M. Shull, 80, of Antwerp, passed away December 4 at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN.

Born in Fort Wayne, Indiana on March 12, 1926, he was the son of the late Merl J. and Celeste (Farrell) Shull.

He served in the U.S. Army as a PFC in WW II. On July 4, 1963 Don married Bev Clemens, who survives.

He was a machine operator at Zollner Corp Fort Wayne. Don was a member of Antwerp VFW Post 5087, American Legion Post 253 and the Payne Amvets. Don loved fishing, bowling and Komet Hockey.

He will be sadly missed by his daughters: Sandy Creasey of Cincinnati and Cathryn Hamil of Defiance; sons: Dick Shull of Antwerp, Jim of Bryan, Mark of Defiance and Greg of Cecil; 19 grandchildren; and 24 great grandchildren.

Don's son, Jerry, has passed away.

Funeral service was at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, December 8 with Reverend Jim Edwards officiating.

He was laid to rest at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

In his memory contributions may be made to National Military Family Association, 2500 N. Van Dorn St., Suite 102 Alexandria, VA 22302-1601 or the American Heart Association. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com.

Orville P. Riley, 86, of Paulding, died December 6 at Hawthorn Court Nursing Home, Paulding.

He was born in Paulding County on March 8, 1920 the son of Roscoe and Margaret (Lehman) Riley. On September 27, 1937 he married Valera Vance, who preceded him in death on October 26, 2004. He was a member and deacon of the First Christian Church, Paulding and a lifelong farmer. He was a member of Blue Creek Grange and Paulding County Landmark Board. He was a former Paulding Township Trustee for 22 years.

He is survived by a son, Darwin (Ursula) Riley of Paulding; two daughters: Karen (Delmar) Schwab of Payne and Marlene (John) Stoller of Everett, WA; a brother, Robert (Ruth) Riley of Paulding; a sister, Donna Mae (Cecil) Stuart of Mingo Junction, OH; ten grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife; two brothers, Tom and Bill; and a grandchild, Renee Riley.

Funeral services were December 11 at the First Christian Church, Paulding. Burial was in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding.

Donations may be made to Hawthorn Court Nursing Home Activity Fund or First Christian Church Building Fund.

Gary L. Kniceley, 66, of Paulding, died December 9, at Lutheran Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN after a brief battle with lung cancer.

He was born June 20, 1940, in Detroit, MI the son of Jack and Evelyn (Leath) Kniceley. On September 14, 1966, he married Lee Conley who survives. He was an Army Veteran serving during Vietnam. He worked at Uniroyal Goodrich in Woodburn where he was a union representative holding many different positions. He retired in 1998. He was also a member of the Paulding VFW Post #587 and Paulding Eagles #2405.

He is survived by his wife Lee Kniceley of Paulding; one son, Kris (Marie) Kniceley of Antwerp; one daughter, Tammy (Bruce) Sholl of Oakwood; one brother, James Penwell of Upper Sandusky, OH; two sisters: Connie Mundy and Sue (Clyde) Taylor both of Upper Sandusky, OH; and five grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a step-father, Alex Penwell; and one brother, Michael Penwell.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 13 at the Rose Hill Church of God, Paulding with Pastor Ron Hofacker officiating. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding.

There will be calling one hour prior to services at the church on Wednesday, December 13.

Memorial contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Disabled American Veterans, or to the Rose Hill Church of God.

ANTWERP COMMUNITY BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT SCHEDULE

Are you hearing Christmas carols in the air? They might just be coming from the Antwerp High School and the Antwerp Community Bands practicing.

On December 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the school auditorium the High School and Community Band will have a joint concert.

On December 17 at 3:00 p.m. the Antwerp Community Band will have a concert in the school auditorium. On December 21 at 7:30

p.m. the Antwerp Community Band will be having a concert at the Huber Opera House in Hicksville.

The band has been practicing many medleys with old familiar carols. Included in the program will be "Do You Hear What I Hear", "Holiday Fanfare", "I Heard the Bells On Christmas Day", "How the Grinch Stole Christmas", "It Came Upon A Midnight Clear", "A Christmas Festival" and "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year." Mark your calendar and enjoy the music of Christmas.

"This is the Day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

- Psalm 118:24

Antwerp Community Church
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(419) 258-2069

PASTOR: Scott Marsee
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We can be reached at 419-263-2728
or, by email - rjphelan@bright.net

Huber Theatre

Upcoming Event Calendar

Dec. 15 7:30 pm – FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS & COUNTRYMAN – II
Special Christmas concert by Keith Countryman on his Concert Grand Piano! This very special evening is by donation only and is certainly not to be missed.

Dec. 16 7:30 pm – MR. COUNTRYMAN
Adds his Friends and Neighbors to the show offering a different twist and plenty of talent.

Dec. 17 7:00 pm – The Elementary, middle and high school choirs led by Robin Chamberlain will present Holiday music with the addition of Mr. Countryman on his piano and some surprises. *All proceeds from these three shows will go to benefit the Huber sound system. Friday admission is by donation only. Saturday and Sunday tickets are \$7 adults, \$5 students and can be purchased at the elementary school office or at the door on the night of the shows.*

Mon. Dec. 18th – 7 p.m. - Hicksville High School Chorus & Swing Choir present their winter concert under the direction of Robin Chamberlain. *Donation*

Thur, Dec. 21st – ANTWERP COMMUNITY BAND performs on stage at the Huber. Phone office 419-542-9553 for details

Sun, Dec. 31st – Limited Tickets to the NEW YEAR'S EVE Celebration benefitting Relay for Life.

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Kent Steiner speaking December 17th.

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We can be reached at 419-263-2728
or, by email - rjphelan@bright.net

(Continued from Page 1)
of Adult Education instructors, as needed, as scheduled: Richard Arney, Computer Classes; Jackie Brandt, EMT Class; Devin Taylor, Douglas Weigle and James Haggerty, Police Academy; Dennis Koester, Welding; Deborah Reynolds and Michael Kirkendall, Health Careers;

—Approved submission of equipment list to the Rothacker/Lampe Bequest handled by the Van Wert County Foundation;

—Authorized the superintendent to enter into an agreement with the Southwestern Ohio Education Purchasing Council (EPC) and the Metropolitan Educational Council (MEC) for the assignment of USDA donated foods. This is a direct diversion project for lunchroom commodities;

Authorized the superintendent to sign a purchase order in excess of \$25,000 for the purchase of a new dishwasher;

—Held a first reading of NEOLA policy updates;

—Accepted with sincere thanks donations of \$500 from St. Michael's Parish, \$200 from the Bryan Rotary Club and \$1000 from the Van Wert Rotary Club to the Vantage Haiti Interact Club.

An executive session was called for the purpose of discussing the search for a new Vantage superintendent. No action was taken following the executive session.

The Budget Hearing and Organizational meeting will be held at Vantage on Thursday, January 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT NORTH SCIPIO

North Scipio United Methodist Church will be having it's annual Christmas Program on December 17 at 7:00 p.m. The program is open to the public and there is no admission.

The program will start in the sanctuary with a reading, "Christmas Welcome" by Seth Buuck followed by a congregational song. Then there will be a reading, "Christmas Star," by Caitlin Widdifield and Nathan Hammon followed by another congregational song.

Next will be a reenactment of the Nativity Story. The narrator will be Sandy Buuck. Mary and Joseph will be played by Caitlin Widdifield and Nathan Hammon. The three wise men will be portrayed by Josh, Cord, and Tyler Snyder. The shepherds and angels will be played by children of the church and community. This will be followed by another congregational hymn.

The program will continue with a presentation by the North Scipio Choir, "Mary Did You Know" with a solo by Dawn Patterson.

Next there will be a dramatic reading, "The Innkeeper" by Sean Patterson followed by another congregational song.

The program will continue with a reading, "The Shepherd Speaks", by Austin Hammon, followed by another selection by the North Scipio choir, "What Child Is This".

The first half of the program will close with a reading, "The Shepherds Had an Angel", by Courtney Widdifield followed by another congregational carol.

At this point, there will be a 15-minute intermission.

sion. The audience will move to the Fellowship Hall for refreshments provided by ladies of the church. The program will then continue with the presentation of the Christmas play, "Christmas Unwrapped" by Michelle R. Davis. This play is produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service, Inc., Englewood, Colorado. The program and play are directed by Dawn Patterson.

This play takes place the day after Christmas, this year. The place is inside and outside of Barb's Holiday Emporium—a store that offers the "entire holiday experience". Following is the cast of the play in order of appearance: Barb Furkle - Dawn Patterson; Frank - Seth Buuck; Holly - Coty Buuck; Noelle - Courtney Widdifield; Ole Knight - Sean Patterson; Mrs. Greentree - Joyce Drayer; Bobby Spruce - Austin Hammon; Mrs. Lumiere - Deb Jackson; Mrs. Garland - Deana Snyder; Mr. Pine - Dave Drayer; Joseph - Todd Widdifield; Voice - Sean Patterson; Extras - Willing participants from the audience; Assistant Director - Sandy Buuck; Acknowledgements - Charlene Volkert and the East Allen Courier, Genie Bishop and the Woodburn Public Library, all members of the church who helped with props, set, costumes, lighting, sound, refreshments, etc.

