

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL AUXILIARY EXPAND ACQUIRE "WEBKINS" FOR GIFT SHOP

Paulding County Hospital Auxiliary wants to announce that they have been selected as the official site to sell "webkins" for Paulding County. At the present time we have several in the gift shop in the front lobby area.

The auxiliary is an active part of the hospital having recently purchased approximately \$5500.00 to the different departments throughout the hospital for their wish list helping the patients who come to Paulding Hospital for treatment.

Our goal was to choose items that would be beneficial for the well-being of those being treated.

On April 17, 2008 we will be sponsoring a jewelry sale. This "Cookie Lee" jewelry is seen on The Price Is Right on a daily basis. The representative will be in the front lobby of the hospital from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with a wide selection to choose from. Items can be taken home or can be ordered for delivery at a later date.

Coming soon to the gift shop will be "beanie babies" which will be used with the computer just like the "webkins".

The auxiliary is dependent on the sales from the gift shop and a variety of other money makers that we have throughout the year including the Annual Craft Fair in November.

Officers of the auxiliary are Eileen Kochensparger, president; Shirley Cramer, vice president; Pat Doster, secretary; and Shirley Baldwin, treasurer. Eleanor Brune, Carol Gross and Ruth Ann Zigovits are instrumental in keeping the gift shop stocked and Rosemarie Reinhart is the membership chairman.

We are always looking for new members. We hope you will want to join us and work for the betterment of the Paulding County Hospital. A small hospital with a big heart for Paulding County.

CORRECTION

In last week's paper, the article regarding the new variety store in Paulding, Bob & Ruthie's Variety Store, has some changed information. Bob Baer will manage the store and Jackie Travis will help out.

—WBN Editors

WAYNE TRACE RAIDERS PLACE 3RD AT STATE



Senior Aaron Hockenberry is fouled while scoring. He also makes the free-throw. Wayne Trace completed their season Thursday night, when they opposed New Knoxville, the #1 team in Division 4. They didn't win that night, but they did come home as an impressive third in the state. The final score was 62-41.

New Knoxville went on to win the state champion title after defeating Worthington Christian 74-52. The fans had fun going down to Columbus on the three buses to watch their favorite team.

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OBITUARIES

Victor R. Tuohy, 90, of Defiance died Thursday, March 13, 2008 at his residence.

He was born in Paulding County on October 28, 1917 the son of Frank and Stella (Price) Tuohy. He married J. Marceile Dimock who survives. He was a U.S. Navy veteran serving during WWII. He was employed as a supervisor at Defiance Precision Products retiring in 1980 after 46 years. He was a life-long member of the former St. Mary's Catholic Church, Junction. He served as Auglaize Township trustee for 12 years and was a lifelong farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Marceile Tuohy of Defiance; a son, Dennis Tuohy of Defiance; three daughters: Carol (James) Birkemeier of Ottawa, Mary (Jerry) Price and Cheryl (Al) Tennyson both of Defiance; nine grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; thirteen great-grandchildren; and four step-great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and two brothers: Woodrow and John Tuohy.

A Mass of Christian Burial was conducted March 18 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Defiance, with Rev. Todd Dominique. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery, Defiance.

Donations may be made to Masses or Visiting Nurses. Arrangements were handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.



Hobart L. Kuhn, 79, of Payne died Sunday, March 9, 2008 at the Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, Ft. Wayne, IN.

He was born June 30, 1928 in Payne, OH the son of Edward J. and Victoria M. (Lucas) Kuhn. On June 26, 1954 he married Mary M. Hake, who survives. He was a U. S. Marine veteran serving during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Payne and the American Legion Post #297. He was a self-employed farmer.

He is survived by his wife, Mary Kuhn of Payne; three sons: Hobart Kuhn, Michael

(Claudia) Kuhn, and Matthew (Tosha) Kuhn all of Payne; four daughters: Melissa Kuhn of Payne, Angela Kuhn of Marion, IN, Mary Brueggemann of Ft. Wayne, IN, and Katrina (Scott) Bauer of Oakwood, OH; a brother, John (Phyllis) Kuhn of New Haven, IN; three sisters: Christina (Charles) Schaefer, and Clela (Bill) Sample both of Payne, and Nila (Ralph) Radenbaugh of St. Helen, MI; seven grandchildren; and six step-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a brother, Anthony E. Kuhn; a sister, Mary Obriinger; step-father, Leo J. Kuhn; and a granddaughter, Kaitlyn Bauer.

A Mass of Christian Burial was conducted March 13 at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, Payne, with Rev. G. Allan Fillman officiating. Burial was in St. John the Baptist Catholic Church Cemetery, Payne with military graveside services conducted by Payne American Legion Post #297.

Donations may be made to St. John the Baptist Church Education Fund or Paulding County Hospital Home Health Care. Arrangements were handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding



Marsha M. Conwell, 76, of Fort Wayne, IN (former Payne, Ohio resident) died Monday, March 10, 2008 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

She was born July 27, 1931 in Allen County, Indiana, the daughter of Marcell C. and Gladys M. (Turner) Gaut. On November 8, 1965, she married Gene S. Conwell, who preceded her in death on November 27, 1997. She was a 1949 graduate of Payne High School.

She is survived by her mother, Gladys M. Gaut of Ft. Wayne; two sisters: Myrna (Don) Snyder of Payne, and Miriam Gaut of Ft. Wayne.

She is preceded in death by her father; husband; and a son, Kevin.

Funeral services were conducted Friday, March 14 at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Payne, with Rev. Amy Haines officiating. Burial was Friday in Lindenwood Cemetery, Ft. Wayne.

Donations may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church. Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, handled arrangements.

Kenith "Kenny" Fogle, 37, of Hicksville died at his home on Monday March 10, 2008.

He was born on December 6, 1970 in Bryan, Ohio the son of Donald and Carol (Yoh) Fogle.

He graduated from Fairview High School in 1989. He was an active member of Bryan Church of the Nazarene where he served as a song leader. He was employed at Therma-Tru, Butler, Indiana for (17) years in the shipping department.

He is survived by his mother, Carol of Edgerton,

OH; a sister, Sandy (Mike) Steele of Edgerton, OH; a nephew, Mike Steele, Jr.; and aunts and uncles.

He was preceded in death by his father, Donald in 2006.

Funeral services were on Saturday, March 15 at Bryan Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Roger Blough officiating. Burial was at Six Corners Cemetery - Hicksville, Ohio.

Memorials may be given to the church or donor's choice. Arrangements were handled by Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville.

Duane "Dewey" D. Miller, 80, of Paulding died Thursday, March 13, 2008 at the Defiance Regional Medical Center, Defiance.

He was born on February 5, 1928 in Fort Wayne, IN the son of Russell and Gladys (Doster) Miller. He was a U.S. Army veteran and worked for the Ohio Gas Company in Paulding as a service technician retiring in 1987. He was a member of Paulding VFW Post #587, Paulding Eagles Post #2405, Defiance Moose Lodge #2094, and the Payne American Legion Post #297.

He is survived by two nieces and one nephew.

He is preceded in death by his parents; and a sister, Hope Diss in 1997.

Military rights were accorded by the Paulding VFW Post #587. Burial was in the U.S. National Cemetery in Dayton, OH.

The family suggests memorials to a charity of the donor's choice. Arrangements were handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.

James E. Wright, 76, of Charloe, OH died Thursday, March 13, 2008 at his residence.

He was born June 23, 1931 in Lima, OH the son of George S. and Emma I. (Miller) Wright. On September 30, 1961 he married Jacqueline L. Worthen who survives. He was a U.S. Army veteran. He worked at Dinner Bell in Defiance for 30 years retiring in 1990. He also worked for the former Nickel Plate Railroad in Lima, OH. He was a member of the Junction Bible Christian Church.

He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline of Charloe, OH; one daughter, Judy Woodruff of Charloe, OH; two sons: James Wright, Jr. of Charloe, OH and Jeremy Wright of Paulding; two sisters: Della Childs of Archbold and Ruby (Charles) Gillette of Lima, OH; and six grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services were March 17, 2008 at the Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding with Pastor Pat Shepard officiating. Burial was in Sherman Cemetery, Charloe, OH where military rites were accorded by Paulding VFW Post #587.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made in James' memory in care of the Wright family.

Ricardo Lucio, Sr., 75, of Paulding died March 16 at Hawthorn Court Nursing Home, Paulding.

He was born in Laredo, TX on September 1, 1932 the son Antonio L. and Belen (Fierus). On October 7, 1950 he married Emma (Curiel) Lucio, who died on July 13, 1991. On September 16, 1997 he married Barbara J. (Fling) Lucio, who survives. He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church of Paulding. In 1989 he retired from GM

Powertrain of Defiance after 35 years of service. He was a member of UAW Local #211.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara J. Lucio of Paulding; three sons: Ricardo Lucio, Jr. of Findlay, OH, Rene (Amy) Lucio of Wylie, TX and Ruben Lucio of Lorain, OH; three daughters: Margot (Roger) Glanemann of Clyde, OH, Linda (Brad) Bradshaw of Atlanta, GA, and Careena and Maria Lucio both of Paulding; four step-children: David (Kristen) McCann of Northwood, OH, Alan Edgings of Paulding, Wendy (Roy) Klien of Hoytville, OH and Laurie (Andrew) Billings of Tollhouse, CA; seven grandchildren; and 15 step-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Emma Curiel Lucio; and one brother, Antonio Lucio, Jr.

Mass of Christian Burial will be conducted at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 19, 2008 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Paulding with calling at church one hour before services. Rev. G. Allan Fillman will officiate. Burial will be in Paulding Memorial Cemetery, Paulding.

Memorials to Lucio Grandchildren's Educational Fund. Arrangements were handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.

Connie K. Deatrck, 57, of Paulding (formerly of Defiance) died Monday, March 10, 2008 at Defiance Regional Medical Center, Defiance.

She was born on October 2, 1950 the daughter of Forest and Eunice (Workman) Deatrck. She was a nutritional specialist for Paulding County Senior Center. She attended Melrose United Meth-

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Henry J. Hook

March 14, 2007

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Methodist Church; and was a long time member of the former Junction United Methodist Church.

