

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

(March 6, 2007 testimony to Ohio State House Finance Committee)

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to speak today. My name is Tony Langham and I am the Paulding County Economic Development Director. Paulding County is in Northwest Ohio. We border the Ohio/Indiana state line and are on US Route 24, the "Fort to Port" corridor. Over the years, some partial Route 24 bypasses have been built in Defiance, Henry and Lucas counties, but Paulding County has no 4-lane bypass improvement. Our village of Antwerp, for instance, now has 10,000 to 13,000 vehicles per day going through the center of town on a two lane road. Most of these vehicles are semi trucks. This is a situation we do not like living with, and I am sure you would not like this for your families.

Due to my position, I sometimes have opportunities to talk to out-of-state businesses that are considering locating to NW Ohio. One of the main requirements these companies have is being close to a 4-lane highway. If the State of Ohio does continue with the improvements to US 24, Paulding

County, Northwest Ohio and all of Ohio will benefit with the attraction of more companies and the creation of more jobs.

I have had meetings recently with an out-of-state company that is interested in locating in Paulding County. This one business would create 200 new jobs immediately. However, this company has made it clear to me that if the US 24 project were to be postponed, they would not be interested in locating in our county. I also have had existing companies tell me they would need better highway transportation in order to consider expanding in Paulding County. I have three such letters from existing companies to deliver to you today, along with other major employers. Planning and investment in anticipation of the Route 24 improvement has already been done both publicly and privately. The completion of this transportation corridor is vital not only to us, but to all of Ohio.

I will be happy to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for your consideration.

—Tony Langham,  
Director Paulding  
County Economic Development  
101 East Perry St.  
Paulding, Ohio 45879  
Phone 419-399-8282

## LATTY TOWNSHIP FLAG PRESENTED



Latty Township is the 7th to be featured in my Township Flag series, and it adopted a very unique flag using only three colors: green (for life and growth), gold (for maturity) and black (for its rich soil). It was designed by fourth grade students at Grover Hill Elementary and is highlighted by a gold band featuring the name and date organized (Latty Twp. - 1855). A tractor tire with 17 lugs is prominent on the flag and represents Ohio being the 17th state; and a tree in a black hue represents the Black Swamp. 2001 officers who adopted Latty Township's flag were: Lyle Ebel, Keith Miller, Larry Fast and Clerk Marie Davis.

Located in the southern

tier of townships, Latty was the last to be organized in Paulding County, and extends on the south to Van Wert County's Hoaglin Township. It was so-named to honor Judge Alexander Sankey Latty, a prominent resident and official of that time.

First actual settler was Edward Leonard Kimmell, who built the first cabin on Section 36 in 1853. Following him were men and women with familiar names such as McQuestion, Pease, Kohn and Eaton who quickly established homes before Latty was officially organized in 1855.

Only nine votes were cast in the first election, but by 1891, there were 447 registered voters. By the 1890 census, population had swelled to 2,010. Section 36 was the site of the first school; and a saw mill and a post office were not too far away. Rev. Emanuel Kauffman, of the Methodist Church, gave the first sermon, but later enlisted in the military and was said to have served gallantly.

Grover Hill is the only village in Latty Twp. and was laid out in 1887 along the railway being graded through the county. Named for former President Grover Cleveland and former Congressman W.D. Hill, it was quite a bustling place boasting a stove factory among its many businesses.

Latty Twp. was said to have exceedingly fertile soil; and ditching, road construction and cleaning for farms soon were underway.

Thank you to Pam Fast who assisted with the project and Latty Township Flag information. To read more about the founding of Latty Township, refer to the 1892 Paulding County Atlas which you can find at the Paulding Carnegie Library and branches or at the John Paulding Historical Society (JPHS) Museum on Fairground Drive in Paulding during its usual hours of operation. To speak with a volunteer or leave a message, please call: 419-399-8218.

—Les Weidenhamer,  
President, JPHS

## BIG SCIENCE WEEKEND FOR PAULDING MIDDLE SCHOOL

March 2 and 3 were banner days for the Paulding Middle School Science Program. Friday, March 2, the middle school Science Fair was held. The fair is a voluntary activity, and 29 students entered projects. The following students earned Superior ratings: Ashlee Beck, Ashley Hahn, Brooke Otto, Jessica Manz, Alex Snyder, Drew Burnett, Alissa Bok, Crimsen Back, Andy Favorito, Jessica Harpel, Katie Kohart, Audra Phlipot, P'esha Ingol, and Ashley Kesler. These students will compete at the district Science Day at Ohio Northern University March 17.

On Saturday, the middle school Science Olympiad Team competed in regional competition at OSU Lima. The team finished fourth out of 19 teams and earned a spot at the state competition held in Columbus in April. Medal winners for Paulding were Trenton Bradford, who placed second in Heredity and second place with teammate Alex Snyder in the Solar System. Maggie Wilhelm and Dillon Ankey placed second in Wheeled Vehicle. Courtney St. John and Aus-

tin Miller finished third in Mission Possible. The lone first place medal winner was Jared Ross who won the Oceanography event.

Saturday also was the day that four middle school students competed at the NW Ohio Regional Science Fair in Archbold. Audra Phlipot and Katie Kohart earned a Superior rating, finished second in Chemistry, and won a special US Navy Award for their research. Jessica Harpel earned a Superior rating, finished first in Behavioral Science, and won the award for best use of the scientific method. Andy Favorito earned a Superior, finished third in the Physics category, and won three special awards, Most Informational Project, Best Use of Scientific Measurement, and Best Overall Presentation.

Principal David Stallkamp and the entire middle school staff is proud of all of these students and the science activities offered at the middle school. Science Fair Director is Mrs. LeeAnn Favorito. The Middle School Science Olympiad Coaches are Bill and Marilyn Gangwer, Kris Williams and Angel Perry.

### Oakwood Summer Ball Meeting

**March 15th 7:00 p.m.**

**Oakwood Legion Hall**

Parents, coaches and volunteers needed to help make the 2007 ball season a success for the kids in the Oakwood community.

Contact: Jennifer VanCleve, Treasurer 419-594-3673

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**Erin Johanns 419-399-8429**

**Daffodil Days**  
March 11 to 17

*Watch for Teams selling Daffodils*  
**Next Meeting Thurs 15th at 6:30 pm**

**Alejandro S. "Bubba" Gonzales Jr.**, 25, of Paulding, died Thursday, March 8, 2007 at his residence.

He was born in Paulding County on March 25, 1981 the son of Alex S. and Delores C. (Rios) Gonzales.

He is survived by his father, Alex S. Gonzales, Sr. of Paulding; two sisters: Jessica A. Acosta and Melinda Gonzales both of Paulding; four half-brothers: Mark Gonzales of Paulding, Robert Gonzales of Tampa, FL, James Gonzales and Joe Gonzales both of San Antonio, TX; and two half-sisters: Cynthia and Caroline Gonzales both of San Antonio, TX.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Delores Gonzales.

Funeral services were held March 12 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Paulding with Rev. G. Allan Fillman officiating. Burial was in Paulding Memorial Cemetery, Paulding.

Donations may be made to Masses or Den Herder Funeral Home in memory of Alex Gonzales, Jr.

Den Herder Funeral Home handled arrangements.

**Bonnie Lou Birkhold**, 74, of Payne, died March 6, 2007 at her residence.

She was born January 8, 1933 in Fort Wayne, IN the daughter of Fred and Opal (McDougal) Frye. On July 21, 1953 she married Harlan "Fred" Birkhold, who preceded her in death on November 20, 2005. She was a member of St. James Lutheran Church, Payne. She was formerly employed by General Electric of Fort Wayne and as a cook for Howard Johnson, Fort Wayne.

She is survived by a daughter, Cathy (Max) Moss of Harlan, IN; three sons: Fred (Kim) Birkhold of Bry-

an, David (Vickie) Birkhold of Montpelier, OH and Van Birkhold of Fort Wayne; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; a sister, Juanita Clouser; and a brother, Dean Frye.

Funeral services were March 13 at St. James Lutheran Church, Payne with Pastor Joseph Allen officiating. Burial was in Lehman Cemetery, Payne.

Donations may be made to St. James Lutheran Church Ladies Group or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements were handled by Den Herder Funeral Home.

**Michael R. Scherer**, 58, of Paulding, died March 8 at his residence.

He was born February 10, 1949 in Kenosha, Wisconsin, the son of Richard and Helen (Drinkwine) Scherer. He married Virginia E. Adkins who survives. He was employed by SK Hand Tools, Defiance. He was formerly employed by Spar Tech, Paulding, and Johnson Motors, Waukegan, IL. He was a former caretaker for Auglaize Village, Defiance. He was a member of Broughton Council and the U.A.W.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia Scherer, Paulding; his mother, Helen Peura of Oxford, WS; a son, LEE Scherer of Zion, IL; two daughters: Kari (Mike) Lakin of Linderhurst, IL and Jessica (Tom) Myra of Salem, WS; a sister, Julie (Greg) Sinnen; a step-brother, Karl Peura Jr.; a step-sister, Cindy Peura all of Kenosha; and five grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his father, Richard; step-father, Karl Peura; and his grandparents.

Funeral services were March 13 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, with Pastor Jerry Davis officiating.

Memorial and burial was to be at a later date in Oxford, WS.

Donations may be made to the family.

**Carla Dee Lero**, 56, of Paulding, died March 9, 2007 at Parkview Memorial Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN.

She was born July 28, 1950 in Bluffton, OH, the daughter of Carless D. and LaDonna J. (Burkle) Smith. On September 13, 1974 she married Mark Lero, who survives. She was formerly employed by Rite Aid Pharmacy, Paulding, as a cashier. She was a member of First Christian Church, Paulding; Paulding Baseball/Softball Association; and the Fish and Game Club.

She is survived by her husband, Mark Lero of Paulding; a son, Josh (Carrie) Lero of Paulding; two daughters: Jennifer and Janelle Lero both of Paulding; and two grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Kay Lorraine.

Funeral services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 14 at First Christian Church, Paulding with Dave Dooley officiating. Burial will be in Live Oak Cemetery at a later date.

Visitation will be two hours prior to services at the church.

Donations may be made to the American Red Cross or to a charity of the donor's choice.

Arrangements handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.



**Zachary H. Arend**, 18 of Oakwood, died March 9, 2007 at Grady Memorial Hospital Atlanta, Georgia as the result of his injuries from the Bluffton University bus crash on March 2, 2007.

He was born April 30, 1988 in Paulding County the son of Dana L. and Caroline A. (Miller) Arend. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, Paulding. He was a student at Bluffton University, Bluffton, OH where he was a pitcher for the baseball team; a 2006 graduate of Paulding High School where he participated in varsity baseball, football, and basketball. He was also a member of Ottawa Legion Post 63 baseball team.