The play will give the audience a rollicking good time, laughs aplenty, and a message to carry home for the Christmas season.

The program will conclude with the rumored appearance of a "mysterious visitor from the North" and treats for all of the children and adults present.

Rev. Patrick Fulbright and the congregation of the North Scipio United Methodist Church would like to invite one and all to celebrate the "Christmas" season by joining them in their annual program. North Scipio United Methodist is located two miles east of Highway 101 on Highway 37. This is five miles east of Harlan.

SIBERIAN SOLSTICE GROUP CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT DEFIANCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

On December 17 prepare to be dazzled by the Manheim Steam Roller and TransSiberian Orchestra at Defiance Christian Church starting at 7:00 p.m.

The church is located at 955 Standley Rd., Defiance. For more information call, 419-782-5786.

Keep the news coming. News is always free. Let your friends, neighbors and community know what's going on!

LIVING LIKE CHRIST

By: Pastor Jeff Shadowen, Westwood Fellowship, Woodburn

As I promised you last week, I would like to return to our discussion of spiritual disciplines—simply to summarize what we have covered and give you the opportunity to take up the disciplines for yourself.

We have examined nearly twenty spiritual disciplines. How can we realistically start to put into practice such an enormous list of "to do's"?

I don't think that you can, at least, not all at once. You need to decide on three or four disciplines that seem to be foundational for your walk with Christ, and then see how the other disciplines relate to your core disciplines.

This week I will give you my suggestion of that short list of disciplines. It is only a suggestion. You may well find that different combination works better for you.

Next week I will show you how I organize the other disciplines around my core group. If I can get all of that done next week, then I will put aside this topic of spiritual disciplines.

Before the year if over, I will finish up my ministry at Westwood Fellowship and finish writing these columns as well.

The four spiritual disciplines that I would choose as foundational to all of the rest are: (1) prayer - listening conversations with God; (2) study of God's Word; (3) confession - striving to recognize the intrusion of sin and the world's ways into my life as well as failure to do the "good" that God has shown me how to do, and (4) simplicity - not in the usual sense of frugality but rather keeping my life simple Christ at the center.

Prayer, listening prayer, is for me the essence of an authentic relationship with a living God. To know God is to converse with Him ... and for me to listen to Him more than speak to Him.

The study of the Word (listening/reading, study, comparing, memorizing meditating, and applying) allows me the best opportunity to continue growing.

Confession stands as our major defense against compromising with Satan, our sinful self, and the non-Christian world around us.

Simplicity reminds me to keep the "main thing" as the main thing. Christ is my Savior. Christ is my Lord. Any other competitors (idols) are not allowed.

These four disciplines, All together, they keep me these four foci, keep my walking with Christ. life pointed in the right direction. The other disciplines give me specific help at specific times of need.

The deadline for ads and article submissions is Friday at 5:00 p.m.

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NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

2007 DOG TAGS ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

Cabbage Patch, Junction; Payne Automotive, Payne; Morningstar, Melrose; Charloe Store, Charloe; Grover Hill Hardware, Grover Hill, Ace Hardware, Paulding; Antwerp Hardware, Antwerp; County Auditor's Office, Court House

2007 dog tags are on sale at the above places through Jan. 31, 2007 without penalty. All dogs three months old or older are required to have a license, (State Law Sec. 955.01)

A fourteen dollar (\$14.00) penalty will be added for each license issued after January 31, 2007.

To avoid penalty, save time and gas, clip and mail this application blank with \$14.00 for each dog license fee plus a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Paulding County Auditor's Office, Court House, 115 North Williams St., Paulding, OH 45879

License fee for each dog - \$14.00;
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MAJOR CHANGES AT LOCAL HOSPITAL



Major changes were introduced Tuesday, December 5 at the official opening of the new 40,000 square foot expansion to Community Memorial Hospital in Hicksville.

Pictured from left to right are Robin Slattman, Chief Nursing Officer; Matt Gilroy, Defiance County Economic Development Corporation; Steve Caryer, CMH Board Vice President; Lynne Grandey, CMH Board secretary-treasurer; Raymond Riehle, CMH Board President; Tedd Durre, former Township Trustee President; Carol Weidenhamer, CMH Volunteer Coordinator. Grand opening weekend attendance exceeded 1200.

The expansion includes new emergency, obstetrics, Redicare and Radiology departments along with a new medical-surgery wing.

A DIFFERENT CHRISTMAS POEM

The embers glowed softly, and in their dim light, I gazed round the room and I cherished the sight. My wife was asleep, her head on my chest, my daughter beside me, angelic in rest. Outside the snow fell, a blanket of white, transforming the yard to a winter delight. The sparkling lights in the tree, I believe, completed the magic that was Christmas Eve.

My eyelids were heavy, my breathing was deep, secure and surrounded by love, I would sleep. In perfect contentment, or so it would seem, so I slumbered, perhaps I started to dream. The sound wasn't loud, and it wasn't too near, but I opened my eyes when it tickled my ear. Perhaps just a cough, I didn't quite know, then the sure sound of footsteps outside in the snow. My soul gave a tremble, I struggled to hear, and I crept to the door just to see who was near. Standing out in the cold and the dark of the night, a lone figure stood, his face weary and tight. A soldier, I puzzled, some twenty years old, perhaps a Marine, huddled here in the cold. Alone in the dark, he looked up and smiled, standing watch over me, and my wife and my child. "What are you doing?" I asked with out fear. "Come in this moment, it's freezing out here! Put down your pack, brush the snow from your sleeve, you should be at home on a cold Christmas Eve!"

For barely a moment I saw his eyes shift, away from the cold and the snow blown in drifts. To the window that danced with a warm fire's light then he sighed and he said, "It's really all right, I'm out here by choice, I'm here every night."

"It's my duty to stand at the front of the line, that separates you from the darkest of times. No one had to ask or beg or implore me, I'm proud to stand here like my fathers before me. My Grams died at 'Pearl on a day in December," then he sighed, "That's a Christmas 'Gram always remembers."

"My dad stood his watch in the jungles of 'Nam', and now it is my turn and so, here I am.

"I've not seen my own son in more than a while, but my wife sends me pictures, he's

sure got her smile." Then he bent and he carefully pulled from his bag, the red, white, and blue ... an American flag.

"I can live through the cold and the being alone, away from my family, my house and my home. I can stand at my post through the rain and the sleet, I can sleep in a foxhole with little to eat. I can carry the weight of killing another, or lay down my life with my sister and brother who stand at the front against any and all, to ensure for all time that this flag will not fall."

"So go back inside," he said, "harbor no fright, your family is waiting and I'll be all right."

"But isn't there something I can do, at the least, give you money," I asked, "or prepare you a feast? It seems all too little for all that you've done, for being away from your wife and your son."

Then his eye welled a tear that held no regret, "Just tell us you love us, and never forget. To fight for our rights back at home while we're gone, to stand your own watch, no matter how long. For when we come home,

either standing or dead, to know you remember we fought and we bled is payment enough. And with that we will trust, that we mattered to you as you mattered to us."

This is for our U.S. servicemen and women who are also celebrating the holiday season so far from family and loved ones. Hopefully, this will make people stop and think of our heroes, living and dead, who sacrificed themselves for us.

—submitted by David Phillips

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PAULDING-PUTNAM TRUSTEES DECLARE CAPITAL REFUND

The Board of Trustees at Paulding-Putnam Electric Cooperative has authorized the payment of over \$825,000, including estates, for Capital Credit Retirement in 2006. Payment is being made to the members who received service during 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005. Since the inception of this program the Board of Trustees has authorized over \$20 million dollars in refunds.

Paulding-Putnam Electric Cooperative is proud to be member owned. Because the members own the cooperative, the goal of the organization is not to maximize profitability but to cover only its costs. As a not for profit corporation Paulding-Putnam returns any revenues that exceed actual expenses. This return is called a Capital Credit Retirement. As a member/owner of the cooperative each member shares in this Capital Credit Retirement, based on a percentage of the revenues each member paid to the Cooperative.

By furnishing electric energy, the Cooperative's operations are conducted so that all members will, through their membership, furnish capital for the Cooperative. The Cooperative is obligated to account on a patronage basis to all its members for all amounts received and receivable from furnishing electric energy in excess of operating costs and expenses properly charged against the furnishing of electric energy.

Current member/owners who have a Capital Credit Retirement of less than \$15.00 will see a credit applied to their electric service bill. This will alleviate extra expenses that are incurred for smaller amount checks.