She is survived by her mother, Eunice Deatrick of Paulding; two brothers: Glen (Julia) Deatrick of Payne and Ron (Marita) Deatrick of Ottawa, OH; several nieces and nephews; and a great-niece. She is preceded in death by her father, Forest Deatrick; and a nephew, David Deatrick.

Services were Saturday, March 15, 2008 at Heitmeyer Funeral Home, Oakwood. Pastor Eileen Kochensparger officiated. Burial was in Sherman Cemetery, Oakwood.

Memorials to the American Diabetes Association. Condolences may be sent to www.heimeyerfuneralhome.com

A FLY ON THE CEILING

By: Pastor Joel DeSelm, Woodburn Missionary Church

In his book *Making Miracles*, Dr. Paul Pearsall recalls visiting Rome sometime ago for some meetings. Their first stop was a tour of Vatican City.

Michelangelo's work in the Sistine Chapel had just been renovated. Dr. Pearsall and his wife waited for hours in line for a glimpse of this remarkable feat.

At a distance the paintings did not look all that impressive. People chattered and joked about a paint-by-number replica of Michelangelo's work for their own ceilings. When they drew closer, however, they were overwhelmed. The paintings seemed to engulf them. Everyone became quiet. Necks

ached with the effort to keep looking up. Now they were seeing the paintings as Michelangelo intended for them to be seen. The impact was unforgettable.

Then Dr. Pearsall noticed a fly crawling across the paintings. He thought, "What a shame. That fly is right up there where I would love to be. He's right on top of it... but he just can't see it." Then Dr. Pearsall remembered reading the words of philosopher William Irwin Thompson: "We are like flies crawling across the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. We cannot see what angels and gods lie underneath the threshold of our perceptions..."

As I read those words, the thought struck me that my life is often like that. I am like a fly crawling across the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. I have the very Presence of the Lord with me at all times. I am surrounded by God's angels who protect, encourage, and minister to me. Yet so often I go through life completely oblivious to the presence of deity and the glory of angelic majesty around me. One man has said, "If we could have 'spiritual' glasses and actually see what is taking place in our very presence in the spiritual realm, we would fall to our faces in awe."

We need to remember that, my friends. No matter what you are facing, the Lord Jesus Christ is right there. He has promised His children that He is always with them, will always sustain them, and will never leave them.

It's a promise that I need to be reminded of on a regular basis—how about you?

EASTER EGG HUNT IN GROVER HILL

Arrangements are being made for the annual Easter Egg Hunt in Grover Hill. Sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2873 and its Ladies Auxiliary, the event will be held on Saturday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. Weather permitting, the hunt will be held at Welcome Park in Grover Hill and will be open to area children - preschool through age ten.

The Easter Bunny's helpers hope to see you at the park. However, if the weather doesn't cooperate the event will still be held at the VFW hall on South Main Street. Bring your Easter baskets and we'll see you there for treats and prizes.

CHRIST'S CHURCH #3

By: James Potter, Oakwood Church of Christ

The Bible says that the church is built by Jesus (Matthew 16:13-18). In Matthew 16:13, Jesus asked the disciples a very important question. That question was, "Who do the people say the son of man is?" He did not care what the Pharisees and scribes were saying, but the multitudes. In verse 14, the disciples gave him many various answers; some say John the Baptist while others say Elijah, but still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Then in verse 15 Jesus asks, "But who do you say that I am?" In verse 16, Peter made an astounding confession that only could have been revealed to him by God. To find out what he said, turn in your Bible to Matthew and read verse 16.

Peter made a two-fold confession: He said that Jesus is the Christ, which refers to his office; and that he is the son of God which refers to his divinity. In verse 17, Jesus says to Peter, "Blessed are you for this confession." In verse 18 Jesus says, "Upon this rock I will build my church." Rock, in Greek, is Petra which means a large foundation of stone. Christ did not say he would build his Church on Peter. In Greek, the word used for Peter is Petros, which means a small stone, or a pebble. I hope you can see the significance of these statements. On what authority, you might ask, is Jesus going to build His Church? The answer lies in the fact that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. That makes him qualified to build His Church; and why man cannot lay the foundation of the church. That is why no one person, man or woman has the right to build a church. The confession Peter made is underscoring Jesus' authority. This is the significance of what was said, not that the church would be built on Peter. The Greek word for church is ekklesia, and simply means the called out or a group, gathering or an assembly. Please read what Paul wrote in I Corinthians 3:11. There is one, and only one, true foundation to the church and that one foundation is Jesus Christ. Remember Jesus loves you and so do I!

Let West Bend News announce your engagement, wedding or anniversary. It's only \$4 per column for the photo and the announcement is community news.

HOLY WEEK AT BETHEL

Bethel United Methodist Church invites you to step back in time with us on Maundy Thursday. In our 7:00 p.m. service, we will be stepping back to Jesus' time to experience what that evening might have been like. You will have the opportunity to sample the food they might have eaten in the meal the disciples had with Jesus. We will also be offering communion as part of the evening.

Good Friday, we have a service at 1:00 p.m. that all are also welcome to attend. Our worship on Easter Morning begins with a Sunrise service at 6:30 a.m. followed by breakfast prepared by our Senior MYF. Our regular service begins at 9:30 and Sunday school at 10:45.

Bethel UMC is located at the corners of County Roads 192 and 73. Just east of Antwerp off US 24. In addition to our regular Sunday services, we also offer Pioneer Club on the second and fourth Wednesday nights at 6:45 p.m. This is for children 4 years to sixth grade. Our Jr. and Sr. high students meet the same weeks at 7:00 p.m. along with our weekly bible study for adults. The adult bible study is working through the book of Genesis and you are never too late to jump in.

The third Sunday evening of every month, we join the Antwerp Community Church for an evening of contemporary music and worship. This service moves around, literally. Sometimes we are at Bethel and sometimes at the Antwerp Community Church. And sometimes we go somewhere else. Watch this paper for more on this.

The men meet the second Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and bible study in the church basement and the women meet the second Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. This is usually at someone's house so if you are interested in joining them, please call the church and someone will help you get to the right place. As always, a message can be left for Pastor Charles Schmunk at the church at 419-258-2123 or you can reach him at home by calling 419-899-4153.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Glass Houses

"A man who lives in a glass house should not throw stones."

A quote that came to mind numerous times while reading last week's letter to the editor. Mr. Dysinger has freely and openly stood on his own moral high ground and cast his opinions and half truths as rock solid facts. He doesn't hesitate to slander others, makes up his own numbers, and when confronted with the truth will change the subject or ignore the truth altogether. He is far too invested in the negative environment to allow himself a peak at the truth. He tries to play the poor victim when someone he has attacked on several occasions stands up for himself. Mr. Dysinger you set the tone for the fights you pick and any recourse for the accused to you is well-deserved.

One can normally count on a couple of Brad's Kool-Aid drinkers to stand firm and demand accountability from everyone but him. I believe a letter to the editor should be written with clarity and purpose. If an accusation is to be leveled, the facts to support that accusation had better be there. Unfortunately Brad has never lived up to this standard. His bandwagon should ask themselves if they are truly aware of the issues at hand, or merely seconding the opinion of a want-to-be politician with an axe to grind. And once in a while the letter says more about the person writing it than the point they're trying to make.

In a back-handed slap to Mr. Searing, Brad ends his

letter by stating he doesn't receive two government checks. Mr. Searing receives a pension he has earned and contributed to, Brad, but you fail to mention the tens of thousands of dollars your household has received of hard-earned tax payer money over just the last few years. The good old government ain't so bad when you're on the receiving end, huh, little buddy?

And what about your obsession with government corruption, Brad? You've put yourself in a position to attempt to point out shortcomings in government, wouldn't it be something if your own board that you so proudly sat on were to be caught up in controversy.

Glass houses, Brad, glass houses.

—Jon McCreery

Editor's Note: We here at the West Bend News print all "Letters to the Editor" because we believe that everyone has a Constitutional right to freedom of the press. In saying that, we do not necessarily agree with the content that is printed. We are just the messengers. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article. You can respond or submit a new letter by email, USPS or fax.

Responses need to be received by Friday at 5:00 pm to be considered for the next publication. We reserve the right to edit for length, content and worthiness.

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PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL WILL OFFER UROLOGY CLINIC

At Paulding County Hospital's recent board of trustees meeting members were informed that the hospital will once again be able to provide the community with a urology clinic. According to CEO, Gary Adkins, an agreement has been made with Defiance Clinic for Dr. Tom Walsh to conduct a urology clinic in the outpatient department. No start date has been announced and details of the clinic are still being established.

The board approved a renewal of the contract with Fort Wayne Radiology. Adkins stated, "We are very pleased with their service. It has been through our relationship with them that we can offer 24 hour radiology service to the community with improved technology and turn around time."

The board approved a capital expenditure for a video laryngoscope for the surgery department. This allows for visualization of the vocal cords for placement of endotracheal tubes.

Auditors have given Paulding County Hospital an unqualified or clean opinion on financial statements ending December 31, 2007. This is the highest rating attainable. These statements are available for public review in the administrative office upon request.

This board meeting was the organizational meeting of the year and officers were nominated and elected. The officers elected include Chairman Randy Brooks,

Vice Chair Liz Hunt and Secretary/Treasurer Tom Litzenberg.

Chief Operating Officer, Randy Ruge reported that the medical inpatient renovation project is nearly complete.

Adkins reported that the master facility plan is being developed with an architect firm and with key members of the hospital staff.

BUEHRER WORKS WITH ADVOCATES TO PASS HUMAN CLONING BAN

COLUMBUS—State Senator Steve Buehrer (R-Delta) joined a group of medical experts and other advocates at the Statehouse today to urge passage of Senate Bill 174, legislation he introduced in October that would ban the immoral practice of human cloning in Ohio.

This morning, Sen. Buehrer invited Dr. David Prentice, Senior Fellow for Life Sciences at the Family Research Council in Washington, D.C., Dr. Dennis Sullivan, Director of the Center for Bioethics at Cedarville University and Chris Long, President of the Ohio Christian Alliance, to speak with members of the media about the need for SB 174 and share their expertise on the issue. Then, Dr. Prentice, Dr. Sullivan and Mr. Long testified as proponents of SB 174 before the Senate Civil Justice Committee.