Surviving are his parents Dana L and Caroline A. Arend; three sisters: Estee, Olivia and Allison Arend all of Oakwood; grandparents, Eugene and Ann (Kohart) Miller of Oakwood; special friend, Rachelle Farley of Paulding, and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Preceding him in death are his grandparents, Herman and Eloise (DeLong) Arend.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted 10:00 a.m. Friday, March 16 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Paulding, with Reverend G. Allan Fillman officiating. Burial will be

in Sherman Cemetery, Char-

lotte. Visitation will be 3:30 - 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 14, and 1:00 - 9:00 p.m. Thursday, March 15 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.

In lieu of flowers, throws/afghans, statuary, etc. the Zachary Arend family requests that all donations be made to the Zachary Arend Scholarship Fund or masses only.



**Francis W. Olwin**, 81, of Payne, passed away March 8, 2007 at Paulding County Hospital, Paulding, Ohio.

Born in Payne, Ohio on September 4, 1925, he was the son of the late Fred and Virtle (Radenbaugh) Olwin. On September 15, 1945 Francis married Georgia Scott, who survives.

Francis was a farmer, who loved his family, grandkids, his cats. He loved to fish, work in the yard and travel. He was a member of Antwerp United Methodist Church and Flat Rock Masonic Lodge #580 F & AM, Payne.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Georgia; daughter and son-in-law, Kathie and Terry Kipfer; sons and daughters-in-law, Gene and Diane, Dan and Ann, Dale and Shannon all of Payne; sister and brother-in-law, Pauline and L.J. Pursifull of Newport News, VA; 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Francis is preceded in death by his son, Johnny Fred and grandson, Scott Francis.

Funeral service was at Antwerp United Methodist Church on March 13, with Rev. Michael Schneider officiating.

He was laid to rest at Wiltsie Cemetery, Payne.

In his memory contributions may be made to the church, Paulding Hospital Home Health or American Heart Association. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

**ST. PATRICK'S DAY SUPPER AT FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

The Christian Women Fellowship of the First Christian Church, Paulding is going to have a St. Patrick's Day Supper Thursday, March 15. The menu includes corned beef and cabbage, Reuben sandwiches, salads, desserts and beverages. The public is invited and a free will donation will be accepted. The proceeds will benefit the parsonage.



**PAULDING FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH TO HOST "AGAPE PROJECT"**

The Paulding First Christian Church would like to invite the youth of Paulding County and surrounding areas to our church in Paulding to hear the "Agape Project" band on Sunday, March 18 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Snacks will be served.

This event is for Junior and Senior High School Students. Please invite your friends and join us at the First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 1233 Emerald RD, Paulding. If you have any questions you

may contact the church at 419-399-4576.

No one will be turned away, adults may listen from the Fellowship Hall. The Band will be in the Sanctuary.

Let's get together, have some fun, enjoy the music and Praise God...

The Agape Project is a non-profit Christian music ministry. The group travels throughout Northern Ohio and Indiana sharing contemporary worship music.

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*Lee Bracey from Woodburn Christian Children's Home to be speaking March 18th.*

*Listen to the sermon at www.antwerpchurchofchrist.com*

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**Living Water Ministries**

**Come as you are and join us for our New Contemporary worship service**

Sunday Mornings @ 10:00 a.m.;  
Evenings Worship @ 6:30 pm

All services are held at Payne Community Center the "Rock" - 104 S. Main St. Payne

For more info call 419-263-2728 or, by email - rjphelan@bright.net

**ANTWERP HISTORY**



By: Stan Jordan

After we talked about the second block north of the town hall on the east side, we have received some more news about those houses. The first house in that block is now the home of Lonie Boltzman, but in the past Mr. A.O. Bell lived there and in the 1940's Glen Ellis lived there. In the next house north was the home of Cloide and Dorthy Earhart, Fritz had not been born yet. The next house is the home of Doctor Caine's family.

The Harry Carr family lived past the vacant lot. Wayne and Lee grew up there. Then there is a vacant lot and a number of families lived in that house before it was torn down. Ed and Maxine Parrett lived there and then moved to Florida. Then Jimmy Gustin lived there for awhile. But, Dayton Harris lived there in the 1920's. He had a boy named Don who graduated from A.H.S. in 1935. Well, here is where the news starts.

At the West Bend News we received a phone call about this Mr. Don Harris,

that he was alive and lived with his son in Harlan. So I called that number and had a very fine conversation with Mr. Harris. He is 91 years old now, has a little trouble hearing, but he remembers Antwerp very well, although he doesn't remember me. I would have been in the fifth grade when he graduated in 1935. He said he went on into Fort Wayne and furthered his education and done well in his lifetime. His wife is in a rest home in Hicksville and he drives there everyday to see her. I was very glad to talk to him and he brought me up to date on the Dayton Harris family. I know after Dayton's wife died he married Rose Applegate and she was a good friend of my wife's family. Rosie lived in the first house south of the South Scipio Church and my wife's grandparents lived in the first house east of that church so we all knew each other.

Monald Applegate's wife, Everal, worked in L. Smith and Son's Hardware in the bookkeeping department for years. I knew all these people and I enjoy the reminiscing.

The next house north of the Harris house was the home of the Ray Tracy family. Well, the other day, I received this beautiful letter from Martha Tracy Smith. I called her and she said I could use it in my column. I want you to enjoy it like I did.

"Hi, Stan,

This letter is coming to you from Hicksville. My name is Martha (Tracy) Smith. As you went house by house on N. Main Street you listed our residence as the

Ray Tracy family including we three children: Martha, Kelly and Sue.

I want to mention my mother, Ann. She was a friend of your mom, Dolly, and enjoyed her in their Sunday School Class at the Methodist Church. Our household also included my paternal grandmother, Emma Tracy, and my uncle, Pat Tracy. Both of them lived with us while I was growing up, so Mom had a lot of work.

I have some Doc Caine stories as we lived two houses from he and Angie.

1. Doc and Angie raised their grandson, Alan, after his mother died (in childbirth). His father was in World War II, so Alan was our playmate for several years. He was Kelly's age and we spent many days with him, Lee Carr and Fritz Earhart. When Alan's father came home he went to live with him and I don't recall seeing him again. His last name was Osmun or Osburn. Alan's mother was Doc's daughter.

2. My senior year, 1958, we dedicated the "Archer" to Dr. Caine. The inside cover picture shows him with his chess board. He would "bribe" students and play at noon and Angie fixed their lunch.

3. I recall an elderly lady living with Doc and Angie for awhile. I think she was Doc's mother. I don't remember her speaking English.

4. The Doc came to the house to give you an injection, you knew what was coming as Mom put a pan of water on to boil—to sterilize the syringe and needle—usually carried in Doc's coat pocket. If you didn't cry, he would "make a penny". A magic trick of making a penny appear under a magazine after he said, "abracadabra."

5. Doc also drew caricatures of himself. Wish I had saved one.

6. Doc drove my mother and me to Fort Wayne one time in his car. (We had no car—just Dad's truck used in his business). He took us to the old Medical Center on Berry Street to see Dr. Bergendahl. I had a severe, painful ear infection and the ride was uncomfortable. I didn't realize what a special thing he was doing for us.

7. We bought Caine's piano when I started lessons and Doc dropped in often to play a tune or two.

8. In later years, Doc was treating his elm trees for Dutch Elm disease. Wonder if it worked.

Hope you can use some of these facts in your Doc. Caine collection or pass them along to his family.

We were so blessed to have him in our lives. I enjoy your Antwerp History in the West Bend News. Thank You! Martha Smith"

What can I add, after getting a wonderful letter like that? I know Doc Caine at times, went out of his road for people who needed help. My good friend, Leota Davis told me that when she was pregnant for her son, Dick, she went to Dr. Caine's for a check up. He got excited right away and said, "you need to go to the hospital right away". Well, her husband had the family car and was at work. So Doc loaded

Leotta in his old blue Pontiac and took her into Parkview. Well, the baby came after awhile and all went well. But, you see, there was a doubt in Doc's mind about her and the baby's welfare and he wasn't going to take any chances. I have heard of other things that he did for his patients. I just want to say that that "old geezer" always had his people come first. He would do all he could for you.

I had a fine talk with Monty Cornell's wife, "Del" and she gave me another side of Doc. Caine. In the alley behind the Village Hardware, Charlie Mobley "The Barber" had a small apartment, well, Del was a single mother and lived there with her two girls and she was employed at the "Five Corners." Her two year old got real bad sick and Del couldn't go to work and no money was coming in and she had all these bills to pay. When Doc came and saw how sick the baby was and the no work, no money situation, he would sit with the sick baby at night and Angie, his wife, would come in the day time with milk and bread. They came everyday until the baby was well. Just visualize that situation and know what a splendid favor Doc and Angie did. Then later, Del married Monty Cornell and Monty was one of the babies that Doc had brought into this world.

Later on when the Cornell's moved to their new house on West Washington Street, Doc would stop in every so often and check what she was cooking and would discuss the nutritional value for the meal. He was a stickler for roughage and rolled oats. He was always concerned about those two girls.

On that dark cold rainy night that Doc got killed, it shook up the whole town and area, but Del takes a little happiness from the fact that Doc had called at her house that very night of his accident. To me "a bright light" went out that night.

See, Ya!

**CORN BREAD AND BEAN SOUP SUPPER AT MEL-ROSE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

The women of Melrose United Methodist Church are hosting a Corn Bread & Bean Soup Supper Wednesday, March 21 from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the church, Melrose. Come and eat and enjoy the fellowship for a free will offering.

**LENTEN SERVICES FOR CORNERSTONE U.M. CHURCH**

Lenten services will be held Tuesday evening March 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone U.M. Church in Oakwood. The speaker will be Robert Parker of the Melrose U.M. Church. Everyone is welcome. Nursery will be provided and a children's service will be held.

**PAULDING LIBRARY BOARD MEETING ANNOUNCED**

The March meeting of the Paulding County Carnegie Library Board of Trustees will be held on March 20, 2007 at 7:00 at the Antwerp Branch Library, 205 N. Madison Street, Antwerp, Ohio. The meeting is open to the public.

**SUSAN SIMPSON SWORN IN**



Susan Simpson took her oath for the position of Paulding County Auditor on March 6 at 1:15 p.m. Judge Tiffany Beckman of the Paulding County Court officiated. Susan's first official day is March 12.

Susan is looking forward to working with the public, answering questions and pro-

viding services the office has to offer.

Susan is thankful for the support of her family and the continued public support.

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Kids age 2-12 recite from memory the scripture of the week and you will receive one free ice cream cone.  
Scripture of the week:  
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**"BLAST FROM THE PAST" IS GONNA BE A BLAST**



**By: Sue Knapp**

Calling all graduating classes, including 2007, from Paulding High School. Paulding will be rockin' on August 3, 4, and 5 when all the graduating classes will be celebrating their years at Paulding High School.