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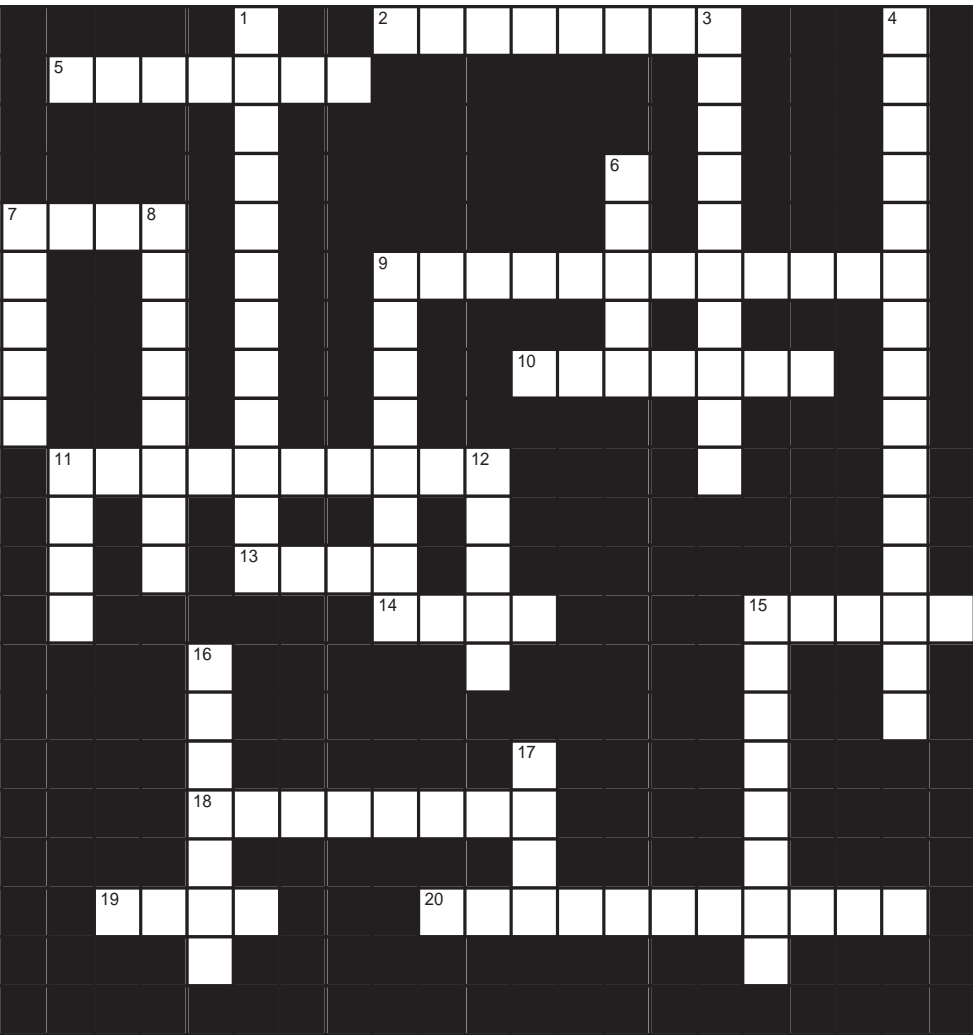
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Crossword Puzzle



- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>Across</p> <p>2. The drummers were doing this.</p> <p>5. The eight maids were doing this.</p> <p>7. Instead of "sent" to me, some versions of the song say this.</p> <p>9. Ten Lords a-leaping refer to these in the Bible.</p> <p>10. The four calling birds relate to these in the Bible.</p> <p>11. The eight maids-a-milking represent these in the book of Matthew.</p> <p>13. When first written, this song was used as this.</p> <p>14. This is how many ladies were dancing.</p> <p>15. The original "Calling Bird" was this (name for a black bird).</p> <p>18. This is the person who sent the gifts in "The Twelve Days of Christmas".</p> <p>19. It wasn't three French "horns" that were given.</p> <p>20. Two of these were given.</p> | <p>Down</p> <p>1. This gift refers to the eleven apostles</p> <p>3. The "true love" mentioned in the song is not an earthly suitor, but refers to WHO.</p> <p>4. This religion, because they faced persecution during the 16th century, used this song to teach their children.</p> <p>6. Five of these were gold.</p> <p>7. These animals were laying eggs.</p> <p>8. This word is associated with the Magi bringing gifts to Christ.</p> <p>9. The song was first taught to these to help them learn the Christian faith.</p> <p>11. The "Twelve Days of Christmas" was originally a rhyme written in a Children's one of these.</p> <p>12. These are beautiful, graceful birds.</p> <p>15. The six geese a-laying represents the six days of this "in the beginning."</p> <p>16. In some versions of the song, the ladies aren't dancing, they are doing this.</p> <p>17. This was the kind of tree the partridge was in?</p> |
|--|---|

AHS Angle



By: Chelsea Vail

What a bright time, it's the right time to rock the night away... So, pick up your feet, and get movin' to the AHS Band concert this Thursday. The show begins at 7:30 in the auditoria, which will also be host to the Antwerp Community Band concert this Sunday at 3:00 in the afternoon. Let the jingle hop begin!

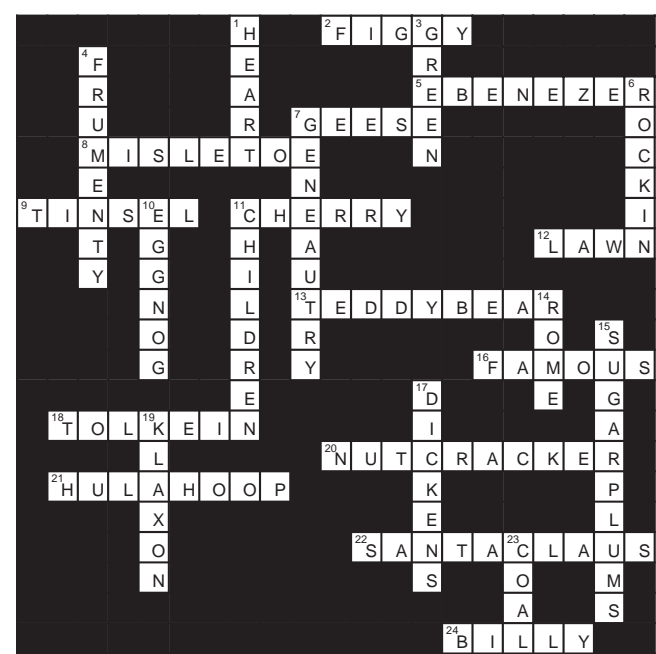
Speaking of beginnings, it's beginning to look a lot like exam time! Scary though it is, they are fast approaching. They will be held next Wednesday and Thursday, with the first four periods of tests being taken Wednesday and the last four being taken Thursday. All I can say is, yikes!

JH Girls Basketball: Thursday, December 14th, TBA, Edgerton (7th grade tournament); Saturday, December 16th, TBA, Edgerton (7th grade tournament); Monday, December 18th, 5:00, Bryan.

JH Boys Basketball: Thursday, December 14th, 5:00, Holgate; Monday, December 18th, 4:30, @ Bryan; Tuesday, December 19th, 5:00, @ Hicksville.

Freshman Boys Basketball: Saturday, December 16th, 10:00, @ Holgate; Monday, December 18th, 5:00, Crestview.

Last Week's answers to "Christmas Trivia"



Varsity Girls Basketball: Thursday, December 14th, 6:00, @ Continental.

Varsity Boys Basketball: Saturday, December 16th, 6:00, Continental; Tuesday, December 19th, 6:00, @ Ottoville

Word of the Week:
Jocund \JOCK-uhnd; JOH-kuhnd\ adjective

1. Full of or expressing high-spirited merriment

2. Light-hearted; mirthful

Example: "The Friday after exams will surely find many students in a jocund sort of mood."

Since I already have my two front teeth, all I really want for Christmas is to skip those darn exams ...

"It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ."
—Patrick Henry

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GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL: WAYNE TRACE VS. BRYAN

On Tuesday, December 5, the ladies of Wayne Trace and Bryan gave the fans some basketball.

Final score for the varsity game was Wayne Trace 58, Bryan 54. Records for both teams stand at - Wayne Trace 3-1, Bryan 1-2.

Leading players:
Bryan - Brianna Garver 13 pts, 4 steals; Brittany Shirkey 10 pts, 4 assists; Brooke Haines 10 pts, 13 rebounds, 4 steals.

Wayne Trace - Elyse Myers 20 pts, 13 rebounds; Becky Ruble 19 pts, 7 rebounds, 5 assists; Renee Bidlack 10 pts, 4 steals.

Turnovers: Bryan 22, Wayne Trace 25.

Rebounds: Bryan 42 (Haines 13, Kuzmaul 6); Wayne Trace 38 (Myers 13).

Juniory Varsity game saw a final score of Bryan (2-1) 41, Wayne Trace (2-2) 19.

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BAKE SALE TO BENEFIT ANNUAL BROUGHTON REDNECK JAMBOREE



Kathy Sanderson and Teresa Matthews (committee members of Redneck Jamboree) discuss some of the various baked goods for sale December 9 at the Paulding Sky Bank lobby. All proceeds benefit the Broughton, Ohio annual "Redneck Jamboree". First Federal and First Financial Banks in Paulding also hosted the event.

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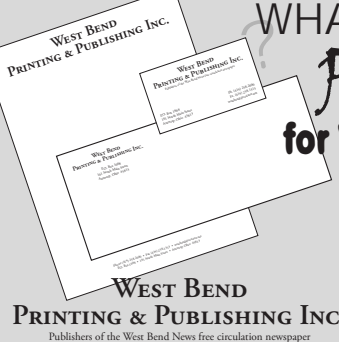
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RED LIGHT CAMERA BILL HELPS PROTECT PRIVACY, MAINTAIN SAFETY ON OHIO'S ROADS

Weekly column by: State Senator Lynn Wachtmann

After living under the tyranny of the British monarchy for years, when our Founding Fathers drafted the first ten amendments to our Constitution, also known as the Bill of Rights, they set out to create a document that would limit government power by granting each American citizen certain unalienable rights. While we have all studied the Constitution in school, in many cases, this knowledge is never really tested. In other words, we know our rights, but we aren't often put into situations where they are challenged or threatened. However, as legislators, our Constitutional knowledge is used on a daily basis. We must evaluate each piece of legislation to make sure the rights of Ohioans are always protected.