"While science has surely produced great things, the cloning of humans breaches the line between work that benefits mankind and that which threatens our nation's moral foundation and the health of Ohioans," said Buehrer. "It should be the job

of the state to put parameters in place to restrict this dangerous practice."

SB 174 establishes necessary safeguards in state law that ensure human cloning will not take place in Ohio, and if it does, those violators will be punished. Specifically, the bill would prohibit any attempt to perform a human cloning procedure in Ohio, as well as forbid the practice of sending or receiving a human embryo, or any product of that embryo that is produced through cloning. If anyone should not follow these rules, they would face criminal prosecution and may be subject to stiff fines.

Importantly, Buehrer clarified that nothing in SB 174 restricts scientific research that does not involve the cloning of human embryos.

"No human life should begin and end as the subject of an experiment," said Long. "A process that knowingly encourages human life to be created, manipulated for research and, ultimately, destroyed is immoral and should be prohibited."

WAYNE TRACE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT

The Wayne Trace National Honor Society will be hosting its fourth annual dodge ball tournament on Saturday, April 5 in the high school gym. There will be three divisions of teams: Beginners (grades 1-6), Intermediate (grades 7-12), and Expert (out of high school). The Experts will start at 10:00 a.m., the Beginners at 10:30 a.m., and the Intermediates at noon (times could vary slightly due to the length of the previous matches). Each team should have six to eight players and wear the same color of shirts. To enter a team, you must complete a registration and waiver form, which are available in the Wayne Trace High School office or by calling the school and asking for Ms. Klopfenstein. There is a fee to enter your teams. The forms are due by Friday, April 4. On the back of the form will be the list of rules for the tournament; all participants are expected to read through the rules and be familiar with them. The winning team from each division will receive free t-shirts. There will be an entrance fee for anyone who is coming to watch the matches and is not on a team. Also, all the money raised will go towards the Paulding County Relay for Life in which the WT junior NHS members participate. Please come out and help raise money for this worthy cause.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS AND DISMISSALS

Admissions:
3/10 - Carole Fillmore, Antwerp; Kathryn Fegley, Payne

3/13 - Laurenda Gibson, Antwerp; Erma Pratt, Haviland; Edward Finnegan, Oakwood; Robert Collis, Payne

Dismissals:
3/12 - Carole Fillmore, Antwerp

3/15 - Laurenda Gibson, Antwerp; Kathryn Fegley, Payne, transferred to Dallas Lamb, Payne

3/16 - Edward Finnegan, Oakwood; Robert Collis, Payne

NEW ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE FOCUSES ON ENHANCED ACCESSIBILITY AND MINIMAL MEDICATIONS

With the March opening of the new Comprehensive Behavioral Health office at 1645 Indian Wood Circle in Maumee, Ohio, patients needing adolescent psychiatric services will find direct access to psychiatrists 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

"The bottom line is that we operate our practice a little differently than many other adolescent psychiatrists," according to Olantunde Fatinikun, M.D. "When a parent needs help with their teen or adolescent's situation, they will reach one of the three psychiatrists whatever the time, day or night. And we guarantee that the patient can have an appointment with one of the doctors within 48 hours."

The partners forming Comprehensive Behavioral Health Services are Dr. Fatinikun, Vishwas Mashalkar, M.D., and Khawaja Shahzad, M.D.

The doctors bring their extensive training and experience into a practice that innovatively serves patients throughout 27 counties in Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan. In addition to basing their office practice in the new Maumee location, they also rotate seeing patients each week at the Family Resource Center in Findlay, Children's Safe Harbor in Toledo and at Four-County Family Services in Wauseon.

Drs. Fatinikun, Mashalkar and Shahzad have been treating patients in clinical practice for a collective total of 40 years.

Dr. Fatinikun admits that he and his partners are proud of their extended training and experience, which includes additional fellowship training in their specialty and board certification.

"What this means for our patients is that we have been accepted into learning opportunities beyond what is required, which further reflects our commitment to the well-being of all of our patients," Dr. Fatinikun said.

He said that in addition to enhanced accessibility, the Comprehensive Behavioral Health physicians believe in a philosophy of minimal medication. "The medications available today are extensive and can be very valuable treatment tools. But we don't believe in automatically prescribing medicines, as we are truly concerned about toxicity issues."

Drs. Fatinikun, Mashalkar and Shahzad are three of only 13 doctors in Northwest Ohio who are trained and certified by the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to pursue the office-based treatment of opioid dependence, a new concept that eliminates inpatient treatment of addictions to drugs such as heroin and morphine.

Comprehensive Behavioral Health accepts several leading insurance plans as well as private pay patients. They may be reached at 419-794-0567 or via their website, www.ComprehensiveBehavioralHealth.com.

LCPL ZACH BAER DEPLOYED TO IRAQ

Marine LCPL Zach Baer of Curwensville, PA has recently been deployed to Iraq.

Zach is an MP with the 274th Det. Alpha Co. He is the husband of LCPL Jaimie Rhoades from Antwerp, OH.

Zach and Jaimie are both MP's stationed at Cherry Point, NC.

Zach is the son of Dan Baer of Curwensville, PA

and Linda and Mike Marshall of Punxsatawney, PA. He is the son-in-law of Tam and Terry Pollock from Antwerp, OH.

For Zach, the worst part of his deployment is that he will miss the birth of his first child and being with Jaimie.

Please keep him and all the other soldiers in your prayers.

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Grover Hill Summer League Sign-ups

When: Wed. March 19 - 5:30 pm - 7 pm
Sat. March 22 - 10 am - 11:30 am
Tues. March 25 - 7 pm - 8:00 pm

Where: N&N Quick Stop Marathon Station in Grover Hill

Any Questions contact:

Jeff Gudakunst 419-587-3169

Amy Campbell 419-587-3804

for more information.

All registrations must be turned in by Friday, March 28 to be eligible to play.



ANTWERP HISTORY

By: Stan Jordan

Friends, this picture is loaned to us by the folks at H₂O To Go. They told us that it was given to them by Max Smith, former co-owner of L. Smith & Son.

Smith's were Buick and Pontiac Automobile dealers. The painting on the sides say, 'this is a 1903 Buick'. The year of the plate is 1960.

The man standing beside the Buick is Carl Smith. He was the 'son' out of the L. Smith & Son. His father was Lewis Smith.

Carl was born in Defiance, OH and the family came to Antwerp in 1908 and bought the hardware from Alex Grant. In 1927 they erected that beautiful

L. Smith & Son building that is still one of the show places in town. Carl had two sisters that helped in the business in the early years. Carl married Norma Filly and they had three children.

The gentleman standing here at the extreme right is J. Warren Seslar. He operated a Texaco station just at the right of the picture. Notice the air and gauge tower to blow up your automobile tires. The watering can advertises Prestone, but I'm sure it is full of water being this is summer time. At that time, the station attendant would put in your gasoline, check your tires and your oil and the radiator. The items were there, handy all the time.

I forgot to mention that

at one time the L. Smith and Son Buick dealership was the oldest Buick dealership in the United States. For about 70 years it had been doing business under that same name. The Smith boys were mighty proud of that distinction and Antwerp was also.

We here at West Bend News, are not sure what the celebration is about. We talked to Max Smith and he doesn't remember this celebration. We think it is 50 years for L. Smith & Son to be in business selling Buick automobiles.

They started to build Buicks back in 1903 and this is a first year Buick probably loaned to them to help commemorate the occasion.

Smith's had been in business for 50 years and they had grown and sold many top of the line appliances.

By this time they sold about any implement that Allis-Chalmers made. I think I'm safe to say that at that time they were the biggest merchant in town.

I'm saddened to mention that J. Warren Seslar, the man at the right of the picture, passed away that fall of 1960. He was 76 years old.

Carl was born in 1892 and lived a nice long life of 93 years. He passes away in 1995. These two men were neighbors in business for many years.

I would like to say they are still neighbors in death. Because down at the cemetery, they are buried in the same row, not more than 20 feet apart, and I'll bet that it was planned that way.

STAN & SUE ON THE ROAD

By: Stan Jordan & Sue Knapp

We went down and interviewed Todd Cook, the owner of H₂O To Go. Todd was born in Hicksville in 1965. He attended school in Hicksville and then the family moved to the Antwerp area and he graduated from AHS in 1983.

Rebecca Spyker was born in the Paulding area, but went to Defiance to school. She graduated there in 1991. They were married January 23, 1999 and have lived in Antwerp since then.

Todd attended Purdue and has a degree in Chemistry. Then he earned his business degree from Ohio State.

He started his first busi-



ness in Hicksville in 1997 and thought about expansion right away.

He bought the L. Smith and Son Building from Winkles in the mid-1990's. There was a big drainage problem and also many months of renovation. He opened the Antwerp branch in October of 2000. They carry about 7000 items in stock: air

and water purifiers, sump pumps, pools and spas and related outdoor items and they carry salt for snow or water softeners.

They are open Monday through Friday from 9:00 - 5:00 and Saturday from 9:00 to 1:00.

They sell and install all types of water softeners and drinking water. They service water systems also. They also do sulfur removal, and design systems for commercial use. Right now they don't have a water delivery system but they hope to have one in the future.

Down the road they want to open a branch in Defiance and Fort Wayne.