RaeAnn Pieper—Chairman, Coralu Pearson—Co-Chairman and the class representatives have been working very hard to make the week-end fun for everyone.

The plans include golf, euchre, bowling, brunch at Bubba J's on Sunday, Alumni Chorus and Band will entertain, a Car Cruisin' Show, the Vandells, the banquet with Grant's Catering, a Friday night parade to kick everything off and Gary Unger from Paulding's radio station will be doing class interviews plus much much more.

The oldest class that will be represented is from the 1929 class with representative

Norm Rueman heading it up.

The representatives of the class of 1957—this will be their 50th year—Bill and Martha Strahley, are planning special things for their class. A class booklet is being discussed with a biography of each person in that class. Seventy-five members still survive from that class with fifteen members deceased. Already they were talking about the favorite car of that era, which was the 1957 Chevy which is now called a "muscle car" and worth a lot of money.

There will be raffles for each class with a special raffle for a painting of Paulding School by local artist, Anna Kausser. She painted the picture off of a post card that she thinks came from the 1940's. Anna has named the picture "The Memory Maker". To purchase raffle tickets for this painting contact RaeAnn Pieper, Coralu Pearson or

**REP. GILLMOR INTRODUCES SECOND BILL TO PROTECT AMERICAN SHAREHOLDERS**

WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Paul Gillmor (R-Tiffin) today reintroduced legislation which would allow shareholders to compare the income reported by a public company to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) with the income levels reported to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The Honest Income Disclosure Act is Gillmor's second bill of the 110th Congress aimed at increased disclosure by public companies for the benefit and protection of shareholders.

"In the wake of some of the largest accounting scandals in American history, it has become clear that some corporations are using funny math when presenting shareholders with their earnings statements," Gillmor said. "There have been some press reports which note that the gap between the levels of income reported to the tax collectors and that which is reported to shareholders is growing. There is a natural tendency to minimize taxable income while reporting to the public that you are reaching record profits," Gillmor said.

"My legislation would require all public companies to disclose in their annual reports the level of income reported to the IRS. The information would then be prominently displayed by the SEC. It is possible that the level of income reported to the IRS can be a more predictable indicator of a company's health," Gillmor said. "With over 100 million Americans currently participating in our capital markets, it remains critical that shareholders are given accurate information about the companies they own."

The Honest Income Disclosure Act will be referred to the House Financial Services Committee where Rep. Gillmor is the lead Republican on the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit. Recently, Rep. Gillmor also introduced the Corporate Charitable Disclosure Act which would require public companies to disclose their charitable donations.

Publicity Chairman, Nancy Noneman. The raffles will be held all through the events with the winners being announced at the Saturday Night Banquet.

You will be receiving your itinerary and reservation form very soon in the mail.

You can keep up with the planning stages on the website: [www.pauldingblastfromthepast.com](http://www.pauldingblastfromthepast.com)

**OHIO'S TRANSPORTATION BUDGET**

**Weekly column by: State Representative Lynn Wachtman**

Warmer weather will soon arrive here in Ohio, along with another traditional sign of spring – orange construction barrels. Although they can be a nuisance, improvements to our roads and bridges help make travel safer and more efficient for all drivers on Ohio's roadways. Many of the major construction projects in our state receive funding through the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). Recently, the governor submitted House Bill 67, his \$7.7 billion transportation budget for fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

In addition to providing funding for various road projects, House Bill 67 also includes a proposal that would review the process used to select major new construction projects. This function is currently performed by the Transportation Review Advisory Council (TRAC), which was created by the Legislature in 1997 to make the selection of new transportation projects more open and accountable. While a review of the TRAC system will help ensure it is running efficiently, several legislators, including myself, have concerns about making drastic changes to this system.

Our major concern is the effect substantial changes to the TRAC selection process would have on local projects. Here in Northwest Ohio, ODOT recently named the U.S. 24 "Fort to Port" project as one of its top priorities for its 2008-2013 building cycle. As many of you know, this project will upgrade U.S. Route 24 between Fort Wayne and Toledo. This stretch of roadway needs to be updated and widened to accommodate the increasing number of vehicles using it each day. In addition, improvements will also assist with bringing new economic development to the area.

The U.S. Route 24 project is broken into eight sections, with construction scheduled to begin on the first two sections located in Defiance and Paulding Counties this spring. Although the governor's office has indicated that it is their intent to conduct the TRAC review in a way that minimizes disruptions to ODOT's construction schedule, many people are concerned about how changes to the system could impact future construction projects.

Changing the TRAC system could mean delays in future transportation projects, such as sections of the U.S. 24 project that are not scheduled to begin for several years. People have been working on the Fort to Port project for many years, and it is important that we work together to ensure its completion. I am working with other members from the area, as well as members of the Finance Committee, to ensure that our concerns are addressed and the Fort to Port project can be completed with as little interruption as possible.

Members of the Finance and Appropriations Committee have worked very hard on the transportation budget, and the full House is expected to vote on their recommenda-

(Continued on Page 5)

**PATRIOT PEN ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS**



The Paulding Middle School held a Patriot Pen Essay contest recently. The contest was sponsored by the VFW Post 587 Ladies Auxiliary.

The winners were (l to r): Austin Miller (6th grade), Kayla Owens (7th grade), and

Olivia Arend (8th grade).

Olivia Arend was the overall winner of the essay contest and she received a Savings Bond.

All three received a sweatshirt saying that they won from their grade level.

**PAULDING FFA PUBLIC SPEAKING RESULTS**

The Paulding FFA Chapter competed at Hardin Northern High School on Tuesday, February, 27, 2007 for the District Public Speaking Contest. FFA member David Fickel placed fifth in the extemporaneous category and received a Gold rating. Caleb Schlatter was seventh in the Prepared Speaking category and received a Silver rating.

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# PAULDING COUNTY AREA FOUNDATION SEMINAR

# REP. GILLMOR INTRODUCES BILL TO EARN FREEDOM



Pictured (l to r): Jeremy Thompson, Lawrence C. Barrett, Lori Davis, PCAF Trustee, and Jim Sponseller, Attorney.

The Paulding County Area Foundation (PCAF) recently held an informational seminar at Grant's Catering Hall for local attorneys, accountants, insurance agents and financial planners. These professionals gathered to learn

about planned charitable giving and how individuals can reduce estate taxes and give back to their communities and heirs at the same time. Financial Specialists Lawrence Barrett and Jeremy Thompson, of Sagemark Consult-

ing, a member of the Lincoln Financial Group, conducted the seminar. For more information call 419-399-8282, the Paulding County Area Foundation.

For more than a year, Fifth District Congressman Paul Gillmor (R-Tiffin) has been following the immigration debate closely. His interest has been driven not only by the national discussion regarding reforming the immigration system but by the regular immigration cases in which his office intercedes every year. Among the many examples of what Gillmor calls a "callous immigration system" was the case of Manuel Bartsch, a young constituent in Gillmor's own district who had been caught up in the fight. Today, Gillmor introduced the Education Access for Rightful Noncitizens Act (the EARN Act) to correct the system for thousands of undocumented immigrants.

"It has been 14 months now since Manuel Bartsch was first detained by our immigration officials because, as an 11-year-old boy, he had overstayed his 90-day visa. Manuel's step-grandfather brought him to America only to abandon him years later, an immigrant in the only country he called home. He has become the symbol for a broken immigration system where our sheriffs cannot get federal authorities to take custody of violent alien criminals because they are busy detaining harmless children. Today, I have introduced legislation which helps to correct the mistakes in our system not just for Manuel but for thousands of children caught up in this fight," Gillmor said.

"Each year, approximately 65,000 undocumented immigrants graduate from high school. These 65,000 include the athletes we watch at Friday night games and the honor roll students we recognize at the end of their terms. Many of them are future doctors, lawyers and soldiers who were brought to the United States as children, only to find out later that they lacked the proper documentation to legally remain in America. They call themselves Americans and today I introduced legislation to allow them to earn that honor."

Gillmor's legislation, H.R. 1221, provides legal status to young people who were brought to the United States as undocumented children and have met certain criteria. To qualify for relief under the EARN Act, a person must have been under the age

of 16 when they first entered the United States and have been living in America for at least 5 years. Once a person graduates from high school or receives a GED, they could apply for conditional resident status allowing them to remain in the U.S. for 6 years. During the 6-year period, if the person maintains good moral character and completes two years towards either a Bachelor's degree or honorable service in the U.S. military, they can apply for legal permanent resident status.

"We must make our immigration system fair to the young people who are being punished by their guardians' mistakes. Our current immigration laws are not allowing the system to operate in the way in which it was intended. Our broken system is harming both our national security and our image in the world as the nation accepting the 'huddled masses yearning to breathe free.' By labeling these 65,000 students as "illegal," we bar them from opportunities they could otherwise be afforded. Without proper documentation, we are forcing these people underground and costing our nation the benefit of these very bright minds," Gillmor said.

"The EARN Act is a fresh start and an opportunity—not a handout. This bill requires dedication to advancement in higher education or the military as well as maintaining good moral character. It does not benefit aliens who have just come aground looking to piggyback on the American dream but rather those people who have spent years working to become Americans," Gillmor said. Gillmor is also the sponsor of H.R. 738, a bill providing for Permanent Resident Status for Manuel Bartsch.

# US 24 AND JAIL HIGHLIGHTS DEMOCRATIC BANQUET

Tim Burkepile, Deputy Director Ohio Department of Transportation District 1, reviewed the US 24 project with local officials and people in attendance at the Paulding County Democratic banquet held on March 3rd. Burkepile advised the construction contract for US 24 between US 127 and Defiance will be awarded on March 28th and from the Indiana State line to US 127 on April 25th. The completion date for both projects is targeted for the Fall of 2009.

Tony Wobler, Personnel Officer Ohio Department of Transportation District 1, reviewed the procedures for employment opportunities and advancements within the Ohio Department of Transportation. Wobler acknowledged several State employees who were in attendance.

Sheriff Dave Harrow of Paulding County reviewed the tax renewal levy required to operate the new jail facility that will completed within the next two months. Harrow advised money available from the current levy does not meet the State Bureau of Adult Detention standards to operate the facility. Replacement of the current 1876 jail facility was necessary to meet the State standards for housing prisoners.

(Continued from Page 4)

tions in the next week. The bill then moves to the Senate for further deliberation and changes. The transportation budget must be signed by the governor before March 30.

# WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING CLUB BRINGS HOME THE HARDWARE

On March 4, the Wayne Trace Wrestling Club participated in the Ottawa Glandorf wrestling tournament.

Placing 1st: Shayna Temple and Aaron Harris.

Placing 3rd: Levi Noggle and Sawyer Temple.

Placing 4th: Hunter Showalter and Tyler Sipes.