This past week, the Ohio Senate debated the merits of House Bill 56, legislation that would set restrictions on the use of cameras to detect certain traffic violations. For those who are not aware, in recent years, a handful of cities around the state have installed cameras at intersections to catch drivers who run red lights and some communities have also used these devices to cut down on speeders. Proponents argue that traffic cameras can be used to enforce the law in areas where police can't afford to patrol around the clock. Proponents say that, as a result, law enforcement can focus their efforts on other areas of concern and ultimately make our communities safer.

However, these cameras also raise a number of important concerns, first of which is privacy. While we want to do everything possible to keep our kids and neighborhoods safe, we must be careful as lawmakers not to use the promise of safety to impose government on the individual rights of Ohioans. Specifically, it is important to ask ourselves if allowing cameras to video tape drivers on public roadways is an infringement on individual rights. If these devices are made legal for traffic enforcement purposes, would this open the floodgates for cameras to be installed in other public places? There could be serious questions raised about the constitutionality of the law, if this were the case.

In addition, many have raised concerns about the motive behind installing traffic cameras. Since more traffic cameras would mean that more violators are caught and, ultimately, more citations are given out, it is important to make sure that the use of these devices is about promoting highway safety and not generating revenue.

When HB 56 was brought to the Senate for a vote last Wednesday, questions were

raised on both sides of the issue and the topic was discussed at length. However, in the end, I think we passed a bill that balances the concerns of each side—a measure that protects the individual rights of Ohioans while making sure to maintain safety on our roads.

The bill still allows traffic cameras to be placed at intersections in clearly identified school zones in order to catch red light runners, enforce speed limits, and to monitor railroad crossings for those who pass through illegally. However, the measure also puts important privacy protections in place. For instance, it prohibits the use of digital photos to identify the driver in the case of a traffic citation and eliminates the use of speed cameras everywhere but school zones. In addition, it calls for 30 days advance notice before cameras are placed at such intersections.

It is important to note that if a driver is issued a citation and was not the person operating the vehicle at that time, they are given the protection under law to sign an affidavit under penalty of perjury stating they were not driving. Furthermore, if put in this situation, the vehicle's owner can not be forced to identify the actual driver and the city would be prohibited from using a photograph displaying the face of the driver to dispute the owner's claim.

To help ensure that traffic cameras are installed only to make our roads safer and not for financial gain, HB 56 prohibits local governments from entering into, renewing, or modifying contracts with traffic camera vendors that would be paid on a contingency fee basis.

Finally, I would also like to point out that in states where traffic cameras are allowed, crash statistics have shown that the accident rate in some intersections has actually increased. Therefore, to further increase public safety, HB 56 requires law enforcement officers to be present at intersections monitored by cameras, should the number of accidents at the location increase while cameras are present.

While HB 56 is not perfect, by passing this measure, legislators have made positive gains toward achieving the often contentious balance between promoting public safety and protecting individual rights. Technology can be an incredible tool, but we have to make sure that when implementing new devices, we do not violate the very document this great nation was founded upon.

As always, I welcome your views on state issues. If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns, or if you need assistance working with a state government agency, please write to me: Senator Lynn Wachtmann, Ohio Senate, Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or call my office at (614) 466-8150.

GRAND OPENING FOR BRENDA'S TAX CONSULTING



Bob Nighswander, Maxine Nighswander, Brenda (Nighswander) McClory, John McClory, Brandi Cole and Santa Claus.

Brenda (Nighswander) McClory started her business out of her home in 1992 in Antwerp, Ohio. Brenda is the daughter of Bob and Maxine Nighswander of Antwerp. In 1999 Brenda moved to Henry County, Ohio and continued her Home Office & Tax Business. Thanks to the many clients who have continued to do business with Brenda, she has recently been able to

open a store front office in downtown Napoleon.

Brenda now offers Income Tax Preparation, Bookkeeping, Payroll and Budgeting. Brenda is an Authorized IRS E-File Provider. The office is located at 733 North Perry Street in Napoleon, OH.

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Opinion Column

VIEWS FROM THE OUTSIDE

by Brad Dysinger

December 7th, The Date Which Will Live In Infamy and oh yes PUT OUT THAT SMOKE!!!

The History has always been something I enjoy, a society that doesn't know its past is doomed to repeat it. On December 7, 1941, the Japanese empire took it upon itself to inflict great harm on the United States with a sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, and before the last shot was fired they found themselves the only country ever A-Bombed. Today revisionists say we should have been more sensitive, not unleashed such a terrible weapon upon the earth. When my uncle Ray Stahl was living talk like that would get you in big trouble, see he was on a ship that was ready to invade the Japanese home land. His company was told to expect 96% casualties. He saw no problem in one bomb doing what it would take several million soldiers to do.

I wonder what uncle Ray would think about the No Smoking Ban Ohio voters passed this last election that ironically took effect on the same date that brought us into WW II. I don't know if Uncle Ray ever smoked or not, his sister, my mom, tells me he didn't. I did know him well enough to know that he didn't like the government telling him anything that he had to do. The years he spent fighting in the south pacific gave him and all his generation the right to do and say pretty much anything they wanted.

I know that I have never smoked a cigarette, don't allow smoking in my home, my truck, my gun store, my hunting club house, and never will. I don't like to smell cigarette smoke, it gives me a headache. But, and it is a big But, as far as I'm concerned it is nobody's business what I allow or don't, whether it is in my business, or my home, or my truck, or my anywhere.

Now I'm not saying that smoking should be allowed in government buildings, and appreciate that it's not, but government buildings are not private property. You don't have a choice if you have to go to the court house, you do have a choice if you want to come to my house.

If I don't like to smell smoke it's my right not to go to any business that allows it. So far there is no law that says I have to, although I am sure somewhere in Ohio someone is planning a ballot initiative that tells me what restaurant to go to, and what to order to eat once I get there.

With one vote Ohio voters did what the Japanese government couldn't, took away a right that had been enjoyed by US citizens since before they became citizens in 1776. It's ironic that today we are told to be tolerant of others, that marriage isn't just between a man and a woman, that we are insensitive if we want to protect our borders and make English the official language of the state, or country. It's strange to me that ballot initiatives are only considered good if they meet the politically correct test.

As a known anti-smoker I would seem to be with the voters who took away the bar owners right, the restaurant owners right, the factory owners and workers right to do what they see as best for their businesses. Common sense tells me that if voting can take away one person's rights it can be done to me too. I don't like that feeling and neither should any one else. Through out world history more people have been oppressed by the stroke of a pen than by the stroke of a sword.

Don't get me wrong, I know that smoking is bad for you; it will give you cancer, heart attacks, high blood pressure and many other life shortening diseases. I would never want anyone to start smoking and I harp on all my friends who smoke to quit. It is not only expensive but smoking has no redeeming value that I can see. I was fortunate that at the Melrose School in the 60's not smoking was beat into our brains, and I am thankful for it today. At Melrose we also learned that the United States Constitution gives you the right to fail as well as the right to succeed, our choice, not the government's, not the neighbors', not the lawyers', not the churches', not the do-gooders', not the news media, OUR CHOICE.

I see two things that are sure to happen with this law. One it will be almost impossible to enforce. Who will be the smoking police? HOW much money will be spent enforcing this law? How much will it cost? Will there be a new tax to enforce the law? What will the penalty be for telling the smoke police to go to, . . .well . . . to a smokier place than here?

The other will be the law suits sure to follow. The only group guaranteed to make money from this new law will be lawyers—Pro-smoking lawyers on one side and anti-smoking lawyers on the other.

As a history buff I also remember something that a great English writer of many years ago said. This isn't a direct quote but it's darn close. William Shakespeare said, "First kill all the lawyers." Now, I don't believe this is necessarily true or necessarily needed because I do know an honest lawyer. . . no I really do, trust me. I'm sure Bill had his reasons, and who am I to question his motives? If Ohio was to vote on this in a referendum, what would your vote be? Interesting concept isn't it?

Or, how about if there is a referendum vote against your religion, or your job, or your hobby, or the fact that you drive a SUV or a pickup truck. Someone somewhere may not like your hairdo or your skin color, should we vote on them too? Whenever one person loses a freedom every person loses. I don't smoke, never have, never will. But it bothers me more to lose the right to say or do what I want in my home, or my business than the smell of smoke. The smoke I smell, the smoke I most fear, is the smoke from another freedom going up in flames.

Another WWII vet friend of mine, Jim Feathers from Delphos, Ohio, told my wife Ann something that she repeated to me. Jim told Ann, "Annie I enjoyed more freedom in my lifetime than you ever will, and you will enjoy more freedom in your lifetime than your kids in their lifetimes." I'm afraid Jim's right again.