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PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/19 THROUGH 3/25

- MS/HS - Breakfast
- 3/19 - Bacon, egg & cheese muffin, juice, milk
- 3/20 - Pancakes, sausage patty, juice, milk
- 3/21 - NO SCHOOL, Good Friday
- 3/24 - NO SCHOOL, Easter Break
- 3/25 - Cook's choice
- MS/HS - Lunch
- 3/19 - Taco salad or grilled chicken sandwich, green beans, assorted fruit, milk
- 3/20 - Bar-b-que pork on a bun, au gratin potatoes, spiced apples, milk
- 3/21 - NO SCHOOL, Good Friday
- 3/24 - NO SCHOOL, Easter Break
- 3/25 - Chili soup, cheese bread stick, assorted fruit, milk
- Paulding Elementary - Lunch
- 3/19 - Corn dog, baked beans, fruit cup, milk
- 3/20 - Turkey deli, mini carrots, cake, fruit cup, milk
- 3/21 - NO SCHOOL, Good Friday
- 3/24 - NO SCHOOL, Easter Break
- 3/25 - Cook's choice
- Oakwood Elementary - Lunch
- 3/19 - Chicken strips, oven potatoes, bread, ice cream, milk
- 3/20 - Cheese pizza, green beans, fruit, milk
- 3/21 - NO SCHOOL, Good Friday
- 3/24 - NO SCHOOL, Easter Break
- 3/25 - Hot dog on a bun, vegetable, fruit, milk

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ANTWERP VETS PROJECT CONTINUES

Antwerp's volunteer VETS organization, whose mission is to repair the existing Civil War statue, revise portions of that statue, and install engraved tablets at Veterans Memorial Park, gradually moved forward March 5, during the most recent meeting. Two attending guests provided tax information and a renovation quote for assessment.

Attorney Suzanne Rister offered those in attendance an explanation of a non-profit status, the available options and responded to numerous questions from those present. With the information Attorney Rister provided, the organization will decide which of the alternatives would best suit the VETS undertaking.

Mr. Mark Homier, of Homier's Monumental, Inc. of Defiance, provided striking design illustrations and a preliminary quote as part of his company's proposal to remove, repair, and re-establish the Civil War statue in Antwerp Memorial Park. The group is waiting for an additional proposal from another local company for cost comparison.

VETS volunteer members will meet to peruse all matters presented, make decisions which can be made, and offer their findings at the next scheduled meeting March 29, 7:00 p.m. at Essen House. The community is encouraged to attend.

WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING CLUB COMPETES IN AYERSVILLE TOURNAMENT

The Wayne Trace Wrestling Club competed in the Ayersville Wrestling Tournament on March 8, 2008. The club placed 20 of the 21 wrestlers that competed.

First place: Austin Smith, Brendan Dingus, Tyler Show-

alter, Jacob Dingus, Aaron Miller, and Aaron Harris

Second place: Nate Showalter, Kameron Bevis, Jarod Galloway, Zaine Cotterman, George Clemens IV, Zack Cotterman, and Tyler Arnett

Third Place: Austin Pierce, Trevor Domina, Anthony Rooks, Christopher Galloway, James Coyne, Justin Pierce, and Jacob Blair

Seven Wayne Trace wrestlers place in National Tournament.

Seven wrestlers from Wayne Trace competed in the Terminator Tournament, held at the Toledo Seagate Center on March 9 2008. The tournament was part of the Rocky Mountain National Tournament series, held all over the United States.

Second Place: Cody Stahl, Tyler Showalter and Aaron Miller

Third Place: George Clemens IV

Fourth Place: Joe Stahl

Sixth Place: Kameran Clemens and Myranda Stahl

HICKSVILLE MASONIC TEMPLE GETS FACELIFT

Hicksville Masonic Lodge is getting a face lift. The complete inside of the Temple is being re-painted and stenciled to resemble a stone Temple. Several Masons are supplying the labor and the Temple Board is funding the renovation project.

Get well cards were signed and sent to members Gene McClellan, Jay T. Volkert, and Raymond Bender. Birthday cards were sent to Larry Haver March 14, Larry Brown March 21, Jim Corkwell March 20, Jim Massie March 20, Clay Coleman March 16, Wes Kallsen March 16, and Bill McAlexander March 26.

In further business, the first stated meeting in March was held last Wednesday. Jim Kline opened the Lodge and the pledge was give. The fifty

year members present were asked to stand and mention their years of Masonic involvement. Among those members included Doyle Johnson 53 years, Wm. Kenny Wonderly Elmer Woodcox 53 years, 59 years, Derrill Kline 59 years, Fred Shaffer 51 years, Wayne Carr 52 years, Estel Cottrell 59 years and Charles Carey 56 years. Others on the sidelines were Tim Betts, Russell St. John, Lee Kallsen, Dick Savage, Dave Metz, Mike Boger, Tom Culler, George Underwood, Richard Wann, Robert Stotler Jr., Norm Byers, Jim Kline, Bill Metz, Greg Wein and Gerry Shidler.

The Grand Master's Reception was discussed and ticket reservations were made for those attending on March 28 at Northwest State Community College. The next stated meeting will be March 26 at 7:30 p.m.

THE CIRCUS IS COMING TO TOWN! PAULDING LION'S CLUB TO HOST CIRCUS

It has been announced that the Paulding Lions Club is bringing the Kelly Miller Circus back to town for the new 2008 show. The circus will roll into town on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Mark your calendars because everyone is invited to come out and watch the animals being unloaded and fed and the elephants raising the big top. Activities will begin at 7:30 a.m. and the tent will be raised between 8:30 and 9:00 with the help of the elephants. Guides will be furnished for school groups and anyone attending.

The traditional "old style" circus will present two performances at 2:00 and 5:30 p.m. Support the Lion's Club and save money by buying your tickets in advance.

The 2008 season promises to be more exciting than ever with many new acts and entertainers to amaze and amuse you. Come out and enjoy a day of fun filled excitement at the circus.

DEFIANCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL TO LEARN ABOUT SHIP LISTS

The next meeting of the Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be March 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. John United

Church of Christ located at 950 Webster Street, Defiance. Webster St. is on the NE side of the Defiance College Campus and the Church is next to the college gymnasium. Non-members are welcome to attend and members are encouraged to bring guests. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

The program topic will be "Ship Passenger Lists" presented by Sam Schmitz from Celina, Ohio. He has 11 years of genealogy research experience and has been a volunteer at the Family History Library in Lima for 10 years. He will share information on how to research ship passenger lists to help locate your ancestors who were immigrants to the USA. The ship's manifest can contain a wealth of information about an immigrant.

Visit the chapter's website to find local genealogy information, to search for local surnames, to ask a question about local ancestors, or to find many links for other genealogy websites. The URL is <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ohdcgs/membershipform.html> Questions may be sent to Defiance Co. Chapter OGS; P.O. Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512.

RESULTS OF THE JANUARY 29, 2008 POINT IN TIME HOMELESS COUNT ARE RELEASED

The Northwest Ohio Housing Coalition participated in a statewide "Point in Time Homeless Count" on Tuesday, January 29, 2008. Throughout the state of Ohio, Housing Coalitions and Continuum of Care groups joined forces to count the number of people experiencing homelessness on one given day. This effort was organized by The Coalition on Housing and Homelessness in Ohio.

Locally, volunteers from the NW Ohio Housing Coalition and social work students from The Defiance College sent data collection forms to area service organizations, churches, schools, businesses, parks and campgrounds. Data was collected for Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Williams counties. Anyone who may have had contact with someone who was homeless or at risk of homelessness was asked to respond by returning the data collection form or calling First Call For Help. Volunteers also went out into the community that evening in search of persons who might have been sleeping in cars or other inadequate housing.

Results of the January Count provided the following information:

—177 people in our five county area were homeless on January 29. **Of the 177 homeless persons - there were 117 single persons and 18 families consisting of 27 adults and 33 children.

—401 people in our five county area were at risk of being homeless within three months. **Of the 401 at-risk persons there were 165 single persons and 69 families consisting of 99 adults and 137 children.

Homelessness in rural areas is a hidden problem. Rarely do we see persons sleeping on a sidewalk, a park bench or under a bridge - although these occurrences have all happened right here in NW Ohio. But yet, hundreds of people from our community (Continued on Page 7)

ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS WINS AWARD



By: Sue Knapp

Ann Miller of Ann's Bright Beginnings has went over and above what her regular licensing requires to run her preschool. Ann's Bright Beginnings is the first in Paulding County to be rated and recognized for it's excellent child care program and its ongoing commitment to children. Ann's Bright Beginnings has won the Step Up To Quality Award from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services-Bureau of Child Care and Development, the state agency responsible for licensing and promoting high standards among Ohio's child care programs.

The criteria for this award is the following: A ratio of one teacher for every 12 preschoolers (3-4 years old) and a ratio of one teacher for every 14 preschoolers (4-5 year olds); teachers receive five hours of child development training per year, above licensing requirements; to reduce staff turnover, the program provides at least one employee benefit to staff members; teachers are familiar with Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards and are trained to prepare children for kindergarten.

Mrs. Ann Miller is proud to be a One-Star program and is committed to high-quality care and education.

The award was presented by Julie Malkoski of YWCA Childcare Resource and Sue Zonner of Ohio Department of Job and Family Services.

Sydney, the five year old child of Matt and Linda Reineck, has been attending the preschool for two years. Linda said, "We are very happy with the staff and the teaching the children get." All of the Reineck children have attended the preschool.

Zachary, three years old, says, "I like it here, I play and have snacks and I like my teacher." He is the child of Brian and Terra Gorrell and Terra feels this way.

"Ann's Bright Beginnings goes above and beyond to make it a safe environment for all the children. The kids are taught a lot with hands-on training and it is nice to have a place to send your child."

Ann's staff includes Carrie Myers, teacher for the 3-4 year olds and Chris Adams teacher for the 4-5 year olds. Ann Miller is involved with teaching all the children.

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DEFIANCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL TO LEARN ABOUT SHIP LISTS

The next meeting of the Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be March 24 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. John United

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(Continued from Page 6)
 ties find themselves homeless each year and resort to sleeping in cars, in tents or campers, or front porches, in abandoned trailers or buildings, in community shelter programs, in hotel rooms or "couch surfing" from one kind friend or relative's home after another.

The January 29th count indicated a significant risk in the number of local people considered to be homeless or at risk of homelessness as compared to data collected in the two most recent counts. Committee members contribute this increase to several factors:

—Lack of affordable - long term housing options

—Lack of adequate/available emergency shelter programs and/or assistance with housing costs. Local shelter programs remain consistently full.

—Increase in foreclosures - In addition to the effect on the homeowner, people who were living with friends or relatives lost that option when the home was foreclosed on.

—Increased awareness of the Point In Time Homeless Count project resulted in increased local participation.

—Duplication - although committee members believe the occurrence of duplication is low - it is possible that some people could have been reported more than once.