The Wayne Trace Wrestling Club competed in the Ayersville tournament this past weekend, March 10 and 11, placing 28 of 31 wrestlers that competed.

Placing 1st: Nate Showalter, Brendon Dingus, George Clemens IV, Zaine Cotterman, Tyler Sipes, Aaron Miller, Nick Blair, Sawyer Temple, Myranda Stahl, Kameron Clemens, Aaron Harris, Joe Stahl and Tyler Arnett.

Placing 2nd: Worth Clark, Hunter Showalter, Shayna Temple, Jacob Blair, Zack Cotterman, Katie Clemens and Tanner Church.

Placing 3rd: Kameron Bevis, Anthony Rooks, James Coyne, Henry Merriman, Kenny Mansfield, Lucas Dull, Lindsey Matthews and Robbie Long.

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Landers Needs to Resign: With two consecutive losing seasons—it's time to step down. Watching for the stands, I can clearly see there has been no fundamentals taught to these girls! You can't play a game without them. As the season went on there was no change. Our passing, shooting, and dribbling only got worse. With 35-40 turnovers per game, you'd think a basketball coach would realize what to work on! Foremost, you benched your three strongest players all season (the seniors), and started your freshman in their place. From the looks of the scores and turnovers, a coach with any knowledge of basketball would know that you play your stronger players and let the freshman play JV and per-

haps sit for varsity, until they get the experience needed to start Varsity their sophomore or junior year! Your warm up that you had the girls do was a joke, all we did was run in a circle and side to side, while the other teams were practicing their passes, shooting and dribbling skills. And it sure showed in our games. Antwerp School Board members: you need to seriously look into this matter. Landers has humiliated the players, parents and the community with his unskillful knowledge of how basketball is taught and how the game should be played. It's time to look for a new girls basketball coach and maybe save the remaining talent still left for next year!! A very concerned Archer fan, —Tammy Berenyi

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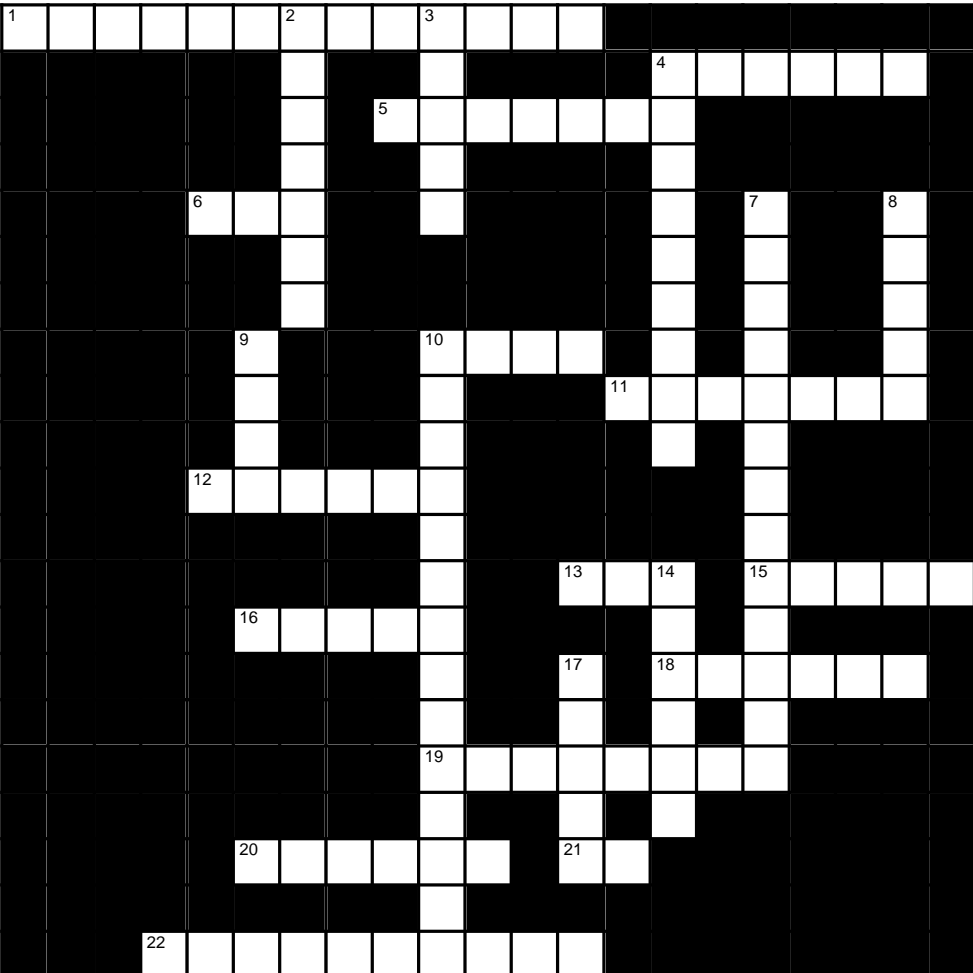
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# Crossword Puzzle



**Across** **Down**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. SC stands for this in crocheting.</p> <p>4. This is the name of the bead that was used for money by the Native Americans.</p> <p>5. This is the name of Japanese style quilting.</p> <p>6. A dairy cow can produce this many gallons of milk daily.</p> <p>10. This is the principle bead used to embellish clothing.</p> <p>11. Looms cannot be made of this material.</p> <p>12. Use this and fat to make soap.</p> <p>13. This animal has not been used for milking.</p> <p>15. This country has the oldest known quilt.</p> <p>16. Castile soap is made with this kind of oil.</p> <p>18. This is the name of the hook that when used looks like a row of knitting.</p> <p>19. Do this with milk after you are done milking.</p> <p>20. An animals must have one of these in order to begin producing milk.</p> <p>21. The term used for yarn over in crochet.</p> <p>22. This is the term used for a quilt made of one piece of fabric.</p> | <p>2. This oil is used in soap to make it lather.</p> <p>3. This is the kind of pliers used in beading.</p> <p>4. This is an ingredient used in making soap.</p> <p>7. 4 ply yarn is referred to as this.</p> <p>8. Make sure you wash this before you begin milking.</p> <p>9. Traditional braided rugs were made from this</p> <p>10. Use this type of pail when collecting milk.</p> <p>14. This is the kind of square used for crochet beginners.</p> <p>17. The name of the style of quilting that became popular in the late 1800's.</p> |
|--|--|

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**By: Chelsea Vail**

Top 'o the mornin' to yeh! To start your Saint Patrick's Day celebration off right this Saturday, I recommend a bowl of those magically delicious Lucky Charms that Lucky the Leprechaun is always raving about. It's good stuff, Maynard.

Seniors leaving this Sunday morning for Chicago on the class trip may get a glimpse of what's left of the green dye that will color the Chicago River on the 17th, though it only stays its deepest shade of green for a few hours. They will stay overnight and return on Monday late in the evening. If possible, it is advisable for seniors not to park at the school; we all know why!

The Winter Sports Awards ceremony is scheduled for next Tuesday, and attendees are asked to dress appropriately for the occasion. If you are not able to be there and are receiving an award, notify your coach or Mr. Altimus beforehand so they can make adjustments accordingly.

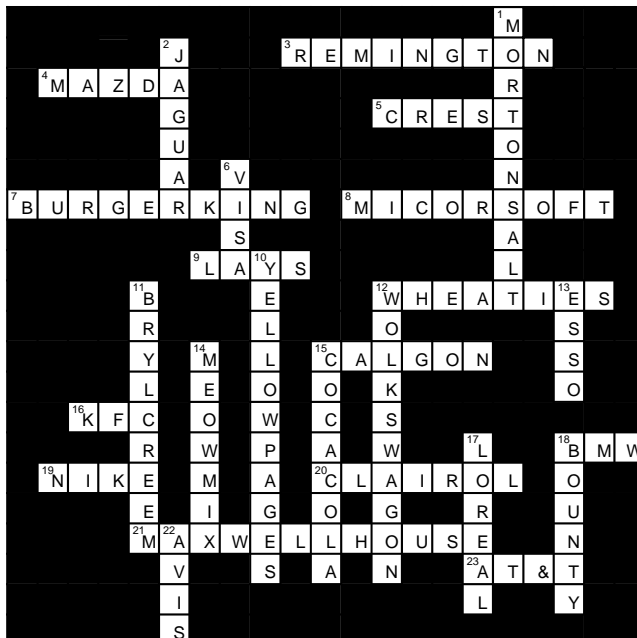
**Word of the Week:**  
Foist \FOIST\ verb

- To introduce or insert surreptitiously or without warrant
- To force another to accept, especially by stealth or deceit
- To pass off as genuine or worthy

Example: "Taylor tried to foist the responsibility of putting dishes away on me, but I'd heard Mom tell her to do it earlier and called her bluff."

In the spirit of Saint Patty's Day, I'll leave you with an old Irish saying: "May those who love us love us. And those that don't love us, may God turn their hearts. And if He doesn't turn their hearts, may He turn their ankles so we'll know them by their limping!"

Last Week's answers to "Slogans"



## CHOCOLATE AND DONATIONS MAKE FOR SWEET NIGHT

Tickets to the Chocolate Extravaganza II sold out quickly. In fact they sold out before they were advertised. Therefore, event coordinators decided to bring in more tables. More tickets sold added up to more money for the aggressive agenda of the Oakwood Library Association to transform the former Cooper Furniture stores into the new Cooper Community Library, the Oakwood Branch of the Paulding Carnegie Library. The 148 ticket holders were treated to numerous chocolate delicacies along with a chocolate fountain and an assortment of beverages in an elegant atmosphere. Even as work progressed for the evening, held at the Cornerstone United Methodist Fellowship Hall, plans were in the works for next year's event.

As guests feasted on their favorite chocolates, Association members were delighting in the donations that were being made. Topping the list was the generous donation of \$25,000 from the Cooper Family Foundation, and just as welcome was \$5000 from the Oakwood Development Company, and \$3500 from National Bank. All proceeds will go to the ongoing construction project. Some money was also handed out by the Association as their first drawings of the 300 Club were held. Those winning \$100 were Mark Dobbelaere and Jodi Peck. Rita Tomkiewicz

and Beulah Weller each won fifty dollars. Ten more drawings will be held throughout the year with the final \$500 winner being announced on Labor Day weekend at the Oakwood Homecoming.

Oakwood's downtown will indeed be in for a new look once the construction is finished. Just recently interior openings were cut between the buildings with headers already installed and State approved. Plumbing projects were scheduled to begin this week. But the most noticeable change will come when the front facade is complete. Weisenburger Builders of Continental won the bid for this project which will begin as soon as doors and windows arrive. A steel covered awning will run the entire length of the buildings and windows with grilles will add to the cosmetic change of the buildings.