Paulding County, tell me what you think. 419-587-3557

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEET

Chief financial officer, Rob Goshia reported a net profit of \$46,555 for October

and a year to date net loss of \$14,819. "The profit in October was primarily the result of an increased volume in surgery and the continuing success of the hospital's new oncology clinic," said Goshia.

Goshia told the board that the administrative staff had reviewed quotes for the employee group health insurance. He expects an 11 percent increase.

Hospital CEO Gary Adkins reported:

The new performance evaluation format is near completion.

He agreed to co-chair the 2007 American Cancer Society Relay for Life. It is the second year of his two-year commitment.

Chief operating officer Randy Ruge announced that a new certified nurse registered anesthetist has been hired. Lori Hockenberry will start January 15, 2007.

The board also reviewed two quality improvement reports: the third quarter legal compliance report and the quality assurance statistical report.

If you mailed 10,000 Postcards (circulation of West Bend News) it would cost \$2400 not including printing charges. A postcard size ad only cost \$60

EIGHTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL AT FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

The Antwerp 8th grade boys basketball team opened their season Saturday, December 9 at Fairview High School. The Archers played the Tinora Rams in the fourth Green Meadows Conference game of the afternoon. The game was knotted after one quarter 6-6, but Tinora had a big 2nd quarter, out-scoring the Archers 11-2. Antwerp fought hard until the end, but couldn't handle the ball well, committing 19 turnovers in the game. Tinora prevailed 42-26.

Other opening day, 8th grade winners, included: Hicksville over Ayersville, Edgerton over Holgate, and Fairview over Wayne Trace.

Statistics:
Tinora - Landon Drewes 11, Zach Lloyd 9, Alex Batt 6, Brock Reiman 5, Reed Weisner 4, Cody Nagel 2, Jake Nordon 2, Brett Wonders 2, Jeff Schlisser 1.

Antwerp - Jordan Koppenhofer 10, Tanner Copsey 5, John Brown 4, Dylan Crawford 3, Shaile Chamberlain 2, Josh Hilton 2.

The Archers will try and get on track this week as they host Holgate on Thursday, December 14 @5:00 p.m.

BROOKSIDE EXPRESS TO HOLD DRAWING FOR GIANT STOCKING

The Brookside Express (Citgo gas station), will be holding a drawing for a huge Christmas stocking to be given away on December 21 at 10:00 a.m. To enter, the child's name has to be put in the box at the station. The station is located on 127 S in Paulding.



Staying Safe In Cold Weather

(NAPSA)—You can experience cold-weather emergencies such as frostbite or hypothermia even if the air temperature isn't below freezing. That's why it's so important to know a few cold-weather safety tips.

What To Watch For

The American Red Cross suggests people learn to recognize the signs of hypothermia and frostbite. Hypothermia symptoms include confusion, dizziness, exhaustion and severe shivering. Frostbite warning signs include: gray, white or yellow skin discoloration, numbness and waxy-feeling skin. If you or someone else has any of these symptoms, seek medical attention immediately.

What To Wear

You are only as warm as your coldest body part. Some of the best outerwear for cold weather has GORE-TEX® fabric at the core. This waterproof but breathable layer provides a barrier with billions of microscopic pores that are impenetrable by water but still allow perspiration vapor to escape. When dressing for outdoor recreation, a range of products made with the material can provide an optimized system designed to work together and keep you comfortable and protected. You can test out the product's Guaranteed To Keep You Dry



Dressing smart can keep you warmer in cold weather.

promise at the Know What's Inside Tour presented by GORE-TEX and WINDSTOPPER® products.

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Cold Weather Travel

Allow extra time when traveling in cold weather and check weather forecasts before leaving your house. When you're on the road, monitor weather conditions carefully and adhere to travel advisories. It's also important to keep a winter storm survival kit in your vehicle. The kit should include blankets, food, flares, chains, gloves and first-aid supplies.

For more information and tips, visit gore-tex.com or call (800) GORE-TEX.

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL AT WAYNE TRACE

Saturday, December 9 saw the boys of Wayne Trace against the boys of Paulding in varsity basketball action.

The final score was Wayne Trace 80, Paulding 37.

Wayne Trace is now 2-1, Paulding is 0-4.

Leading Players:

Wayne Trace - Dane Treece 16 pts, six rebounds; Aaron Hockenberry 15 pts; Riley Linder 11 pts.

Paulding - Jarod Riley 14 pts.

Turnovers - Wayne Trace 14, Paulding 24.

Rebounds - Wayne Trace 51 (Litzenberg 11, Treece 6); Paulding 24 (Phlipot 9).

Junior Varsity - Wayne Trace 59, Paulding 20.

JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL: WAYNE TRACE VS. ANTWERP

On Thursday, December 7 the Wayne Trace junior high girls basketball team faced off against Antwerp.

In the eighth grade game final score was Wayne Trace 18, Antwerp 4. Wayne Trace is now 7-0.

Leading scorers:

Wayne Trace - Jo Ellen Fickel 6, Kacey Hockenberry 4, Taylor Baumle 4, Shelby Osborne 4.

Antwerp - Delgado 2, Walk 1, Vail 1.

In the seventh grade game Antwerp came out the victors. No other stats were provided.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

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LICENSED MASSAGE THERAPIST**

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Gift-Certificates For All Ages
10.00 off Hot-Stone and Full Body Massages
- now 'til Christmas

Come to Our Sunday Buffet

At Grants' Reception Hall
Every Sunday 10:30-3 p.m.

Attention Kids!!

Mr. & Mrs. Santa will visit
Our buffet

on Sunday, Dec. 10th from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
And Sunday, Dec. 17th from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

All kids 12 & under eat for free!
(These 2 Sundays only)

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season & hope to see you & yours join us soon!

Location: 503 E. Canal St.
Antwerp, OH 45813

For more information,
Call 1-877-358-5099

*Special Note: Our buffet will be CLOSED on Christmas Eve & New Years Eve

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Next to ACE Hardware
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We'll be drawing for discounts now until Christmas
Poinsettias, Wreaths,
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 Is your dog missing? Call Dave
 Cline at our local shelter 399-9728

As sure as it's going
 to rain, the
 classifieds sell.

ANTWERP HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR SERENADES THE TOWN



"Hark, the Herald Angels sing ..." or so sang the Antwerp High School choir led by Gale Jordan and Miss Robertson. On December 8, this group brought glad tidings to all the businesses of the village of Antwerp. Their spirit of the season resounded throughout town. Nice job!!

Season's Greetings

Hunt's Engine & Machine
 Stop in and sign up for weekly Drawings.
 No purchase necessary.
 We also have a contest for the kids.
 There will be a boy & girl winner.
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Merry Christmas
 &
Happy Holidays

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Ages 6-Adult

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PART OF U.S. 30 TO BE OPEN IN 2007

The expansion of U.S. 30 through Northwest Ohio slowly progressed from the planning stages to construction over a period of more than 40 years.

Now that the last section yet to be completed in the expansion of U.S. 30 from a two-lane to a four-lane highway is entering its final stages of construction, the career-long efforts of many

within the Ohio Department of Transportation will soon be rewarded.

U.S. 30 between Ohio 235 in Hancock County to the Upper Sandusky bypass in Wyandot County is completing its second year of construction. The 26.5-mile project, which began in the spring of 2005, will expand two-lane U.S. 30 to a four-lane limited access highway on a new location approximately a half mile south of the existing route.

The project will eliminate the last section of two-lane U.S. 30 in the region and when completed will result in a four-lane U.S. 30 from the Indiana state line to Canton. A piece of U.S. 30 in eastern Ohio remains a two-lane highway.

"If we have an exceptional construction season in the upcoming year, the entire stretch of the U.S. 30 project in Hancock and Wyandot counties may be ready for traffic," said Norman R. Redick, Ohio Department of Transportation District I deputy director. However, should weather delay work on the project, only a portion of the route will be open. "At the very least we will have the section from Ohio 235 to Ohio 37 open in 2007," he said.

The expansion and relocation of U.S. 30 has been the primary focus for Redick during his nearly 40-year career in public service, and especially during his 16-year tenure as ODOT District I deputy director. "Seeing this last project on U.S. 30 completed will be very satisfying for me and many others who also spent their careers as advocates for the project," he said.

At the end of 2006, the project will be approximately 70 percent overall with 75 percent of the earth work completed said Mike Murphy, one of two project engineers on the U.S. 30 project.

There are 21 bridges on the project. Of those, three are yet to be constructed—two over the Tymochtee Creek and one which will carry County Highway 330 over U.S. 30. All three are located in Wyandot County. "The other 18 bridges are substantially complete," said Scott Mullins, engineer on the U.S. 30 project, along with Murphy. A bridge on Ohio 293 over new U.S. 30 opened to traffic this week, he said.

The final layer of asphalt is in place on the first five miles of the project from Ohio 235 to the east. An additional 11 miles are in varying stages of paving and

will be ready for the next stage early in 2007. The remainder of the project area is ready for final earth work operations.

"The work we were able to complete in 2006 will allow us to begin immediately next construction season with various operations throughout the project," said Bruce Merry, acting highway management administrator for ODOT District I. "With good weather we will be able to work efficiently which may allow us to open the entire new highway to traffic late in the year," he said adding that once the highway is open to traffic, work will continue on the project.