Date of Count:
 February 2006 - 115, homeless; 329, at-risk
 June 2007 - 92, homeless;

235, at-risk
 January 2008 - 177, homeless; 401 at-risk
 A point in time count is a crucial activity in our community's continuum of care process to assure effective services for homeless or at-risk persons. The count provides important information about the number of persons who may need access to services and allows communities to determine if current services need to be expanded or improved.

For more information contact Angie Franklin at 419-784-5136 ext. 1138 or any of the following committee members:

Defiance County: Kris Bryant - NOCAC - PATH Center, 419-782-6962; Fulton County: Kristina Baxter - The Ability Center - 419-782-5441; Henry County: Maria Martinez - Rural Opportunities, Inc. - 419-875-6654; Paulding County: Nancy Hessler - The United Way of Paulding County - 419-399-5300; Williams County: Linda Shambarger - The Corrections Center of NW Ohio - 419-428-3800.

ADULT SOFTBALL LEAGUE FORMING IN PAULDING

Adult softball leagues are now forming at Paulding Reservoir Park.

Men's and women's teams are needed. League meeting will be April 2 at Red Owl Inn at 7:00 p.m.

For more information please call: 419-399-2981.

BOWL FOR KIDS SAKE—BIG MAGIC!



Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Defiance, Henry and Paulding is once again conducting its annual Bowl For Kids' Sake Campaign. Bowl for Kids' Sake is a national campaign supporting youth mentoring in each BBBS service area. It is a day of bowling and fun for everyone! The event supporting BBBS in Defiance and Paulding Counties is being held Saturday April 5th at Holiday Lanes in Defiance.

Big Brothers Big Sisters has one mission - to help boys and girls, most of whom are considered at-risk and live in single-parent homes, achieve their full potential through long term, personal relationships with carefully screened, dedicated volunteers. Amazingly, after only twelve months in a Big/Little match, these children are twice as likely as their peers to avoid drug use, perform better in school and get along better at home and in the community. It's a program that really works!

Currently, there are youth waiting, from a variety of backgrounds, hoping to be matched with a caring volun-

teer. If you had the opportunity to help kids in your community and at the same time provide a fun, feel-good, free activity to enhance employee morale - wouldn't you consider it?

You can help make a difference in the lives of youth in your own community by coming out to participate in this event! We do the work - you have a good time. By forming five-person teams of bowlers, you, your company, your church, your family... will raise money to help put BIG MAGIC into the lives of youth in your own community. It is a great opportunity for you to get together for a couple hours have fun while raising money to help the kids in your own community!

Come out and bowl... or volunteer on Saturday April 5 at Holiday Lanes in Defiance.

For more information on how you can put together a bowling team, and support Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Defiance, Henry & Paulding Counties call 419-782-8313x200 or e-mail us at info@bbbsbigfun.org.

VANTAGE BOARD HOLDS MARCH MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Vantage Board of Education was held on Thursday, March 6, 2008 in the Cup and Saucer Restaurant. The treasurer's report included the approval of the February 7, 2008 regular board meeting minutes and the financial statements for the month of January, 2008. The board approved a resolution to accept the amounts and rates as determined by the budget commission and authorized the necessary tax levies and certify them to the county auditor. Funds were advanced to the Student Fee account and the Building and Grounds House account, to be returned when students pay and the house sells. They also approved a resolution to reduce appropriations and revenues for FY08 by \$1,000 in the Tech Prep fund. Tech Prep funds came in \$1,000 under what was estimated.

Superintendent Staci Kaufman updated the board on district ballot issues and administrative restructuring. Ms. Kaufman announced that the All Boards Dinner will be held on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. with the board

meeting after the dinner.

Director Bob Vennekotter updated the board on local and regional skills competitions for BPA and FCCLA students and discussed the senior capstone project and presentations which will be held on Friday, March 28. Principal Keith Rydell reported on the success of the Scholarship Dinner and Open House, the Attendance Marathon and the results of the FFA Ag and Industrial Diagnostics event. He discussed the OGT week schedule and activities, which begin March 10. Adult Education Director Jim Grant informed the board that the state has reduced the postsecondary Adult CTE budget line by 10% for the next two years. He also reported that three new continuing education classes for health care workers and police officers were

held during February, current customized training is being provided for Kennedy Manufacturing, KAM Manufacturing and Braun Industries, and the Medical Assistant and Phlebotomy classes graduated on February 21, 2008.

In new business, the board:

—Approved employment of the following, as needed, as scheduled: Penny Bacon, Cafeteria Manager, Diana Becker, Adult Education Secretary, Jane Collis, Adult Education Evening Secretary, Richard Fry, Evening Custodian, Jackie Gunsett, Adult Education Financial Aid Coordinator, Theresa Jones, Cook, Cynthia Klinger, Cook, Genevieve Bentz, Cook, Richard Potter, Adult Education Transitions Coordinator, Pete Prichard, Adult Education ABLE Coordinator/Truck Academy, Barb Showalter, Adult Education Health Careers Coordinator, Bruce Showalter, Adult Education Police Academy, Sonya Herber, Paulding One Stop WIA Coordinator, Carol Parsons, Paulding One Stop Secretary, James Grant, Adult Education Director;

—Approved supplemental contracts for Kelly Horstman, Jean Minnig, Kari Druckemiller and Mike Knott, all for the COMPASS Workshop;

—Accepted the resignation of Kevin Koesters, Science Instructor, effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year;

—Accepted the resignation of Richard Potter, Tran-

sitions/JTPA Coordinator effective July 1, 2008 for the purpose of retirement;

—Employed the following Adult Education instructors as needed, as scheduled: Thomas McKee, Stained Glass, Linda Morris, Child Development, Judith Bernard, WIA Youth Case Worker, Sara Ricker, Health Careers;

—Approved the Vantage Career Center school calendar for 2008-2009 school year;

—Accepted with thanks a donation of \$906.50 from the Buckeye Insurance Women to assist with needy student's fees;

—Approved the community reinvestment agreement with Unverferth Manufacturing;

—Amended Superintendent's contract to provide home DSL service, the purchase of a Blackberry for online communications and reimburse expenses incurred for moving to the district;

—Amended Technology Coordinator's contract to provide home DSL service;

—Resolution to approve Memorandum of Agreement with the VTO regarding Seniority List.

The Superintendent requested an executive session for the purpose of employment of personnel. No action was taken.

The next Vantage Board of Education meeting will be held on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. immediately following the All Boards Dinner.

Oakwood Ball Association SIGN-UP

March 20th 3:30-6 p.m.

Oakwood Legion Hall
 Contact persons are Sondra and Donald Stacy
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Huber Theatre MARCH

Sun. 3/30 - 2pm - NEW HORIZON'S BAND!! A variety of old & new for your listening or dancing pleasure.

Fri-Sun. 4/18, 19 at 7:30 pm - 20 at 2pm - Plan ahead for "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers!" Directed by Keith Countryman

COMMUNITY ART SHOW

To Promote yet another aspect of area talent, The Huber Opera House is planning an Art Show. Work brought in for display will be shown both in the Lobby and Community Room.

Requirements to exhibitors are as follows:

- 1.) Oils, water colors, pastels, charcoal, etc. Must be framed and wired for hanging
- 2.) Marked "For Sale" or "NFS" plus name & title should remain on display from April 4th thru June 7th
- 3.) Limit is three per person
- 4.) Peoples' Choice Awards
- 5.) Hours for bringing in entries thru April 1st: 10 to 4 Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-12 on Saturdays.

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This project is being underwritten by AEP/Ohio in support of the Huber Opera House & It's Value to the Community!



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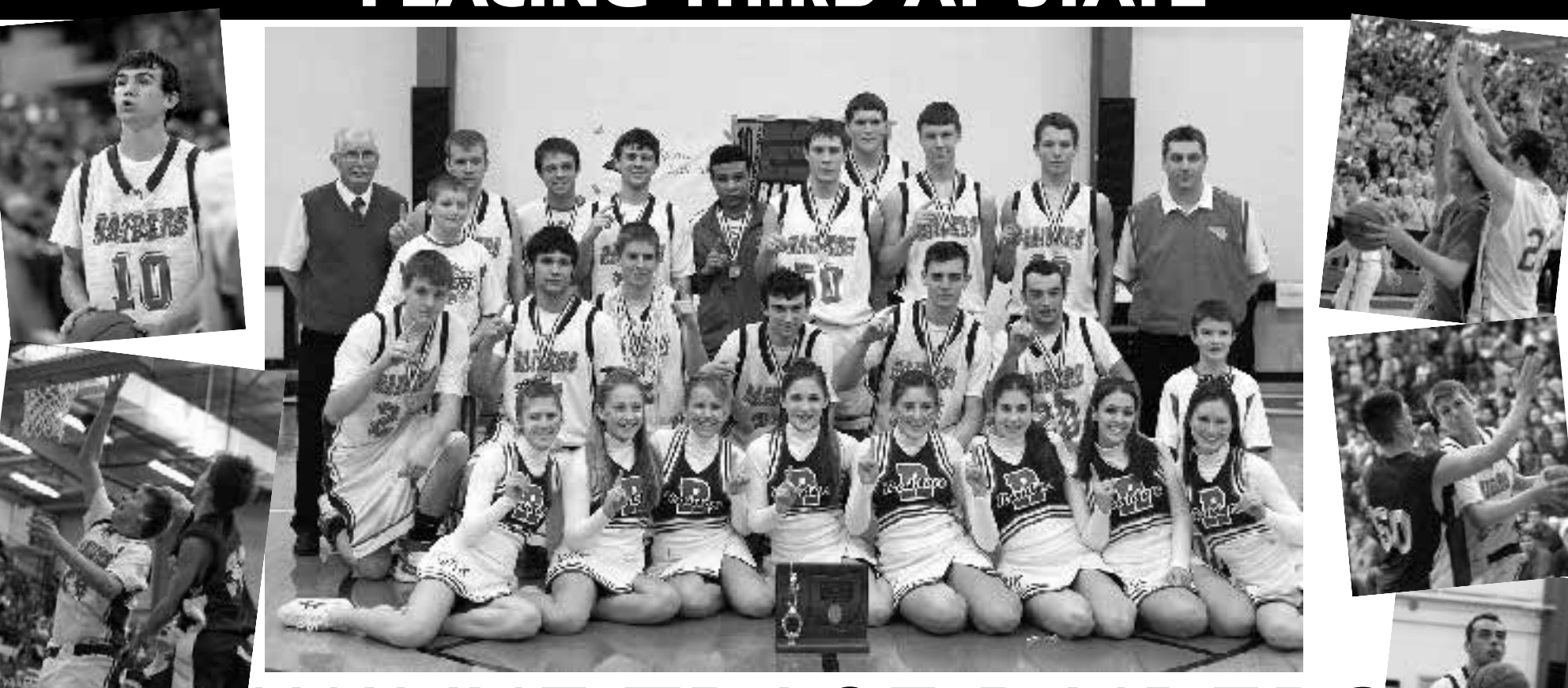
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(Varsity) Tevin Hale (11), Aaron Hockenberry (12), Justin Davis (11), Ryan Davis (12), Caleb Davis (10), Alex Labounty (12), Riley Linder (12), Dane Treece (12), Calvin Sinn (12), Blake Foust (11), Art Stoller (11), Nate Jewell (12), Derrick Baksa (10). (JV) Evan Klopfenstein (10), Jordan Sherry (10), Henk Akkerman (10), Jason Gordon (11), Brett Beckman (10), Coaches: Al Welch, Jim Linder