Fund raising projects will be ongoing throughout the entire construction project. Just as popular as the Chocolate Extravaganza is the Spring Tea. Several hostesses have been planning their themes and table decorations for months. Unlike the Chocolate, only 112 tickets will be available for the April 21 event. Hostesses are given first chance to fill their tables and then the \$12 tickets will go to those who have their name on the waiting list at the Oakwood Branch Library.

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# PAULDING FFA MEMBERS CELEBRATE NATIONAL FFA WEEK



Paulding FFA celebrated National FFA Week February 26 - March 2, 2007. Blue Jackets, Gold Standards is the theme this year and it embodies all the best about FFA members, from the most recognizable symbol of the organization, the blue corduroy jacket, to the best ideals and traditions of national life, gold standards. Nearly half a million members around the nation will participate in National FFA Week activities at the local and state levels.

The focus of National FFA Week is to tell America about the great opportunities available for all youth. From its beginnings in 1928 as the Future Farmers of America, the National FFA Organization today reaches out to all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. FFA is committed to developing character and leadership skills and preparing members for a lifetime of civic leadership and career success.

As a part of National FFA Week, Paulding members planned the following special events:

- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

- Agricultural Olympics including straw bale hurdles, junk yard wars construction of a tractor, and milk chugging

- Drive your Tractor to school Day

- Drive your Truck to School Day

- Agricultural Awareness Day based on the Charlie Greenhand Game

FFA members have opportunities to attend national leadership conferences, develop a supervised agricultural experience learning project, learn life skills and serve their communities with civic

engagement. Through classroom instruction and hands-on learning, agricultural science education and FFA are making a positive difference for members every day.

FFA members are our future engineers, scientists, teachers and producers. Students earn awards, recognition and educational scholarships to pursue their career goals. One of every five Americans is employed in the food, fiber and natural resources industries of agriculture and FFA members are a part of these industries.

Paulding FFA members



are the leaders of tomorrow. They are well-mannered, perceptive and willing to help others through community service such as their Supervised Agricultural Experience program. They are success-oriented students who are driven to achieve their goals. Just as the blue jacket is a true icon of FFA, the members set the gold standard for young leaders throughout the nation.

### OAKWOOD COMMUNITY SCRAPBOOK GATHERING

The next Oakwood Community Scrapbook Gathering will be on Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Cornerstone United Methodist Church in Oakwood. Everyone who likes to scrapbook and/or make cards is invited to join us. We ask that everyone bring a dish to share at lunch time and gather up your friends and your scrapbook supplies and join us for a fun day of learning new ideas from each other. For more information contact Sue Thomas, Oakwood Branch of the Paulding County Carnegie Library at 419-594-3337 or Chris Mead at 419-594-2805.

### REP. GILLMOR INTRODUCES BILL TO REQUIRE GREATER CORPORATE DISCLOSURE

Congressman Paul Gillmor (R-Tiffin) recently re-introduced the Corporate Charitable Disclosure Act to require public companies to disclose their charitable donations. Portions of Gillmor's Charitable Contributions bill had been included in legislation which passed in the U.S. House in the 109th Congress.

"It has been only slightly more than 5 years since our nation witnessed the damage corporate misconduct can have on every American. With these memories still fresh, it seems obvious that corporations need to be more forthcoming about their expenditures, including charitable contributions," said Congressman Gillmor. "Under current law, a corporation which makes significant contributions to charitable organizations is under no obligation to publicly disclose how shareholder monies are being spent. My legislation will ensure that if a corporation makes a contribution, the American public and the shareholders are aware of where the money is going."

Under Congressman Gillmor's legislation, corporations would disclose to their shareholders, in a format designed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the total value of contributions made to nonprofit organizations in the previous fiscal year. This information is already collected by corporations for tax-reporting purposes.

"Most gift-giving has a legitimate purpose, and some public companies already disclose their charitable contributions voluntarily. If charitable contributions are legitimate, corporations should have nothing to hide by disclosing those gifts," Rep. Gillmor added.

The Corporate Charitable Disclosure Act will be referred to the House Financial Services Committee where Rep. Gillmor is the lead Republican on the Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit.

### ROCK REALITY 103 YOUTH CONFERENCE AND BUILDING 429 CONCERT AT TRINITY FRIENDS CHURCH

On Saturday, March 24, the Trinity Friends Church Family Life Center will be hosting the R.O.C.K. Reality 103 Youth Conference. The speaker for the conference will be Bill Heilshorn. The Program will begin at 11:00 a.m. Following the conference at 7:00 p.m. A concert featuring Building 429, the Beautiful Republic and Doolley Drive will take place.

For more information, call 419-203-3321 or 419-238-2788.

### BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/14 THROUGH 3/20

- Breakfast:*
- 3/14 - Pancakes or waffles, sausage, milk
  - 3/15 - Egg/cheese omelet, toast/jelly, milk
  - 3/16 - Turnover, milk
  - 3/19 - spring break
  - 3/20 - spring break
- Lunch:*
- 3/14 - Cheeseburger sandwich, seasoned fries, fruited jello, milk
  - 3/15 - Breadsticks, broccoli w/cheese sauce, mandarin oranges, milk
  - 3/16 - Cheese or pepperoni pizza, celery/carrot sticks w/dip, peanut butter fudge, pineapple, milk
  - 3/19 - spring break
  - 3/20 - spring break

### PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS, DISMISSALS AND BIRTHS

*Births:*

- 3/8 - Derrick Bennett and Cynthia Morningstar, Haviland, son, 9:35 p.m., 6 lb. 10 oz.

*Admissions:*

- 3/7 - Sandra Rosselet, Paulding

- 3/8 - Cynthia Morningstar, Haviland

- 3/11 - Cynthia Morningstar, Haviland

*Dismissals:*

- 3/6 - Lucille Overmyer, Payne; Natalie Genero and daughter, Paulding; Amy Adams and daughter, Paulding

- 3/10 - Sandra Rosselet, Paulding; Cynthia Morningstar and son, Haviland; Henry Hook, Payne.

### ANTWERP STUDENTS CELEBRATE READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY AND BIRTHDAY OF THE CAT IN THE HAT

The students at Antwerp Elementary School participated in the celebration of two important events on March 2, 2007.

The first event was the National Education Association's "Read Across America" Day. This is the 10th anniversary for this event. Students started the day by taking a "Reader's Oath" in which they promised to "feed their brains" every day by reading whenever and wherever they could.

Individual classrooms held their own special activities throughout the day.

The final group event of the day was participation in a nationwide read-aloud of the book, The Cat in the Hat which is celebrating its 50th birthday. Dr. Suess, a.k.a. Theodor Geisel, wrote the book in answer to a challenge that American children couldn't read because their classroom books were boring.

Using a vocabulary of only 236 words, Dr. Suess wrote the book which led to a change in the way children learn and the way people write books for children.

The nationwide read-aloud took place at 2:36 p.m. Which represents the number of words in the book.

The students were visited by the Cat in the Hat himself who read the exciting story about his adventures with two children on a rainy day.



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**MASONS PLAN WIDOW'S NIGHT**

RWB Walter Schilb opened a Lodge of Master Masons in due form and harmony and the pledge was given. The following members were present: Walter Schilb, Ron Farnsworth, Jim Kline, Bill Metz, Gerry Shidler, Scott Ruppert, Dick Savage, Norm Byers, Derrill Kline, Charles Carey, Lee Kallsen, Dave Fisher, Randy Brooks Sr. and Byron Rasey. Representing the 50-year members in attendance were Derrill Kline and Charles Carey.

A birthday card was assigned and sent to Larry Ha-

ver. Get Well and "Thinking of You" cards were sent to Brothers Wayne Carr, Estel "Stretch" Cottrell and Jim Flory. A motion was made to send \$35 to the 5th District for the Grand Master's Reception to offset the cost of the complimentary tickets.

Communications were read from the Kiwanis Club in Hicksville. It was reported that they would accept monetary donations to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the 6 signs that are placed at the entrances of the city. These signs display the Masonic logo as well as other organizations active in Hicksville. A motion was made

to send the Kiwanis Club a \$100 donation for the maintenance of the signs.

A letter was read in open Lodge from Brother Robb Holt of Denver Colorado. Rob expressed his gratefulness for his 25-year pin and certificate that was sent to him. Robb is the son of the late Brother Robert Holt and Rowena Holt and the grandson of the late Blaine Stewart.

WB Schilb assigned a committee to organize the annual Widow's Night. This event is a special dinner for all the widows of Hicksville's members. WB Jim Kline will contact the Community

Center to secure a date that was tentatively set for May 12. Entertainment is secured and the caterer will be notified. Invitations will be going out in the near future.

The Carpet Committee reported favorably on the Lodge Room Renovation project. It has been decided to carpet and paint the entire Lodge Room. New paint will be on the walls as well as looking into another mural for the east wall.

There will be an important FellowCraft Team practice to be held at the next stated meeting on March 14 at 7:30 p.m.



**JON ROSS EARNS A "1" AT DISTRICT MUSIC EVENT**

Jon Ross, a junior at Paulding High School and son of Carolyn Ross, recently participated in Ohio Music Education Association's District III West High School Solo and Ensemble Adjudicated Event held at St. Mary's City Schools. He performed Nocturne, Op. 72, #1 by Chopin from the Class A list for piano, that being the most demanding literature. Jon was awarded a I rating, indicating an outstanding performance, with very few technical errors and exemplifying a truly musical expression. This rating is reserved for the truly outstanding performance. The same rating was also awarded to his alto saxophone solo, First Concertino by Gilhaud from the Class A list. Jon was piano accompanist for two other Paulding band students. His piano teacher is Rebekah Smith, Antwerp and his saxophone teacher is Jonathan Chesman, Paulding High School Band director. Next, Jon will be participating in the National Piano Guild and his high school musical.



**JACKIE SNYDER NAMED CLINICAL LIAISON FOR NORTHWEST OHIO REGION**

Healthcare Ventures of Ohio, LLC (HVO) has announced the appointment of Jackie Snyder, BA, R.N., as clinical liaison for its Northwest Ohio region.

Snyder, a registered nurse, is responsible for assessing patients, facilitating communications, clinical information and admissions details between local hospitals and other medical providers and the HVO-owned facilities in the area including: Cridersville Nursing Home in Cridersville, Heat-herdowns in Toledo, Hawthorn Court in Paulding and Brookview Healthcare Center in Defiance.

Snyder, who earned her registered nursing degree in 2000, also holds a bachelor of arts degree in business administration. Her nursing career has focused on long-term care where she has worked as a wound care nurse and more recently as a clinical liaison for the past three years.

In her role, Snyder helps residents and their families coordinate many of the medical details involved in transitioning into long-term care living. In addition, she helps promote the HVO facilities through community involvement and awareness education forms concerning various elder care issues and topics.

A mother of two, Snyder is a resident of Findlay, Ohio.