Redick cautioned that although portions of the new roadway may appear to be completed, much is left to do. "There is more to a highway than just pavement," he said. "All safety items such as pavement striping, signage and guardrail must be in place before a road may be opened to the public," he said.

In addition, Redick stressed that the U.S. 30 project area is not yet a public roadway. "This is a construction area and should be treated as such. Unauthorized persons cannot legally use the roadway until it is officially open. Doing so creates a dangerous situation for them and the construction workers as well," said Redick.

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The West Bend News

JOHN PAULDING HISTORICAL SOCIETY SAYS GOOD-BYE TO THE FESTIVAL OF TREES FOR 2006

It is hard to believe that the John Paulding Historical Society Festival of Trees is now history. The 50 plus trees are all down and there is no sign of ever having been a Christmas scene anywhere in the building. Even JP the horse had to go back to the barn. The Talking Christmas tree is resting from the activity of all of the children who came through to tell their Christmas wish list.

What a super time it was and I believe it is the best kept secret in Paulding County. I couldn't believe all of the people who came through to see the trees and remarked that they did not know the Historical Society was in Paulding.

Congratulations to the winning tree chosen by votes. Ann's Bright Beginnings had pictures of all of the children nestled in their beds, just waiting for Santa to come. What a delight to see the children come in and look for their picture.

The entertainment throughout the weekend was well-attended. On Friday, we had the Paulding youth choir from the Catholic church, Saturday the Oakwood alumni band performed and on Sunday

several groups from the Paulding UM church shared many Christmas carols with singing, hand bells, and piano music.

The silent auction was well accepted this year. Winners of a variety of items were: Buckeye Tree donated by Village Apothecary-Bill Strahley; Buckeye afghan donated by Luella Thomas-Deloris Whirrett; a baby afghan donated by Luella Thomas-Anna Kauser; a Christmas wreath donated by Eileen Kochensparger-Holly Thompson; a water color print donated by Anna Kauser-Pam Beck; a quilt frame donated by Hawthorn Court-Pam Beck; a snowman tree donated by Village Apothecary-Eileen Kochensparger; a floral arrangement donated by Marilyn's Petals of Antwerp-Luella Thomas; an oil change donated by Rick Greer of Integrity Ford-Bill Bidlack; steak dinner for two donated by the Eagles-Dan Smith; two pizzas donated by the VFW-Loren Thomas; a bear with two outfits donated by Luella Thomas-Verginia Manz; an Ohio State cap and cooler bag donated by the Paulding Maramart-Kathy Denny; a lamp donated by Angie Pollock-Wilson family; a sack of groceries from Chief-Wilson family; a red scarf donated by Pam Moore-Erica Smalley; an OSU rock donated by Homiers-Margaret Philipot; A Carhart coat donated by Kauser Trucking-Chet Moore; hair products donated by Hair Off The Square-Mary Ellen Morse.

A little recognition to the decorators of the trees. They never cease to amaze. This year's decorators were: OSU Extension, ST. John's Baptist Catholic Elementary School, Sassy Attitudes Red Hatters, Hawthorn Court, Paulding Chamber of Commerce, Paulding National Honor Society, Paulding Hospital Home Health, Paulding EMS, Senior Center, Paul-

MR. AND MRS. GARY WARD CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



Gary and Debra (Elliott) Ward will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary on December 18.

Gary and Debra were married in 1981 at the First United Presbyterian Church in Antwerp. Miles Watkins

ing Garden Club, D.A.R. of Paulding County, Rister Law Office of Antwerp, Janice and Bob Merriman, Western Buckeye-Ace Academy, Philipot Photo, Paulding Preschool and Little Blessings, Lois Beamer and Joyce Barrand, Ila Rush, Sandy Weidenhamer, Curves, Kauser Trucking, Barb Konopka, Mary and Pam Friend, Jill Jackson, Cub Scout Pack #317, Jane Stouffer, Ann's Bright Beginnings, Shirley Straley, Republican Women, Parc Lane-Paulding County Board of MRDD, Cub Scouts of Grover Hill, Wednesday Afternoon Bowling league, Ritzy Buckeye Red Hatters, Deb Plummer, Paulding First Christian Church Youth group, Paulding area Visiting Nurses and Hospice, Village Apothecary, Paulding Carnegie Library, Out of Towners 4-H club, Red Owl, Board of Election, Head Start, Paulding Girls Varsity and JV basketball, and Luella Thomas.

Collections were displayed by Jill Jackson, Jan Coomers, and Luella Thomas.

Plans are already underway for next year's Festival of Trees. If you would like to help in anyway, please don't hesitate to contact one of the committee members. Maybe you would like to decorate a tree, or you have a collection that you would like to share. Now is the time to contact us as we are limited on trees. If you don't care to contribute, then your attendance next year on the weekend of the 15th, 16th 17th, and 18th of November will be enough. Next year's theme will be "Have a Holly Christmas".

We wish you Happy Holidays and a very Merry Christmas. Remember to keep the Christ in your Christmas.

—Committee members: Deb Adams, Luella Thomas, Rose Munger, Jan Coomers, Anna Kauser, and Eileen Kochensparger

presided over the ceremony.

Amy Elliott, Valerie Larimore, Gary Smozenka, Don Smith, and Jaime Ward were witnesses for the occasion.

Ehrhart's captured the day with photography.

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF 12/13 THROUGH 12/19

12/15: Paulding at Hicksville
 12/16: Coldwater at Wayne Trace; Continental at Antwerp; Fairview at Paulding; Stryker at Hicksville.
 12/19: Antwerp at Ottoville; Van Wert at Paulding.

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK OF 12/13 THROUGH 12/19

12/14: Antwerp at Continental; Edgerton at Paulding; Hicksville at Montpelier.
 12/18: Wayne Trace at Licolnview.

Be sure to tell the businesses you patronize, that you saw their ad in the West Bend News.

Have Something to sell?
 Classified ads are \$5.00 for 25 words or less and only \$.10 for each additional word.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL RADIOLOGY RECEIVES ACR ACCREDITATION

Paulding County Hospital has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in mammography as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

ACR accreditation demonstrates commitment to quality patient care. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel and the adequacy of facility equipment.

Paulding County Hospital's accreditation provides a high level of confidence for patients, referring physicians, and managed care organizations that it is providing only the highest quality care.

The ACR is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic-interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists, and nuclear medicine and medical physicists with programs focusing on the practice of medical imaging and radiation oncology and the delivery of comprehensive health care services.

GILLMOR STATEMENT ON THE REPORT OF THE IRAQ STUDY GROUP

After the release of the report of the Iraq Study Group, Congressman Paul Gillmor (R-Tiffin), issued the following statement: "Congress chartered

the Iraq Study Group to advise the administration on our course of action in Iraq and I am satisfied that we have received thoughtful recommendations from the panel. From the start of our engagement in Iraq, I have said I wanted to see the United States troops out of Iraq as soon as a stable democratic government has been established. Today's report confirms our successes and highlights what challenges lie ahead for the Middle East. Bringing democracy and freedom to an area which has only known tyranny and oppression is not a mission which can be taken lightly but it is a goal which must be achieved."

"I intend to consider and take every proposal seriously. While all may not agree with each of the proposals made by the commission, they mark a historic moment of bipartisanship and real discussion about the course of our nation. This is a time for Congress to come together as one body - not as Republicans or Democrats - to move forward with a strategy for success in the Middle East." The Iraq Study Group is comprised of five Republicans and five Democrats including: 2 former Secretaries of State, one former Attorney General, two former Members of the House of Representatives, one former Supreme Court Justice, one former Secretary of Defense, two former U.S. Senators, and one former Senior White House Advisor.

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Video Rental Cards good for New Releases or 2 night Game Rentals
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VHS & DVD BLOWOUT SALE!
 Starting Tuesday, December 19-Sunday, December 24 Hundreds of titles including Comedy, Action, Horror, Thriller, Drama & Kids. Special sale price of \$2.00 each
 Buy 10 - get 2 free
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 Presents Basic
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 You will learn to use your camera
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 Classes are on Mon., Tues., and Wed.
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 I Cor. 10:31 - whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Merry Christmas to our valued customers, friends and family.
Uncle Fudd's Diner
 No Dinner Mess on Christmas!
 Melrose, Ohio
 419-594-3319
Open Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
 from 6:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
 Second & Fourth Thursday of the month for Good Ole' Country Music
Watch for the FIREMAN'S FRENZY
 Drinks, tax & tips not included
 Normal business hours:
 TUES - SAT. 6:30 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. — SUN. 6:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Closed Monday.

ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS RECEIVE "NATIVE" GIFT



Shown here from the left are: Katelyn Strayer, Seth Dysinger, and Megan Garrity. These children are in the 4's and young 5's class with Mrs. Chris Adams and Mrs. Ann Miller.

Ann's Bright Beginnings preschoolers were recently given a beautiful handmade teepee! The teepee was also hand painted with authentic Native American symbols

that the children were very eager to learn about. This gift was purchased with quality money that is funded by the state for the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

We can do your wedding, graduation, anniversary or any other announcement that you may need!
Come in and browse our selection!!
West Bend Printing & Publishing - 419-258-2000

CHRISTMAS AUCTIONS

FRIDAY, DEC. 15 AND SATURDAY DEC. 16
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22
at 6 p.m.