The Varsity Cheerleaders

(Not in order) Kayla Flint, Ashley Hessler, Amber Kipfer, Angie Young, Jessyca Holmes, Molly Long, Alesha Mobley, Kirsten Olwin

Record: 21-5

Individual Points:

Tevin Hale	31
Aaron Hockenberry	455
Justin Davis	7
Ryan Davis	88
Caleb Davis	17
Alex Labounty	218
Riley Linder	307
Dane Treece	245
Blake Foust	3
Art Stoller	4
Nate Jewell	103
Derrick Baksa	47

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Antwerp Exchange Bank 419-258-5351	Baughman Tile Co. 419-399-3160	Dr. Michael M. Mott 419-399-3394	Paulding • Payne Mari-Mart C & Y Oil	Morton Buildings 419-399-4549	FSC Securities 419-399-2311
	Paulding County Hospital 419-399-4080	Den Herder Funeral Home 419-399-2866	Dooley Funeral Home 5761 SR 500 • Payne 419-263-0000		Antwerp PHARMACY Downtown Antwerp • 419-258-2068



SAVE OUR HOMES

By: Sue Knapp
On Thursday, March 13, Lou Ann Wannemacher, Paulding County Treasurer and the Paulding County "Save Our Homes" Task Force hosted a meeting with Ohio Treasurer of State, Richard Cordray. Mr. Cordray informed the group on actions that are taking place to help people facing foreclosures.

The bottom line is risky loans were made that included no down payment, inflated appraisals and increasing interest. People couldn't afford the payments so they defaulted. Ohio, Indiana and Michigan were hit the hardest having the highest numbers of foreclosures. Other states now have also been hit with high numbers of foreclosures. Mr. Cordray asked, "What can we do to keep people in their homes and what can we do to help them if they lose their home?"

Franklin County identified the problem and decided to form an organization which consists of anyone who

wanted to come and help, and find a fix. People need to be aware of the type of loan they are getting: is the interest fixed or variable, what to do if you are behind in your payments. If this is your case, you need to talk to your lender—your banker does not want you to lose your home. Foreclosure not only affects you and your lender, but lawyers, judges, law enforcement and other departmental entities become involved.

Another problem is sometimes you don't know who your lender is. All you know is where to send your payment. Sometimes loans are sold and resold numerous times. Therefore, you never get to talk to a person and if you do get through, you get put on hold for a length of time and it's very frustrating to know your just a number to them. Fortunately, there are community agencies that will help you to sort through these types of problems.

Two suggestions were made by Mr. Cordray: 1) We need mediators for the lenders and borrowers to try and settle the problem. We need to call our local judges and suggest foreclosure mediation. Jaqui Hagerott, head of Mediation Services of Ohio, has been taking information to the different counties talking about the mediation process. 2) A group of citizens from Cleveland have formed an organization called ESOP. This organization operates through grants and has just recently received a large one that will enable them to help other communities. The trained staff are able to cut through the red tape involved in getting a hold of the lenders, and by helping the borrowers in filling out the paper work needed. Mr. Cordray would like to see Paulding County and the surrounding counties be able to take advantage of this program.

Mr. Cordray is open to ideas and suggestions in finding a solution to this problem. One of his main goals is to "keep families in their homes."

Organizations that will help you with your problems: Paulding County Treasurer's Office (will help with back real estate taxes), 419-399-8280; Home ownership Preservation Foundation, 1-888-995-HOPE; Department of Job and Family Services, 419-399-3756; Northwest Ohio Community Action Commission, Inc., 419-399-3650; Paulding County Veterans Services, 419-399-8285; Legal Aid of Western Ohio, 1888-534-1432; First Call for Help Napoleon, 419-599-1660 or 1-800-468-4357; Paulding County United Way, 419-399-5300; Ohio Treasurer of State - Richard Cordray "Your Money Now" www.yourmoneynowonline.org; United States Department of Agriculture, 419-422-0242 ext. 113; Consumer Credit Counseling Services, 419-531-2227 or 1-800-355-2227; Maria S. Martinez, Homeownership & Foreclosure Program Manager, 419-875-6654.



UROLOGIST BEGINS CLINIC AT PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL

Thomas F. Walsh, M.D. will begin a Urology clinic located in the outpatient department of Paulding County Hospital beginning March 25, 2008. Dr. Walsh comes to us from Defiance Clinic and is a welcome addition to the speciality clinics that are offered through the outpatient department. CEO, Gary Adkins is very excited to offer this service to the community stating, "We are pleased to once again offer Urology services to Paulding County residents. When we had a Urology clinic before, it was extremely well attended and a vital and popular medical service that many people in the area took advantage of." He continued, "Having the opportunity to be seen right here in your home town makes it much more convenient."

Dr. Walsh practices general Urology for male and female patients and has special interest in treating prostate cancer and stone disease. He is a native of Pennsylvania and a 1975 graduate of The Ohio State University. After graduating from Ohio State, he was commissioned a Naval Officer and was on active duty at the U.S. Naval Air Station in Pensacola, FL until 1978 when he began his medical education. He completed his residency in Urology at West Virginia University in 1987. He served with the U.S. Medical Corps reserves from 1982 to 1999.

MONTHLY RECYCLING WITH THE BOY SCOUTS

The scouts of Antwerp will be recycling Saturday, March 22. They recycle every fourth Saturday of the month. They take cardboard, glass, newspaper in brown bags, and aluminum and steel cans only. The scouts will be at the Antwerp Fire Hall from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.



KINDERGARTEN CLINIC AT P.E.V.S.

Paulding Exempted Village School's Kindergarten Clinic dates for screening and registering our 2008-2009 kindergartners have been set. Paulding Elementary will hold Kindergarten Clinic on Monday and Tuesday, April 21 and 22; and Oakwood Elementary's Clinic date is Friday, April 25. If you have a child who will be five years old on or before August 1, 2008, please call the school office to schedule a registra-

tion appointment. (Paulding Elementary, 419-399-4656 or Oakwood Elementary, 419-594-3346). When you bring your child to the screening, you will also need to bring the following items with you: certificate of live birth; child's social security card; immunization records; and custody papers, if applicable. The screening/registration process will take about one hour. Please pass this information on to any family or friends with children approaching school age.

ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOLS LUNCH MENUS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/19 THROUGH 3/25

3/19 - 3/21 - NO SCHOOL, Spring Break
3/24 - Hot dog on bun or

popcorn chicken, pears, corn, milk; PLUS: salad bar or cottage cheese & fruit
3/25 - Chicken nuggets or burrito, tator tots, pineapple, milk; PLUS: salad bar or stromboli

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IN APPRECIATION
March is National Professional Social Worker Month. The theme is Social Workers, Helping People Touching Lives. I want to recognize the Children Services Workers from Paulding County Department of Job and Family Services. We work together with other agencies to help protect the children of Paulding County. There will be some that will disagree with this statement, but our agency workers function within the mandates of the state. The workers that I want to recognize may not all have Social Worker degrees, but we all function together to touch the lives of families in Paulding County. These workers are Alice Gerber, Tiffany Goings, Charity Meuleman, Ashley Phebus, Kristy Stoller and Amy Stroble. Our support staff are Lisa Baker and Judi Short. Our agency director is N. Corey Walker.
-Janice Chambers Social Services Supervisor



NEWS TO NOTE FROM WOODBURN

By: Laura Wegmann

As the great Age of Information progresses, globalization is constantly touted as the strongest indication of a business's success. Yet, however great its acclaimed benefits may be, many Americans still prefer "home-grown" establishments over universally homogenized corporations.

One company has managed to expand globally but still retain the definitive spirit of an American entrepreneur. Since its beginnings as the Ohio Oil Company in 1887, the Marathon Oil Corporation has stimulated growth in hundreds of small cities throughout America—cities such as Woodburn.

If the success of a business is measured by its benefit to the community, then the Marathon stations of Woodburn are undoubtedly successful. In 1989, the Wortman family opened the Country Oasis along Highway 24. For nineteen years now, travel-

ers have been welcomed to Woodburn under the Marathon station's red, white and blue signs. In 1996, Merl and his wife Cindy, bought and renovated the old service station on Main Street. Since then, the business has been passed down from father to son. Kent Wortman is the current manager of the Main Street Oasis while Cary and his wife Amy continue to run the Country Oasis. "Woodburn has embraced the small business man." Kent explains, "We have done everything we can to give back."

From sponsoring the local little league to displaying an inviting storefront, both the Country and Main Street Oasis have been wonderful assets to our community. When residents purchase fuel and other items at the Oasis, they are buying it from a friend, a neighbor, not just some convenience store. It's a comfort to know that your money for fuel isn't going to a stranger, but to a local business, through an American oil company. With its refining, marketing and transportation headquarters in Findlay, Ohio, Marathon is one of the largest investors in Midwest America. As Kent stated, "It doesn't get any more American than Ohio."