Healthcare Ventures of Ohio, LLC is a long-term care owner and operator with 12 facilities across Ohio.

**PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER HOSTS HEALTH, BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY FAIR**

The Paulding County Senior Center is hosting our 5th annual Health, Business and Industry Fair. All ages welcome. Enjoy over 50 displays from local Health and Social Service Agencies, Businesses and Industries.

Health screenings, information on local business/industries, educational activities, fun activities for children door prizes and much more.

There will also be a concession stand this year which will offer soup, sandwiches and beverages.

**The 2006 members of The Paulding County Hospital Foundation invite you to join them in 2007**

By giving to the foundation, we assist the hospital in keeping quality health care available locally for all area residents. Since 2002, we have awarded scholarships to students countywide so they can further their education in healthcare.

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**Membership levels are:**

- \$25 Social**—recognition as a supporter of the foundation
- \$50 Supporting**—recognition as a supporter and invited to the annual dinner
- \$100 Voting**—entitles you to the above and voting privileges at board meetings
- \$5,000 Lifetime**—special recognition including a mini-tree on the foundation's Tree of Celebration and all the aforementioned privileges (can be paid over a five-year period)

**Yes, I want to become a member—Please mail this form with a tax-deductible check to:**

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In defense of local government and school boards we (The People) need to keep in mind that you and I freely elected these officials to represent us (All The People); to make those difficult decisions in trying times for the "greater good" for all.

Also keep in mind the "greater good" should not be swayed by personal biases, religious beliefs, affiliations, associations, or any other outside source. The "greater good" of (The People's) democracy was, after all, founded with justice, good faith, honor, humility, gratitude, dignity, courage and sacrifice. As it is written in (The People's) The Declaration of Independence, "But when a long train of abuses and usurpations (take power or position by force) pursuing their end invariably the same Object invincibly (make clear) a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism (like a tyrant), it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security". In other words, when local governments and school boards supersede the "greater good" for all it is (The People's) responsibility to re-align with open alternatives/suggestions or abolish (do away with) it altogether.

So it bothers me to read - First: Local government officials complaining about their jobs, criticism from the public, and offering silence as a way to resolve their issues. Public office is essentially an open forum for public criticism and any person who places themselves in such an arena had better:

1. Know that the aforementioned as Rule #1. And as long as the U.S. sustains democracy as its creed we will continue to question those who are elected to run it.
2. Be honest and forthright or Rule #1 will haunt you.
3. Public office is to serve the People not personal agendas.
4. Learn to listen to the People.
5. Make solid plans based off the needs of all the People and carry them out.
6. Nothing is written in stone, only our tombstones, be flexible and open to new ideas and suggestions.

7. Your beliefs and prejudices are your own, leave that way.

8. STOP WHINING! You want sympathy? Try this on for size: Cutting your yearly salary by 40K (almost 2/3 yrly inco) and benefits are reduced by half, your wife is disabled and you are raising an autistic child. Our life's worth may be reduced but we don't complain; we have each other and we always make due.

Secondly: That PEVS has chosen to take drastic measures of laying off so many staff members and eliminating vital programs. Paulding community members were told that these decisions were discussed in closed and separate sessions, which again only perpetuates the communities' dismay and distrust with these board members even further.

The community demanded accountability and instead of being responsible, PEVS go into secret meetings and decide to cut out valuable positions and programs. What message are they saying to the children and families of this community when they put their own needs above all else no matter the cost? Obviously, PEVS learned nothing from the last election and has turned a blind eye and deaf ears to the community once more. As I understood it we wanted more openness and honesty with more of an open door policy, "fully" disclose the school budget, bring the salaries and benefits to a level that Paulding tax payers can reasonably afford, and lastly (although not very popular) seriously re-negotiate retired PEVS employee's benefits.

Whether you choose to believe that some Paulding residents are spitting sonnets or showers there are a great number of sincere people who happen to have children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, friends and neighbors attending PEVS who are deeply concerned for their welfare and education. From where I come from, "if it walks like a duck, talks like a duck .... it must be a duck," that many people can't be THAT wrong!

PEVS would have us believe that the major contribution to their dilemma would be the last election; that the school board tax levy didn't pass, but how can

that be? \*When asked, the PEVS treasurer clearly stated that the majority of it was to compensate for raised health insurance premiums along with increased fuel costs and a few other items. So I gather from this whole layoff that instead of reducing salaries and benefits as a whole the board opted to reduce/omit/layoff vital positions and supports from the children of Paulding School District - hmmm?

If this school district's budget is in such a quandary then why are we paying certain people above premium salaries? As I stated at election time, "public service is not a get rich career choice." So, as democracy dictates, instead of complaining here are just a few suggestions for the PEVS Board and local government officials.

Like many other school communities in and around Paulding and around the country:

-Suspend all salary increases (temporarily until the economy begins to support it, at which time all salaries will be re-instated with modest increases and even bonuses considered for the sacrifices given).

-Reduce "The Few" over-inflated salaries and a percentage of "top salary" employees. (At least temporarily).

-The Board should look into benefits that aren't as taxing to this community, including but not limited to health insurance for current and retired employees, and retirement contributions and matches, etc.

-If not already implemented, "Play to Pay" sports and any/all extra school activities. Set up fees according to community economics standards and give discounts to families with multiple children.

-A lot of people, including myself, do not want to be bothered with having to buy or sell things to raise money - period! Separate from a PTA or PTO: just have a parents/community financial support committee (Student parents, local business, and community members ONLY. No board members, school staff members or their families). All of this to be regulated by Volunteer CPA or Attorney.

-Allow the community to support the school through paid concerts, plays, etc. Yes!

Charge for admission: say a dollar or two to an evening of entertainment, which is by far cheaper than a movie. And if you think about it, although in a small measure it is a great way for people to give back. It also allows everyone far and wide to actually see and experience the contributions and strides that our youth are making. And lastly on this subject, it gives us all a reason to be with each other supporting and celebrating our most precious assets - our children and families.

-Have community paper drives. Ask for reams of paper to be donated. I know every time I go to the store I seem to pass an aisle with a display and it's a lot easier for me to include that into my budget than to buy cookie dough or candy offered by the school fund raiser and I KNOW that 100% goes to the school.

-When we first moved here in 2004 we donated nearly two pickup loads of craft items to the middle school. All were new: like quilting fabrics and materials, cross-stitch materials, clays, rubber stamps, craft papers, threads, sewing patterns, books, yarns, needles, hoops, paints, inks, you name it, it was there. I'm sure there are a great number of people who intended on doing a craft project but for one reason or another had to push it aside; why not ask for donations? In the end it was a great relief for our entire family and we knew the children were enjoying themselves and learning at the same time.

-Have a school garden donated by one or more nurseries and through it have a brick path with the names of people, families, businesses and organizations that have donated to PEVS. Call it CARE (Communities Alternative Resources toward Education); the name needs a little work!

-Ask parents to become Certified Teacher Aides and volunteer their services. More information about the program can be obtained through The Ohio Department of Education.

-I'm sure there are many more suggestions waiting to be heard by other community members and I challenge each of you to speak up, write, let your ideas matter.

Now, will these suggestions in themselves be a total

solution? Clearly the answer would have to be "no", but it is a beginning. It would be a way for PEVS to build a bridge of trust back to the community by showing us (the community) that they are committed to accountability, they genuinely care about our children and it proves that it's not just a "JOB" that they are performing, but a service to this community and its future.

As far as local officials, how many are too many?

-Too many chefs spoil the pot, so let us decide what positions are really necessary and slim down our overages.

-In the "good 'ol days" government used prisoners to clean the roads, parks and perform misc. chores, why not revitalize such a program? If the community has to shelter and feed these people there is no reason why they can't work.

-Same goes for youth offenders, put them to work. I read a suggestion from Mr. Dysinger about much needed bathrooms at the Paulding fair, well, there you go! Free labor. Whether adult or youth offenders, place shackles on them and put them to work.

-Van Wert has a nice recycling program which seems to work very well for their community. Why not look into something like that; on one hand yard waste is donated and the material is composted. The community can freely scoop-up their own or pay to have it dumped into a truck. Then there's the recycled cans, bottles, etc. which again is donated and the proceeds turned over to local government.

-Since Kmart and Meijer is being squeezed out of Defiance, is anyone in the Economic Department looking into having them relocate to Paulding?

-What about new growth? Looking into fortune 500

companies and devising a plan to sell our community: Parker Hannifin, John Deere, Caterpillar, American Standard, Dover, Nacco Industries, Kennametal, etc., more growth means more taxes, more taxes mean a healthier community.

-A year round indoor/outdoor community farmers market where people can see, smell and taste local food, wines, crafts, etc.

My great-grandfathers, one a peasant farmer from Ireland who escaped the "Great Potato Famine" and the other a Cherokee warrior from the Five Tribes, both fought so gallantly in their own conflicts, bestowed upon me through their children these rights we bare today. I treasure and guard each freedom with vigor, passion, truth, determination, justice, faith and compassion. I trust that the "greater good" will prevail and with time any past afflictions between the community and local government/school boards mend without prejudice.

Most Humbly,  
-Christina L. West  
Oakwood, OH

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**VANTAGE NAMES NEW SUPERINTENDENT**



munity. Currently, she is a member of the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators, National Association of Secondary School Principals, both state and national associations for Career Technical Education, the Association for School Curriculum and Development and a member of Delta Pi Epsilon, Beta Eta Chapter.

"I have been in the Vantage building several times, as a member of the HSTW technical assistance review team and as a supervisor for FCCLA and Business Professionals of America (BPA). Along the way, I've had an opportunity to work with a few of the staff members. I've been made to feel very welcome so far and have enjoyed my experiences. I have rural 4-H roots, and I'm looking forward to coming to the Vantage district where I know that's appreciated," said Ms. Kaufman.

Ms. Kaufman has two daughters, Colleen, a student at Defiance College, who also attended Four County Career Center while in high school, and served as president of the Opening and Closing team for SkillsUSA in 2004 and 2005 and Kacie, who is a senior at Tinora High School, and will be attending the University of Toledo in the fall.

**QUILT FAIR TO BE HELD AT HUBER OPERA HOUSE**

If quilting is your thing, then you need to make sure you are at the Huber Opera House on March 24 and 25, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.

The categories for the quilts that are to be on display will be: antique (quilted before 1940), baby quilts, pieced-hand quilted, pieced-machine quilted, appliqueed, embroidered or cross-stitched, open class (friendship and whole cloth design quilting), mixed media, small wall hanging (under 36"), large wall hanging (37" to 60"), youth quilts (made by children up to age 16; quilt tops must have been sewn by the child and can be quilted or tied)

The quilts will be judged by a committee of expert quilters. The quilt fair attendees will also have the opportunity to vote for People's Choice awards.