Large Selection of Gift Items
Toys - Tools - Generators
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**** EVERYONE WELCOME ****

PORTER AUCTION

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Publishers of the West Bend News free circulation newspaper

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westbend@verizon.net



"New Listing" Country Home and buildings located on 3½ acres, with many shade trees and a windbreak with an orchard on the north side of home. This property is located in NW Paulding County near the Indiana-Ohio state line;

with repair and TLC the end results should please most people. Many of the buildings are in good condition and will make for much storage. Please call us for more information and location. Listed to sell at \$69,900 #321



Only 4 years young is this home with a full basement where there's lot of space for your family room, and a den, sewing, craft or computer rooms. Upstairs is 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, equipped kitchen, separate dining area, fireplace in the living area, and lots of storage thru out. Outside there's a storage building, wood furnace and 25 acres of land. There should be lots of possibilities for this property located in Crane township of Paulding County. #311

New Price: This 40' x 50' building was constructed in the late 90's has professional looking finished concrete floor, 240 volt electrical system, village utilities, zoned R2, and space for a home or addition to the building. Now listed at \$29,900. #345



STRALEY REAL ESTATE, INC. **STRALEY** REAL ESTATE, INC.
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CLASSIFIED ADS Sell it in the Classifieds!

Classifieds are \$5.00 for 25 words or less and \$.10 for each additional word.

Bold is \$1.00 additional.

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WEST BEND PRINTING & Publishing can take care of all your printing needs! Call us today at 419-258-2000.

LOTS FOR RENT, HOMES for sale in Leinard's Manufactured Homes Community in Antwerp, OH, 419-258-2710.

LELAND SMITH INSURANCE SERVICES. We'll get you covered for less! Home, auto, life, health, farm, and business. Call Dan Fowler in Antwerp at 419-258-1363 or 877-258-1363.

WANT WINDOW COVERINGS that look great and work well, year after year? Custom draperies and valances, quality vertical blinds, pleated shades, etc. Call Judy McCalla, Hicksville, 419-542-6182.

TAYLOR CONSTRUCTION FENCE. 19 years experience. Also, decks, sheds, barns, roofing and handyman services. Insured. 419-393-4102.

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom mobile home in Leinard's Manufactured Home Community. \$450 a month includes sewer/water & garbage. Deposit required, no pets. Call 419-258-2710.

APARTMENT FOR RENT: 3 bedroom apartment for rent in Payne, Ohio above Community Center; no pets; lease and deposit required. Call 419-399-2217 (daytime) or 419-263-2821 (evening).

FOR SALE: 1968 Skyline Mobile Home. 3 bedroom. Must be moved. \$1500. Call 419-258-6201 and leave a message.

BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY. Nice homes in well-kept manufactured home community. Special financing available. 2 lots also available. 419-399-3322.

WHISPERING PINES apartments: special - first month rent free! Great apartments in a great location are available now. Offer only valid with a one-year lease. \$375.00 Security Deposit required. Birdstone, Inc. 602 East Perry St., Paulding, OH 45879. Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Phone: 419-399-2419. After office hours: 419-576-8117.

APARTMENT FOR RENT: A spacious one bedroom apartment that has water, sewer, trash and CABLE included in your rent. No smoking and no pets allowed. Apartment will be ready the first of the year. Call 258-2023 for information.

FOR SALE: 1992 FORD F150 extended cab. Asking \$1500. 419-393-2424.

FOR SALE: 1992 FORD RANGER. 4-cylinder, 5-speed, \$800. 419-393-2424, Defiance.

READY FOR CHRISTMAS. AKC Boston Terrier pups. Shots, wormed. \$375.00. Call 1-419-587-3727.

WILL SIT AND CARE FOR THE ELDERLY. Do light house-keeping, transport to appointments. 419-263-0033.

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NEED SOME ADDRESS LABELS? Or photo prints of that sweetheart in your life? Call West Bend Printing & Publishing today! 419-258-2000.

DEADLINE FOR CLASSIFIEDS IN THE WEST BEND NEWS IS MONDAYS AT 12:00!

TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY

The busy holiday season is here—a time when spirits are high, celebrations thrive and travel increases across America's roadways. Tragically, drunk driving is on the rise during this special time.

Started in 1986, MADD's premier public awareness project, Tie One On For Safety, celebrates its 20th Anniversary this year. The red ribbon is a symbol of the driver's pledge to drive safe, sober and buckled up. Additionally, MADD asks the public to Tie One On For Safety in support of MADD's Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving.

Holiday drivers can display a MADD red ribbon or red ribbon decal in a visible location on their vehicles to show family, friends and loved ones they support safer roads free from drunk driving. It also reminds other drivers and passengers to do the same. More than 6 million ribbons and ribbon

symbols are distributed annually. The Turning Point will be sending red ribbons home with students this week.

Each year nationally, more than 1,000 people typically die during Thanksgiving to New Year's in drunk driving crashes and more than 2,000 are killed in drunk driving crashes and/or crashes where safety belts were not used. MADD's message includes seat belts because it is the best defense in a crash caused by a drunk driver.

- What you can do:
 - Tie a ribbon to a visible location on your vehicle.
 - Be a responsible party host. Offer non-alcoholic beverages, serve high-protein snacks, and provide alternate transportation or accommodations for guests who have been drinking.
 - Always designate a non-drinking driver if your outing involves alcohol.
 - Visit www.madd.org for more tips and information.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS FOR THE WEEK OF 12/13/06 THROUGH 12/19/06

Panther Paw Cafe - breakfast
12/13 - Ham, egg & cheese croissant, juice, milk
12/14 - French toast, sausage links, juice, milk
12/15 - Sausage gravy w/ biscuits, juice, milk
12/18 - Breakfast pizza, juice, milk
12/19 - Breakfast hot pocket, juice, milk

Panther Paw Cafe - Lunch
12/13 - Taco salad or chili dog on a bun, panther wedges, assorted fruit, milk
12/14 - Cavatini, green beans, bread stick, assorted fruit, milk
12/15 - Fish on a bun, au gratin potatoes, assorted fruit, milk
12/18 - Stuffed crust pizza or grilled chicken on a bun, vegetable, assorted fruit, milk
12/19 - Ham & cheese chef salad, bread stick, assorted fruit, milk

Paulding Elementary - Lunch
12/13 - Ham deli, mini carrots, pretzels, fruit cup, milk
12/14 - Hamburger on a bun, vegetable, fruit cup, milk
12/15 - Chicken fajita wrap, lettuce, fruit cup, milk
12/18 - Santa Fe mac 'n cheese, or tacoroni, peas, fruit cup, milk
12/19 - Sloppy joe on a bun, hash brown, fruit cup, milk

Oakwood Elementary - Lunch
12/13 - Cheese pizza, mixed vegetables, fruit cup, milk
12/14 - Toasted cheese, carrots w/dip, fruit, milk
12/15 - Burrito, corn, fruit, milk
12/18 - Hot dog or chili dog on a bun, oven potatoes, fruit, milk
12/19 - Hamburger on a bun, pickle, cheese, oven potatoes, fruit, milk

Have Something to sell?
Classified ads are \$5.00 for 25 words or less and only \$.10 for each additional word.

LEGAL NOTICE

The Allen County Board of Commissioners on behalf of the ACCENT One-Stop System of Allen, Paulding and Putnam Counties, and the Paulding and Putnam Boards of Commissioners seeks proposals to provide services for WIA eligible youth in Allen, Paulding and Putnam Counties to enhance education and training opportunities. The successful provider(s) for each county will need to enter into a fiscal agreement with that County's Department of Job & Family Services. Proposals will be opened at the Allen County Commissioners' Office, Allen County Courthouse, Third Floor, Lima, Ohio, January 11, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

The Request for Proposal packet may be obtained beginning December 4, 2006 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday at the Allen County Board of Commissioners, 301 N. Main St., Lima, Ohio 45801, the Allen County Department of Job & Family Services, 1501 S. Dixie Hwy., Lima, Ohio 45804, the Paulding County Department of Job & Family Services, 303 W. Harrison St., Paulding, Ohio 45879, and the Putnam County Courthouse, 245 E. Main St., Suite 100, Ottawa, Ohio 45875, or by calling (419)999-0360. A bidders conference will be held on December 19th at 2:00 p.m. at the Allen County Department of Job & Family Services, 1501 S. Dixie Hwy, Lima, Ohio.

The boards of Allen, Paulding and Putnam County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any and/or all bids, and waive all irregularities in favor of the counties.

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John Deere, IU, Purdue, Ohio State signs and more.
This is your Christmas savings store!
Come see us soon at our fun place to shop!
We are located 1½ miles south of State Route 613 on the IN/OH State Line Road.
Open 1-7 Wed, Fri, Sat. and Sun. Cash and Checks only.