With the consumer's budget in mind, both stations have worked hard to maintain competitive prices. Patrons are encouraged to consider holding a Marathon Platinum MasterCard in order to receive 5% rebates on all fuel purchases.

The entire Wortman family would like to thank Woodburn and all their customers for giving them a delightful community to do business with. Though other stations and oil companies may change hands a thousand times, nothing will ever replace the friendly smile and firm hand shake of this Woodburn business.



ANTWERP WINTER ATHLETIC AWARD CEREMONY

On Tuesday, March 11 the Antwerp High School held its winter athletic awards ceremony in the gym.

In boys basketball those receiving special recognition: Defensive Player of the Year - Tim Ryan

Offensive Player of the Year - Boston Hormann
Jason Reeb Hustle Award - Anthony Smith

David Hammond Heart and Soul Award - Boston Hormann

4th Year Varsity Award - Boston Hormann

Van Wert All-Area 1st Team - Boston Hormann and Bob Bragg

Van Wert All-Area Honorable Mention - TJ Short, Tim Ryan, and Adam Taylor

All-County Team, 1st Team - Boston Hormann and TJ Short

All-County Honorable Mention - Adam Taylor and Bob Bragg

GMC, 1st Team - Boston Hormann

GMC Honorable Mention - Bob Bragg

District 7 First Team - Boston Hormann; Boston will play in an "all-star" game on March 20 at Swanton.

District 7 Academic Award (must have a 3.5 GPA or higher) - Boston Hormann

District 7 Honorable Mention - TJ Short, Bob Bragg, and Adam Taylor

Northwest Ohio All-District Honorable Mention - Boston Hormann and TJ Short

In girls basketball, those receiving special recognition: Defensive Award - Amanda Riebersal

MVP - Bryn Schlatter
4th Year Letterman - Bryn Schlatter

Rotary Award & Coach's Award - Jen Womack

In cheerleading, those receiving special recognition: Most Improved Award - Michele Stuart and Victoria Zuber

Rotary Award & 4th Year Letterman - Rachel Taylor

Missing pictures? We have a stack of pictures here at West Bend News from previous publications.

LOOKING AT PAULDING COUNTY FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Looking at Paulding County over the past five years, funding has become a major issue. The levies, proposed by the Commissioners for general fund obligations, have generally satisfied the need for a short time, but not for the long term. Stagnant revenue sources during this time have placed a heavy burden on the county. Costs during this period have escalated. Reductions were made in several ways to reduce the demand. We will share those reductions in future correspondence.

Presently, the County Commissioners would like to address questions that have surfaced recently. What will our county look like in the next few years? What is the Commissioners' vision for our county in the future?

One of the obvious answers deals with US 24 as it progresses toward final completion in 2011 or early 2012. The economic picture for our locale tends to remain in limbo concerning the US 24 Corridor. Hopefully, businesses will want to participate in the growth in this area, but to what extent and how quickly remains to be seen. We also understand that unbridled expansion can cause many problems.

One of the ways industry calculates their ability

to succeed is with property locations that provide water and sewer when they need it. Shovel-ready preparation provides more opportunities for growth. County officials, Villages, Townships, other groups, and individuals are exploring possible options to provide avenues to realize business/industrial development.

Expenses have not remained stagnant over the last five years. The County has adjusted and reduced services and staff, and delayed needed repairs and materials, just to name a few, to maintain a balanced budget. We constantly discuss ways to increase revenue and decrease expenses, locally and with other counties. Grant writing has been a method to secure some types of funding, but grants are normally earmarked for special projects. Many grants require matching funds. The County's general fund limitations have become an obstacle to this type of funding.

Adequate county roadways, ditches, state funding, and the ability of the County to function in a joint effort to promote our community statewide, are other areas of concern. We, as Paulding County, need to address the areas that we can improve and change over time.

—Nola Ginter,
Clerk, Paulding County Commissioners Courthouse

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NOTE: MORE ITEMS COMING IN DAILY. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!

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BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR THE WEEK OF 3/19 THROUGH 3/25

Breakfast:
3/19-3/21 - Spring Break
3/24 - Pizza, milk
3/25 - Egg/cheese/bacon muffin, milk
Lunch:
3/19-3/21 - Spring Break
3/24 - Chicken noodles, mashed potatoes, roll, mandarin oranges, milk
3/25 - Breadsticks/cheese, broccoli/cheese, cookie, sherbet, milk



CADET SEAMAN BRAD BOTTERON RECEIVES VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AWARD

Cadet Seaman Brad Botteron received his Veterans of Foreign Wars Award from the United States Naval Sea Cadets Commodore Perry Division. He was one of four who received an award at the Naval Sea Cadet Ball. He received this award for doubling his coursework, attendance, dependability, good character, meeting advancement requirements and military discipline.

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BAUGHMAN TILE COMPANY is now accepting applications for all positions. Please apply within at 8516 Rd. 137, Paulding, Ohio 45879. No phone calls please. 11-12

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THE POTTERS ARE STUDYING the book of Acts. Come and study with us, as we journey through this wonderful book. Time: each Tuesday, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. 14396 Rd. 171, Defiance 43512. 7-12p

FOR SALE: 1999 Fairmont 16x80 mobile home, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, skylight, kitchen island, large deck, C/A. Beautiful decor. Land contract available. 419-399-0613. 10-13p

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

IN ANTWERP: 2 BR duplex w/appliances. Close to school, \$400/mo. plus deposit. 419-770-2267. tf

LAND FOR SALE: 80 acres, 65 acres tillable. Co. Rd. 60, Latty Township. \$4,500 per acre. 419-587-3461. tf

FOR RENT: 3 BEDROOM mobile home in Leinard's Manufactured Home Community. \$425 a month includes sewer/water & garbage. Deposit required, no pets. Call 419-258-2710. tf

NEED ASSISTANCE WITH decorating your home? Call Judy McCalla, Hicksville. 419-542-6182. Window coverings, blinds, shades, etc. also available. tf

FOR SALE: MACINTOSH G3 Tower computer. Works. OS9 installed. Keyboard incl., no mouse. 17" panasonic CRT included. No discs included. Name your price. 419-258-1809. tf

WILL PICK UP AND HAUL away any unwanted appliances, farm machinery, or any other kind of scrap metal or aluminum. Get cash for your scrap metal. Free pick up. 419-769-1636. 11-19

CADILLAC DEVILLE DHS, 2004, fully loaded, garaged, \$13,900. 419-789-1444. 12-13

FEMALE MINIATURE Pinscher for sale. 5 yrs. old with papers. 1-260-632-1819. 12-13

FOR SALE: F2 LONGBACK Super M International 60" round bailer, Hesspon chopper w/pick-up header. 419-438-3854. 10-13p

FOR SALE: OLIVER - 1800 gas tractor - paint faded, \$4400.00. 419-587-3461. tf

FORT DEFIANCE Antiques, 511 W. Second St., downtown Defiance across from Defiance County Courthouse. Hours Mon-Sat, 10:00-5:00, 419-782-6003. We buy estates—large & small. 6-18

BUYING OLD TOYS - comics - coins - jewelry - watches - stamp collections - antiques - estates. 419-399-3353. 7-12p



21ST CENTURY AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM DONATES TO ASHLEY BURT

The 21st Century After School Program at Wayne Trace Grover Hill Elementary held a fund-raiser to ben-

efit Ashley Burt, a fifth grade student who will be traveling to China to compete in the World Championship in BMX bicycle racing. Miss Belinda Miller, site coordinator, is presenting Ashley with the donation.

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Defiance, Henry & Paulding Counties

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Defiance-Henry-Paulding Counties is seeking an individual(s) to fill vacant seats on their current Board of Directors.

Board Responsibilities Include:

- Marketing
- Resource Development
- Policy Development

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the oldest, largest and most effective youth mentoring organization in the U.S. We strive to develop positive relationships that have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of our young people. For more information please contact Courtney Shull, Executive Director at 782-8313x200 or email at info@bbbsbigfun.org

2001 MANSION
16x80 MHE mobile home for SALE.
Lots of room and storage space. 3 bdr. and 2 baths (including a Master bath). Located in Leinard's Mobile Home Community. Stay in the park or move to your own land!
Price reduced to \$27,500 (negotiable)
Call 419-258-1809.

DRIVERS NEEDED
The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office needs drivers to take veterans to VA appointments. Must have a valid driver's license and proof of insurance.
Apply in person at:
810 E. Perry St.
Paulding
Tuesday thru Friday
9:30 am - 2:00 pm

- Paid Insurance
- 401K with match
- Paid vacations
- Profit Sharing
- 1st Shift Production
- Opportunity for Advancement
- Team Work Environment
- Locally Owned & Operated

If you are looking for a great opportunity with a stable company, have good attendance, a strong work ethic, and a positive attitude we are looking for you!

Apply in Person

HOME GUARD INDUSTRIES, INC.
13101 S. Main St.
Grabill, IN 46741
Employer of Choice in Northeast Allen County
Equal Opportunity Employer

The Cabbage Patch RESTAURANT
"Since 1979, let us be your rare find."

HAPPY EASTER TO ALL!!!!

Our Annual Vacation closing will be Easter Sunday, March 23rd thru Tuesday, April 1st See You on Wed. April 2nd

Open 7am - 8:30 pm - Closed every Tuesday
419-393-2271
All items may be ordered "To Go"
Just South of Auglaize Golf Club along Scenic St. Rt. 111 @ St. Rt. 637 - SW of Defiance & E of Paulding & Antwerp.

The Cabbage Patch RESTAURANT
"Since 1979, let us be your rare find."