**Have Something to sell?**

Classified ads are \$5.00 for 25 words or less and only \$.10 for each additional word.

**VETERANS INFORMATIONAL SEMINAR TO BE HELD**

Do you feel confused about the Veterans benefits and services you have earned, as well as what entitlements are available for your family? There is so much to know and so many changes from year to year. The Van Wert County Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter #54 is hosting a Veterans Informational Seminar on Saturday, March 31, 2007. The Seminar is to be held at the Van Wert Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Robert G. Longwell Post #5803 from 9:00 a.m. till every Veteran is served. The post is located at 111 North Shannon Street, Van Wert, OH, 45891.

This seminar is open to all Veterans and their families. You do not have to be a member of the DAV or any other Veterans organization to obtain assistance. This seminar is not just for Van Wert residents. Any veteran may attend. A highly trained Veterans Service Officer (NSO), of the DAV NSO Organization from Cleveland, Ohio, will conduct the seminar. This expert can offer the best counseling and claim filing assistance your family and you can get concerning Veterans Benefits, medical concerns, legal information and any other questions pertaining to the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Department of Defense (DOD) or other government agencies that deal with Veterans. This exceptional service is available to all Veterans and their families free of charge.

All you need is your Social Security number, or your VA claim number. Remember you do not have to be a member of any Veterans organization to obtain assistance at this seminar. If you have any questions at all, please don't let this opportunity pass you by. For further information please contact the Van Wert County DAV CH#54 Commander Mike Moulton in the evening at 419-238-7118 or Van Wert County DAV CH#54 PR Committee Chair Andrew Rickard during the day at 419-238-0175/419-605-8893. The Chapters website is home. earthlink.net/~wvcdav54

**RALPH SUTTON TO CELEBRATE 90TH BIRTHDAY WITH CELEBRATION**



An open house for Ralph Sutton of rural Grover Hill will be held on Sunday March 18 in celebration of his 90th birthday.

Ralph was born on March 14, 1917 in the farm home where he still resides. Early memories are stories of helping to clear the land for farming, helping with his family threshing business and playing on the train tracks across from his house. A 1934 graduate of Grover Hill High School, he was a former bus driver for the Grover Hill School, a farmer and retired from General Motors in Defiance in 1978. In his younger days he was a motorcyclist and was a member of the Wheelmen antique bicycle club.

He and his late wife Edna raised three children: Jon (Karen) of Clyde, Vicki (Mike) Brown of Grover Hill and Brent (Carole) of Amelia, Virginia. Ralph also has 12 grandchildren, 25 great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The event will be held at the Grover Hill Elementary School from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please come and share in this momentous occasion with Ralph and his family. If you are unable to attend but would like to send a card, his address is Ralph Sutton, 17339 State Route 637, Grover Hill, Ohio 45849.

**LEGISLATION WILL ENSURE NO ENTITY OF THE STATE PROVIDES FOR NON-THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS**

**Weekly column by: State Representative Lynn Wachtmman**

According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, a non-profit corporation for reproductive health research, approximately 1.37 million abortions occur annually in the United States. Alarming, a report by National Right to Life shows that since 1973, when the U.S. Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision legalized abortion, more than 47 million abortions have been performed. Fortunately, in recent years, the number of annual abortions has been on the decline; however, in an effort to protect the right to life of all innocent human beings, the Ohio General Assembly remains committed to limiting these abortion procedures through legislative action.

In January 1998, the legislature passed House Bill 395, legislation that prohibited the use of state funds to pay for health care insurance benefits to cover non-therapeutic abortions. This simply means that no taxpayer dollars could be used to cover any abortion procedure other than those performed to save the life of the mother or when the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. To further ensure that taxpayer dollars are not used to fund abortions, the General Assembly later passed House Bill 94, a measure that required any facility that receives state money to be physically separated from a facility providing abortion referrals or abortion services.

These bills have been an effective tool to ensure that Ohio's taxpayer dollars fund programs that promote the care of human life and not its destruction. That's why I was shocked to learn last year that Bowling Green State University (BGSU), a state funded, public university, was planning to offer a student health insurance policy that would have provided coverage for non-therapeutic abortions. The BGSU administration decided that all students had to be covered by health insurance and if a student did not have private health insurance, BGSU would require the student to purchase a

plan offered through the university. Originally, BGSU intended to only offer one plan, which included coverage for non-therapeutic abortions, meaning state dollars would be indirectly used to cover non-therapeutic abortion procedures. However, after the public outcry that ensued, BGSU decided to add another insurance plan that did not include abortion coverage. While HB 395 and HB 94 were important pro-life legislative achievements, these policies are a prime example for the need to further clarify the law.

In response, this week, I introduced House Bill 86, legislation that would clarify existing law by mandating that no state agency or organization may offer, sponsor or endorse any health insurance policy that covers non-therapeutic abortions. BGSU's original policy would directly conflict with the Ohio General Assembly's intent, to ensure that no entity of the state provides for abortions. HB 86 resolves this conflict by closing the loophole in our laws and affirming the state's position on abortion.

**OAKWOOD ARBOR #759**

The Oakwood Arbor #759 of the Gleaners met March 1 at 7:00 p.m. at the Oakwood United Methodist Church basement with eleven members present.

Kevin Hornish opened the meeting. Discussion of our State Association meeting to be held April 1, 2007 at Bowling Green. Recent fire of a family home, with a donation to be presented to them with a check.

Discussion of reading to classes at the Oakwood School will be done by our Arbor. The children will be have their favorite books read. There will be five to ten arbor members reading.

Join Hands Day will be May 5, 2007, with future planning. Our trees for Arbor Day has been ordered. Buckeye Trail people will be coming back this year and we hope to get our community people involved.

Our next regular meeting has to be changed, which will be Tuesday, April 10, to be held at the Oakwood United Methodist Church basement.

**PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGES SCHOOLS BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/14 THROUGH 3/20**

*Panther Paw Cafe - breakfast*

- 3/14 - Bacon, egg & cheese muffin, juice, milk
- 3/15 - Mini pancakes, sausage links, juice, milk
- 3/16 - Sausage gravy w/ biscuits, juice, milk
- 3/19 - Breakfast pizza, juice, milk
- 3/20 - Tator tots w/cheese sauce, sausage, juice, milk

*Panther Paw Cafe - Lunch*

- 3/14 - Idaho nachos, dinner roll or sandwich, vegetable, assorted fruit, milk
- 3/15 - Ham chef salad, bread stick, assorted fruit, milk
- 3/16 - Fish sandwich, au gratin potatoes, assorted fruit, milk
- 3/19 - Country fried steak, whipped potatoes or beef stew w/biscuits, assorted fruit, milk

- 3/20 - Cavatini, lettuce salad, bread stick, milk

*Paulding Elementary - Lunch*

- 3/14 - Corn dog, baked beans, fruit cup, milk
- 3/15 - Chicken fajita wrap, lettuce, fruit cup, milk
- 3/16 - Cheese bread stick w/marinara sauce, green beans, fruit cup, milk
- 3/19 - Hot dog on a bun, vegetable, fruit cup, milk
- 3/20 - Meat 'n cheese taco, lettuce, crackers, fruit cup, milk

*Oakwood Elementary - Lunch*

- 3/14 - Cheese pizza, corn, fruit, milk
- 3/15 - Salisbury steak, whipped potatoes/gravy, bread, fruit, milk
- 3/16 - Breaded mozzarella sticks, pizza sauce, green beans, fruit, milk
- 3/19 - Hamburger on a bun, cheese slice/pickle, green beans, fruit, milk
- 3/20 - Walking taco, lettuce & cheese, fruit, milk

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**CORRECTED NORTHWEST PLAINS UNITED METHODIST WOMEN ARTICLE**

The Northwest Plains United Methodist Women will be celebrating their annual Spiritual Day Apart on March 24, 2007 at the Wesley United Methodist Church at the corner of Blaine and Center Street in Van Wert, OH.

Reservations will begin at 9:30 a.m. with the program starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.

The morning session will be a leader training of officers and a question and answer session. If you are not an officer, we will be rolling bandages and making book marks to be sent to the Congo in Africa, via a retired missionary, Sharon Crowe.

Eileen Kochensparger, Communications chair of the Mission Team will be bringing the message and there will be special music by Penny Duer.

The Northwest Plains UMW is a consolidation of the former Defiance and Lima District and two counties of the Findlay District.

Reservations should be sent to Amy Sellers at 6725 Lincoln Highway, Convoy, OH 45832 by March 17.

For more information, you can contact Amy at 419- 749-2530.

**ROYAL NEIGHBORS OF ANTWERP CELEBRATE WITH A BIRTHDAY PARTY**

Royal Neighbors of America held their annual Birthday Party on March 6, 2007.

Everyone enjoyed a Ham and Scalloped Potato Dinner with other covered dishes.

The Supreme camp of Royal Neighbors sent party favors for everyone.

The winners of the evening drawings were: Adult - Norma Lothamer; junior - Madison Boesch. Her big sister, Mikayla, accepted it for her.

The evening ended with a great round of Bingo and several prizes was won by all who participated.

Our next scheduled dinner will be our Mother's Day Party on May 15, 2007.

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

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**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. tf

**AKC English Springer Spaniel puppies. There are 8 puppies available now. 5 female and 3 male, all black and white. Great temperament, 2 sets of shots, wormed, and a health guarantee. Contact Carla @ 419-258-2230 or email mchcarothers@verizon.net.** B10-11

**BAKER'S AUCTION:** 1st Sat. of each month at 6 pm. Household, tools, toys, food, horse equipment. 14597 Rd. 31 North, Antwerp, Ohio, off Hwy 49 & 192. 419-542-7530 or 419-258-5605. 5-14

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**HUSBAND/WIFE cleaning team** wants to clean your home or small business. Rates vary. Call for appt. 419-263-3085. 11-12

**HARDWOODS**—oak, walnut, hickory, cherry, hard maple. 419-263-2841. 10-13p

**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. tf

**RENT TO OWN:** 3 bedroom, 2 bath, (866)448-8567, 24 hour recorded message. 9-12

**2000 FORD FOCUS SE Wagon. 54,000 miles, 30 mpg. PS, PB Automatic, AM/FM cassette, new battery. Needs nothing, \$5100. 419-258-2356.** 11-12p

**FOR SALE:** 1997 Mansion Manufactured Home. 16x80 3 BD/2 full bath, new wood laminate floors in hallway, newly painted hallway and living room, large MSBD w/master bath and large walk-in closet. Staying with the home are the range, refrigerator, all window coverings, large deck and a 7x11x7 Heartland storage shed. Home is currently sitting on a lot at Leinard's Trailer Park in Antwerp, Ohio, but can be moved! Asking price is \$14,600.00 if interested please call 419-258-1753. tf

**ALL TYPES OF SEWING** service from repairs, alterations to new. Call Loretta at 419-258-5605. 5-14

**FOR SALE:** Home Interior past season prints in the frames. Entire set of Across America books about U.S. states. ALSO, black knee length cocktail dress. 2" tank bodice w/sequins. Size 10. Call 419-258-1809 to see. tf

**FOR SALE:** 2005 Suzuki Eiger 400, 4x4 Automatic. Yellow, includes bag for back rack, 76 miles, 75 hours. Lady ridden, new battery, Wiring for winch is installed, actual winch needs replaced. \$4500 obo. Can be seen at the show room of Hunt's Engine and Machine, 110 N. Main St., Antwerp, OH (loc. between the police station and the Pop 'n Brew) during their normal business hours. Or contact 419-258-2475 if no answer leave your name and number. Serious inquiries only. 11-12p

**NEED PHOTO PRINTS of that sweetheart in your life? Call West Bend Printing & Publishing today! 419-258-2000.**

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**MOTHER OF TWO** can do babysitting in my home. Call for more information. 399-9768. 11-12p

**NURSE'S ASSISTANT with 8 years experience willing to sit with and take care of your loved ones. I will do light housekeeping, transport to appointments, cook and shop. Reasonable rates. 419-263-0033.** 10-17

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

**REVERSE RAFFLE FUNDRAISER**



**Rick Small from WDFM 98.1 "the Mix" and Isaac Rhinehart.**

The auditeria at Antwerp Local School started to fill up at 5:30 p.m. People were milling around looking at the bingo prizes and auction items which included: Vera Bradley items, gift certificates, IPFW Basketball signed by coach Dane Fife, tickets to sporting events, plus many many more.