NOTICE OF PERMANENT STREET CLOSURE:
RAILROAD STREET BETWEEN MONROE AND CLEVELAND STREET
Pursuant to Village of Antwerp Ordinance No. 2006-18 passed by council on August 14, 2006, the portion of Railroad Street located between Monroe and Cleveland Street, at Antwerp Equity Exchange is permanently closed to thru traffic. Signs have been posted. No local traffic is to drive through this block vacated by the above referenced ordinance. Violators will be fined. For more information, please contact the Village Administrator at 419-258-2371

ANTWERP HISTORY

By: Stan Jordan

Again this week we are talking about the old schools in Antwerp History.

As near as I can find out, there was a log cabin school built in 1833 two miles northeast of Antwerp. There were 15 pupils in those eight grades. The first school teacher was a William Roberts. This was located on the Isaac Woodcox farm. I understand this school operated until the town was laid out or plotted back in 1944. By now Mr. Woodcox had moved to town and built a hotel on the south end of Main Street.

Then another log school was built where the Bee Argus now stands. After a few years, a frame school building was erected where the H & W car parts now stands.

Then another frame building was erected for a school at the northeast corner of the east red light. After a few years, the building was moved west on U.S. 24 right south of the new Marathon Station, The Pit Stop. By now it is 1876 and a new two-story brick building was built over on what is now Archer Drive. In 1911 it was torn down to make room for the school that was in operation when they closed the one room school houses. This school was the one I attended starting in 1930.

As I write this column, I have not yet found out just what year they stopped using the country schools. For some years now, after the pupils finished the eighth grade in the one room schools they would enter The Antwerp Rural High School. At this time it was a three year high school course. But that was soon changed to a four year course, I think in the early 1930's. My good friend, Lucille Horn Seslar, tells me it was before 1920. Because she was born in Antwerp and then moved to the farm

where she lives now, or any how, across the road from it. But when it was time to start the first grade, she wanted to attend the Saint Mary's Catholic School. This sat just south of the Catholic Church up against West Washington Street. Her father, Julius Horn had to take her to school in his horse and buggy. Well, they were farmers and sometimes those trips to town caused a problem. The Antwerp School had some school buses but they wouldn't pick up the children for the Catholic School. Well, Mr. Horn didn't like that set up, so he and some other men went to Toledo and reported this problem to somebody there. They reckoned they were all taxpayers and their situation needed to be changed. So, starting the next school term, the buses were to pick up all students outside the Antwerp Corporation Limits. It really wasn't a one hundred percent victory because the buses would only unload at the Antwerp Rural High School. The Catholic students had to walk the three blocks over to St. Mary's, then at night they had to walk back again to get on the bus. I really don't know when or if that changed, but both schools were consolidated in the fall of 1933.

So Lucille rode the school buses, such as they were at that time and graduated in 1932. The School Board, at this time, was D.C. Bickhard, H.T. Snook, H.K. Harris, Joe Barker and Dewey Byer, C.A. Bissel was Clerk, G. H. Deemer was Superintendent, A.O. Bell, Principal.

I was talking with Ruth Biderwell Neely the other day and she told me about her early school days. She was born in 1916 on the River Road East. She had two sisters, Maxine, who married Ed Parrott, and May Bell who married Rev. Richard Crosby. Anyhow,

when Ruth started to school in the first grade in 1922, there were no school buses yet, so she rode to school in a horse and buggy with the neighbor boy, Fred Elsworth. He would drop her off at school and he would take his horse down to Boyce's Livery Stable. That was where the fire station is now. At night, Ruth would walk down to Ray Reeb's store and he would pick her up there. Reeb's Store was where the Bee-Argus is now. Ruth graduated in 1934.

This Fred Elsworth later married Gladys Reeb. That's Charlie Reeb's daughter and sister to Luther. Fred's dad was C.O. Elsworth and he later moved to Antwerp and served a number of terms as Mayor. Later, Ruth married Ernie Neely. They had two boys, Ernie is gone now, but Ruth is in her 90's and going strong.

My good friend, Leota Stanger Davis, tells me that she remembers back in the 1920's there was a country school over in Harrison township. Two teachers from Antwerp taught there. Mrs. Cleo Reeb taught the first four grades and Mr. Lewis Curtis taught the last four grades. I remember that Lewis Curtis lived on U.S. 24 where Bake Hertel lives now. They had a boy named Don who graduated from Antwerp High School and moved to California. Anyhow, Leota visited that school but doesn't remember exactly when it was. It was sort of a starter school and you had to pay tuition. Some of Antwerp students who went there was Betty Laney, Georgia Lou Johnson, she was J. B. Johnson's daughter and he owned the J. B. Johnson Furniture Factory.

Leota Stangler started school in Antwerp in 1925. She graduated in 1937, the first class to graduate after the new 1936 high school building was built.

Here is a few more that

was in that class: Ruth Smith, Gerald Kemerer, Lois Morhart, Doris Jump, Charles Dangler, Ruth Gordon. I know there were more students, but we're going to move along.

Luther had four children: Richard, Billie, Margaret and Tom. Dick's wife, Mary, taught school for 33 years and a lot of those years was here in Antwerp. Then her daughter, Rebecca Kohart, is a teacher out at our own new school.

I asked Leota if she remembers when they closed the one room schools and sent the students to Antwerp. She doesn't know the date but she thinks some were used a little longer than others.


I never did find out the exact date, but I think it must have been 1918 or 1919. I'm sure that must be pretty close.

I hope you have enjoyed this column, because those years were a big part of Antwerp History.

See, Ya

P. S. Santa Clause will be at the Fire House at 1:00 on Saturday, Dec. 16. There will be a camera man there also. Donuts and coffee for all, so bring the toddlers to meet Santa.

A Christmas Prayer For You



May you and the ones you love be blessed with good health, good fortune and good times this holiday season. We are sincerely grateful for your trust in us and count your friendship among our greatest blessings.

WEST BEND NEWS

Christmas Greetings will be in Next Week's Paper. Be sure to call now to reserve space. 419-258-2000

"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT": CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGY



Vantage Precision Machining Technology senior Chris Paulling is setting up the new Haas machining center in the lab.

Today's industry depends upon the skills of precision machinists to set up and operate machine tools to produce precision parts for all types of manufacturing. The Vantage Precision Machining program gives students the opportunity of a lifetime. Students learn the operation and use of lathes, mills and computer numerical controlled (CNC) machines to shape metal into useable tools and parts. Students combine creativity, design and mathematical skills to construct parts for all types of machinery. Working from blueprints or other instructions, these machinists-in-training plan the sequence of operations necessary, program and operate a variety of precision machines, produce a finished product, perform quality assurance steps and insure the product meets or exceeds specifications, usually to within thousandths of an inch. (Just to get an idea of how exact this skill is, a human hair is three thousandths of an inch thick!)

The program integrates theory and practical applications in a fully equipped machine shop facility. In addition to learning the operation of CNC machines, students study machining processes and procedures, properties of metals, blueprint reading, inspection techniques as well as computer-aided drafting (CAD) and computer-aided manufacturing (CAM).

Visiting the Precision Machining lab is like taking a walk through the industrial revolution. There's everything from pre-WWII hand cranked manual mills to the newest "bundle of joy" that arrived recently - a Haas VF 1 Machining Center. The wide variety of equipment that the students learn on reflect the need of our local areas - everything from a small shop to a multi-million dollar international corporation.

This year, there are 17 juniors and 9 seniors enrolled in the program. Some of the juniors are currently learning to make threads using a single point cutting tool on the lathe. Others are learning precision cutting on a mill and precision grinding

on a surface grinder.

The seniors are learning programming on a wire EDM (electrical discharge machine) which cuts through metal using a fine wire as an electrode. They are also learning the set up to operate a Haas machining center.

Before teaching at Vantage, instructor Larry Ray was a journeyman tool and die maker and an industrial engineer. After 7 years on the job, he feels he has found his calling. "I think what makes this job worthwhile is seeing students realize their potential and strive to achieve it." Larry keeps up with advances in the machining industry through his advisory committee and by working each summer. This summer was no exception. He worked at Gordon Tool & Die in Payne and also did some design work for Enviroscape Innovations in Leipsic.

Many Precision Machining students will qualify for Early Placement at the end of January. That means that if they have excellent attendance and maintain a B+ average, they will come to school for their academic classes and work in their career field the other half of the day. Not only do they earn a paycheck, but they receive lab credits for working in the industry.

Sound like something worth looking into? Contact Tom Mershman, Student Services Supervisor at 1-800-686-3944 ext. 140 to find out more about Precision Machining or any of the career-technical programs at Vantage. You can also visit the Vantage website at www.vantagecareer-center.com

This is a reminder that the Culinary Arts class will host a Christmas Dinner Buffet on Wednesday, December 20 from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. A delicious assortment of meats, vegetables, salads, breads and desserts will be served. Reservations are a must for this special event. Gather your family and friends and come to the Cup and Saucer Restaurant at Vantage for a Christmas feast. Please call 1-800-686-3944 ext. 130 to make your reservation.

BLESSINGS TO ALL!



May your faith be renewed and your spirits rekindled during this holy and joyous time of year. For the blessing of your friendship we are truly grateful.

Come in and see our BIG SELECTION of Christmas and Holiday Thank yous. Be sure to stop in soon. This is the last week before our Christmas issue.

-West Bend News

FOR RENT: THIS SPACE

Remodeled weekly if you request. High-traffic area. Convenient location. All maint. included. Call 419-258-2000 for more info