For Sale By Owner
listings in the West Bend News

GREAT COUNTRY LOCATION! 10 minutes from Antwerp, Paulding & Hicksville. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large open kitchen, family & dining room w/fireplace, and deck overlooking 2 acre lot. Only 3 years old. \$105,000. 419-258-2441. 12-15

ANTWERP

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS! Country living in one of Ohio's best school districts and still only a few minutes from everything Fort Wayne has to offer. This 3 bedroom ranch sits on approximately 2 acres with 1900 sq ft of living space and a 1/2 acre fully stocked pond. Very large living room, 1 and 1/2 baths, separate laundry room, large eat-in kitchen, formal dining room which could possibly be used for an extra bedroom, and breezeway with sliding glass door leading out to the pond and fire pit. Newer roof shingles and gutters. C/A, RO water system in kitchen. \$149,000. County Road 204, northwest of Antwerp. 419-258-2514. tf

ANTWERP/PAULDING SCHOOLS

COUNTRY HOME - RECENTLY REMODELED. River Road 192. 3 bedrooms. 2 1/2 car garage. Pond. Please call 399-3443 for appt. 10-13

2004 CHEROKEE TRAVEL TRAILER. 38 ft. 7ft. int. ht. 2 bed rm. Rear queen, front 2 bunks & dinette. Sleeps 8. 13 ft. slideout & overhead skylights. 100 watt surround sound system, 6 speakers & sub woofer. Ceiling fans, full size house refrigerator. Cent. air. Much more. Antwerp, Ohio w/warranty, \$18,500.00. 419-258-2525.

Ready to Sell?
Call the West Bend News 419-258-2000



"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT": VANTAGE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL ANNOUNCES BLUE CHIPPERS

Vantage Blue Chippers. Each quarter, Vantage Career Center recognizes students who have a 4.0 gpa and perfect attendance for the nine-week period. Congratulations to the students pictured for excellence during the second quarter of the school year.

Pictured, front row - Chris Vibbert (Van Wert), Chris Bayus (Van Wert), Brent Grothaus (Lincolnview), Rusty Warnecke (Ottoville), Chad Lobsiger (Crestview). Back row - Janine Link (Paulding), Andrea Freeman (Crestview), Chelsea Spryn (Antwerp), and Natalie Zuber (Antwerp). Unavailable for the picture were Holden Profit (Antwerp) and Kaitlin Lindeman (Delphos Jefferson).

MARCH IS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

A reminder that March is American Red Cross Month. In recognition, the Paulding County Red Cross Chapter is sponsoring a mail-in fundraiser. Please remember to support your Red Cross chapter by making a monetary donation that will aid with local disaster response and blood services. Your dollars will stay right here at home where they are needed. For more information, contact Disaster Services Coordinator, Glenna Doster at 419-594-3971.

THANK YOU

A BIG "Thank You" to my

family and neighbors and our Squad 41 for the quick response on Saturday, March 8 when I was overcome by carbon monoxide. Because of you, I am here today.

Also thank you for all the prayers, cards and phone calls. I am just thankful to be a part of such a caring community.

God bless all of you,
—Walt Womack

CHIEF RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM SPONSOR CARRY-OUT DINNER

The Chief Relay for Life Team will be sponsoring a carry-out dinner on Saturday, April 5, 2008 from 12:00 to

2:00 p.m. The dinner is your choice of Brisket or Pulled Pork sandwich. The dinner also includes a baked potato, cole slaw, green beans, and a cookie. They will be available in carry-out only and can be picked up at the Black Swamp Nature Center (across from Parc Lane School). Tickets for the dinner are pre-purchased. They can be purchased from Sue Sitton, Paula Gutierrez, Stacy Butler, Sue Knapp and Annette Adkins at the Chief or by phone call. We will also be taking orders from any businesses which will be working on that Saturday and we will be glad to deliver them to their business. Proceeds will benefit Paulding Relay for Life.

YMCA & A.N.D.Y PROGRAM SPONSOR 5K RUN/WALK

YMCA of Van Wert County and The A.N.D.Y. Program will be holding a 5k run/walk on April 26, 2008 at Camp Clay in conjunction with Kites & Kids Activity Day. The run will start at noon with a fun run following at 12:45. Age group awards will be given. Call YMCA at 419-238-0443 for further information and pricing for registration.

APPRECIATING OHIO AGRICULTURE

Capitol Letters Weekly
Column by: Senator Steve Buehrer

Dairy cows must be milked two to three times and consume more than 50 pounds of food every day. In nine seconds, a farmer can harvest enough wheat to make 70 loaves of bread and

one bushel of corn sweetens more than 400 cans of pop. Perhaps Ohioans do not consider these interesting facts when they pour milk into their morning coffee, slice bread to make their lunches or pull a can of pop from the refrigerator, but they are proof that there is much more than meets the eye when it comes to the agriculture industry - especially in Ohio.

There is no question that agriculture is a key component of our nation's economy, as the U.S. provides necessary products throughout the world, and Ohio offers a significant contribution to this industry. Nevertheless, many are unaware of the scope of the agriculture industry or of its widespread impact on our communities. For this reason, the Agriculture Council of America sponsors National Ag Week, which takes place every year at the start of spring.

This year, National Ag Week is March 16-22, with Ag Day occurring on March 20. The events associated with National Ag Week provide great opportunities to learn more about the roles of farms, farmers, agricultural corporations and related government agencies. Moreover, they offer a chance to understand how each of these entities affects our daily lives.

Ohioans in particular can use this time to better appreciate the economic powerhouse that the agriculture industry continues to be in our state. For example, the more than 76,000 farms in the state employ almost 15 percent of Ohioans, and the products these farms produce add nearly \$80 billion a year to the state's economy. The 1st Senate District can boast of leading Ohio's counties in a number of agricultural areas. In the past year, Putnam, Van Wert and Hancock Counties placed 3rd, 4th and 5th respectively in the state's soybean production. Also, Fulton County ranked in the top 10 of Ohio's corn producers, and Putnam County produced the most winter wheat in Ohio.

Aside from providing these crops, Ohio agriculture is answering the call for more developments in the field of alternative energy. While Ohioans are reeling from the recent spike in fuel prices, the state's most fruitful crops, corn and soybeans, are becoming an important part of the burgeoning bio-fuel industry. For example, corn is used to produce ethanol fuels, like E-85, that Ohioans are seeing more and more often at local gas stations. In addition, the state is home to a number of ethanol processing plants, the newest one having opened recently in Leipsic and another scheduled to open on April 1 in Lima.

I believe that Ohio's agriculture industry can be a source of hope for the state's residents. First of all, it successfully provides the produce, meat and dairy products, among other materials, that Ohioans need to maintain the health of their families. Moreover, as the Chairman of the Fuel Production Task Force, which is examining the future of the alternative energy industry in Ohio, I know that because of the state's strong agriculture industry, it has the potential to be a leader in bio-fuel field. Finally, the success of both of these aspects of Ohio agricul-

ture mean that this industry will continue to maintain good jobs, create new ones and attract investors to the state, ultimately strengthening Ohio's economy.

Because the agriculture industry is such an important part of Ohioans' lives, I hope that you will take advantage National Ag Week to learn more about it. For information about Ag Week, to read fascinating farm facts or to find out how you can plan an Ag Day event, visit the Agriculture Council of America's Ag Day website: www.agday.org.

I encourage all residents of the 1st Senate District to contact me with any questions, thoughts or concerns, or if you need assistance working with a state government agency. You can write me, Senator Steve Buehrer, Ohio Senate, Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio, 43215, or contact me by phone at (614) 466-8150. In addition, I can be reached by email at SD01@mailr.sen.state.oh.us.



By: Chelsea Vail

"All the world's a stage," old Billy Shakespeare once said. While that may very well be true, I for one, enjoy the kind of drama that comes with a cast, crew, and directors infinitely more so than the kind that comes with everyday life. Like-minded souls, step right up - boy, do we have a show for you! The AHS Drama Department has selected a truly stirring tale in *Flowers for Algernon*, a story about a mentally retarded man, Charlie, who undergoes an experimental procedure to increase his intellectual capacity. If nothing else, come to see me in the role I was born to play: the cruel, deranged mother of Charlie. Please hold the jokes about being typecast. The show will debut Friday, March 28 at 7:30, and run through Sunday with a 7:30 performance on the 29th and a 2:30 matinee on the 30th. For reserved seating and ticket rates, call 419-258-5421 ext. 2113. And no, I will most certainly not break any limb for this production, legs or otherwise. Knock on wood.

Significantly less dramatic, one would hope, is the upcoming spring sports picture day scheduled for next Wednesday after school. Until then, tracksters and sluggers, try to keep your uniforms clean.


Word of the Week
Apollonian \ap-uh-LOH-nee-uhn\ adjective

1. Serene, calm, or well balanced; poised and disciplined

2. Having the properties of or preferring classic beauty
Example: "As Charlie's mother, my performance will be anything but Apollonian in *Flowers for Algernon* next weekend."

See you in the audience!

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

CLEAN, INC.
Carpet Cleaning
Professional Cleaning at a Reasonable Price

just \$25 per 12x12 area
419-438-3506
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ED'S CAR CARE CENTER, LTD
AUTO DETAILING NOW AVAILABLE
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Newest Restaurant in Antwerp
Tiny's Burgers & More
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The Best Home Cooking Around
Small But Friendly
Prices That Can't Be Beat
Come And Try Us Out
Open from 6 am - 8 pm
Daily Specials
For Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner
Deliveries to Antwerp area
South Main Street
Next to the Tracks
Antwerp


Woodburn Fire Department Benefit
Safety Day * Supper * Auction
May 9, 2008
At the home of:
John & Lydiann Schmucker
7234 Milan Center Road
Auctioneer: Chris Graber
Hog Roast
Carryout-starting at 4pm * Supper-starting at 5pm
Benefit Auction
Starting at 6pm
Items including furniture, tools,
Homemade Pies & much more
Safety Day events held from 5-6:30pm
Fire Extinguisher Demonstrations &
Blood Pressure Checking throughout the evening
Auto Extrication (Jaws of Life) starting at 5:00pm
Samaritan landing at 6:15pm
Any individuals or business wanting to donate please contact:
John Graber (Bruick Road).....(260) 410-7753
Jonas Wagler (Hursttown Road).....(260) 466-3454
Steve Lengacher (Springfield Center).....(260) 414-7569
Fire Department Personnel:
Jason Hale.....(260) 399-0383
Tyler Schafer.....(260) 312-8522
Mike Mason.....(260) 632-5790