After a delicious meal prepared by Carla Sensabaugh, Cathy Wirts, Angie Stoller, Dustin and Dillon Sensabaugh, Sasha Allen and many helpers, the raffle started.

Rick Small MC'd the event with helper Isaac Rhinehart, a sixth grader at Antwerp Elementary, drawing the numbers.

Everyone had a good time with a lot of laughter and feedback back and forth from Rick and the audience.

This benefit was the first fund-raiser held by the Athletic Boosters to collect enough money to have an eight lane all purpose track

out at the football field. This track will be open to the community and will be able to hold all sorts of track events. The Board of Education will own the track. The projection date is the Spring of 2008. The track will cost a total of \$200,000.

The Grand Prize of \$1000.00 was won by Dan Schutt who graciously donated his winnings back to the All-Weather Track Fund.

The second prize of \$500.00 was won by Tiffany and Robbie Bennett.

Third Prize of a 27" TV was won by Anita Bok.

The total monies made at the benefit was over \$8,000.00.

Nice job Cindy Sensabaugh, Cindy Schlatter, and the Athletic Boosters for a successful fund-raiser.

If you would like to donate to this fund please contact Cindy or any Athletic Booster.

LOOK at this 25 ACRES and 3-bedroom 2-bath home constructed in 2002 having central air. You're sure to like the many features of this property: some being the auxiliary exterior wood furnace working in conjunction with the gas fired furnace that equals low heating bills. (Cut your own wood from the woods at the rear of the property), the master bedroom with it's own private bath, the bright and spacious kitchen with many cabinets and extra storage, the separate dining room, the patio door opening unto the east side of the home for a shaded and relaxing spot on those warm summer evenings, the full basement with unfinished 2x4 studs and insulation around the interior perimeter walls and 2x4 unfinished walls dividing the basement's interior into rooms, ready for your finishing, lots of storage inside, lots of room outside for children, animals, gardening, or growing of crops, camping in or near the trees, and or? Located in Crane Township of Paulding County and is zoned A/R. #311

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Municipal Tax Payer Assistance Date**  
**Saturday, March 24, 2007 - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

Village Hall, 118 N. Main Street, Antwerp, Ohio

The Village of Antwerp wants to announce that representatives from CCA, the village's tax administrator will be at town hall on Saturday, March 24, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to help village residents with their municipal income tax questions. Walk-ins welcome, no appointment necessary. Call 419-258-2371 for information.

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**ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL STUDENTS INVITE YOU TO THEIR SCHOOL**

These children from Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool in Paulding want you to know that registration for the 2007/2008 school year is now OPEN! Three and young four year olds meet on Tues-

day and Thursday morning or afternoon and must be three by August 1, 2007. Four and young five year olds meet on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning or afternoon and must be four by August 1, 2007.

For more information, to visit our preschool, or to register your child, please call 419-399-KIDS (5437).

**WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER FOR THE WEEK OF 3/14 THROUGH 3/20**

- 3/14 - Wacky Wednesday, Manicure Clinic, 9:00 a.m.; Grocery shopping, 12:30 p.m.; Water exercise, 3:00 p.m.; WW meeting, 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.
- 3/15 - Line dancing, 9:00 a.m.; Exercise, 10:00 a.m.; Pokeno, 10:00 a.m.; VNA blood pressure & Toe Nail Clinic, 10:00 a.m.; Legal Services

Presentation, 12:00 noon; Euchre, 12:15 p.m.; Evening meal, 5:00 p.m.

3/16 - Red Hat Day; Entertainment, 11:00 a.m.; Head Start joining us for lunch; Ritzy Buckeye's lunch & meeting

3/19 - Line dancing, 9:00 a.m.; Exercise, 10:00 a.m.; Americare Bingo, 12:00 noon; Steering committee, 12:00 noon; Water exercise, 3:00 p.m.

3/20 - Euchre, 9:45 a.m.; Video, 12:30 p.m.; "Finding Relief of Pain After Shingles"

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

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**PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD ELECTS NEW OFFICERS**

At the Paulding County Hospital's recent board of trustees meeting the following officers were elected: Randy Brooks, chairman; Liz Hunt, vice-president; Tom Litzenberg, secretary-treasurer.

The medical staff's new officers also were announced: Dr. Rim Kreit, chief of staff; Dr. William Strawter, vice-president; and Dr. James Gray, secretary-treasurer.

PCH's auditors, Plante and Moran, PLLC, presented the preliminary financial audit for 2006. In the auditors' language it was an "excellent" audit. The audited financial statements are available for review in the hospital's administrative offices.

Chief financial officer Rob Goshia reported a January net profit of \$32,650. "The primary reason for January's profit was the hospital's transitional care and rehabilitation program (swing bed) had a strong month," said Goshia.

Goshia also told the board about three donations. The Benevolent Society donated \$3,007.84 to purchase a stair stepper for the rehab/fitness center; the PCH Auxiliary donated \$2,773.71 for an ice machine in the dining room; and Golden Heritage Foods donated \$2,000. "We appreciate the generosity of these three groups," Goshia said. "Their contributions make the hospital a better place, which in turn makes us better able to serve our patients."

Hospital CEO Gary Adkins informed the board about several Ohio Hospital Association initiatives regarding the state budget. OHA is focusing on hospitals that serve vulnerable populations—Ohioans living in rural areas with limited access to general and obstetrical health care services. The association is already in discussions with the governor and legislators on the upcoming 2008-2009 budget. The initiatives are:

—Medicaid Reimbursement for Critical Access Hospitals—to allow critical access hospitals reimbursement on a "reasonable cost basis." (A "reasonable cost basis" reimbursement varies from the reimbursement formulas used to calculate payments for other hospitals.) Many of Ohio's rural counties have a larger percentage of residents who rely on the Medicaid program, making Medicaid cost-basis reimbursement to critical access hospitals even more vital.

—Additional funds for Supplemental Medicaid Upper Payment Limits—to offset Medicaid reimbursement shortfalls for public hospitals. These payments are federal funds that are administered by the state and recent changes have resulted in a loss to PCH of around \$225,000 annually.

—Support for Rural OB Services—to ensure that pregnant women in rural areas have access to obstetrical (OB) care. OHA is supporting the creation of a special state fund to make supplemental payments to rural hospitals that provide OB services. These hospitals currently incur significant losses in order to provide OB services.

Chief operating officer Randy Ruge informed the board that the Joint Commission on Accreditation

of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) conducted its surprise inspection of the hospital's laboratory. "In particular, I would like to extend compliments to Laura Roth, lab manager, and her staff. Their preparation and conduct during the process was surely the main factor in the survey's success," said Ruge.

Ruge told the board JCAHO's standards are regarded as the most rigorous in the industry and quoted the organization's statement that receiving "the gold seal of approval is a clear sign that the accredited organization has demonstrated compliance to the most stringent standards of performance."

The board also heard: —Architects met with administrative staff to discuss improvements to the PCH outpatient registration and upgrades to the inpatient floor such as new windows and doors and changes to patient bathroom facilities.

—Adkins chaired his first OHA Small and Rural Hospitals committee meeting on February 2.

The board reviewed the 2006's fourth quarter:

—Press-Ganey customer relations report. Improvements were most notable in PCH's inpatient and ER departments.

—Quality improvement report and performance improvement plans.

—Legal compliance audits.

**PAYNE BALL ASSOCIATION TO HOLD REGISTRATION**

The final two registration dates for summer baseball and softball will be hosted by the Payne Ball Association on Saturday, March 10, and Saturday, March 17. Both registrations will be from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Payne Elementary cafeteria.

Participants must be at least five years old as of April 30, 2007, to participate.

If you have any questions, please contact Matthew Noggle at (419) 263-2130.

**REP. GILLMOR ANNOUNCES WHITEHOUSE SERVICE ACADEMY NIGHT**

Congressman Paul Gillmor (R-Tiffin) has scheduled a United States Service Academy information night for prospective applicants from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. The meeting will be held at Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 15, 2007.

"Representatives from the admissions offices of the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine Academies have been invited to attend the information night," Gillmor said. "I would encourage all students in the Fifth District who are interested in an academy appointment to attend the meeting," Gillmor continued.

The service academy information night will afford interested students the opportunity to meet with academy representatives, as well as representatives from the Congressman's office to learn about the academy nomination and selection process.

"As a Congressman, one of my most important and fulfilling responsibilities is to nominate young men and women from the Fifth District for admission to our nation's service academies. While the congressional schedule prevents me from attending the event, my staff will be on hand to answer your questions," Gillmor concluded.

For more information on the academy nomination process, please contact Congressman Gillmor's Tiffin, Ohio office at (800) 541-6446.

*Huber Theatre*  
Upcoming Event Calendar

Sat. 3/17 - Huber Benefit - 2nd Annual CASINO NIGHT. See Below for Details!!!  
Sun. 3/18, 2:00 pm - "We Traveled in China"  
Sat./Sun. 3/24 - 3/25, Fourth Annual Quilt Show  
Sat./Sun. 3/31 & 4/1, 2:30 and 7:30 pm  
Village Players'  
"Eyefellgloffenhootenanniemerryberrycrunch!"

**HELP Finish the COMMUNITY ROOM!**  
Plan now to attend the 2nd annual  
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