

PAULDING COUNTY BRINGS BIG MAGIC TO BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS!



Pictured is Bradyn Shull, a Paulding County Youth who came out to support Big Brothers Big Sisters!

Saturday April 5, Big Brothers Big Sisters held its annual Bowl for Kids Sake Campaign. Bowl for Kids Sake supports premiere One to One mentoring programs in the Big Brothers Big Sisters service area. Paulding County businesses donated cash and prizes for event day and raffles. Big Brothers Big Sisters would like to thank A&W Drive In, Kammeyer's IGA, Tips & Tan, Floyd Ramsier, Attorney at Law, David Childs, Pierce Automotive, Subway in Antwerp and Paulding, Antwerp Pharmacy, Oasis Bar & Grill, H₂O to Go, Dairy Queen, Dog House

Diner/Ice Cream Depot, Papa Oley's Pizza and Napa Autoparts for their generous donations in support of mentoring programs in Paulding County. In addition, BBBS would like to thank Paulding Senior Center, Ron Williams & Friends, Oakwood Gleaners and the Shull family for bringing out teams on event day! It is with great thanks to all who supported the Bowl for Kids Sake campaign, that Big Brothers Big Sisters will be able to continue to grow the number of youth served in Paulding County through premiere One to One men-

(Continued on Page 2)

PAULDING COUNTY AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER NATIONAL BOARD PROGRAM

Paulding County has been awarded \$7,898 to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a National Board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and consists of representatives from the Salvation Army; American Red Cross; United Jewish Communities; Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; and, United Way of America. The Local Board was charged to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-need areas around the country.

A Local Board made up of Paulding County representatives will determine how funds to Paulding County are to be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area. The Local Board is responsible for recommending agencies to receive these funds and any additional funds available under this phase of the program. The Local Board will meet Friday May 9, 2008 at the Unit-

ed Way of Paulding County office.

Under the terms of the grant from the National Board, local agencies chosen to receive funds must; 1) be private voluntary non-profits or units of government; 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and 5) if they are a private voluntary organization, they must have a voluntary board. Qualifying agencies are urged to participate and must request an application by Friday May 2, 2008.

Paulding County has distributed Emergency Food and Shelter funds previously with Center for Child and Family Advocacy, YWCA of Van Wert, St. Paul United Methodist Food Pantry, Grover Hill Food Pantry, Pioneer Christian Ministries Food Pantry, Antwerp Christian Food Pantry, and Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission participating.

Public or private voluntary agencies interested in applying for Emergency Food and Shelter Program funds must contact Nancy Hessler at United Way of Paulding County at 419-399-5300 or email pcuw@paulding-net.com for an application. The deadline for applications to be received is Monday May 5, 2008.

ST. JOHN'S: 2008 BATTLE OF THE BOOKS COUNTY CHAMPS



The 2008 Paulding County Carnegie Library Battle of the Books County Finals were won by St. John the Baptist Catholic School. Pictured here is the winning team (l-r): Addison Bauble, Mackenzie Swary, Alec Kuhn, Elizabeth Rister, Libby Stabler, and Kyle Recker.

CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR MEN & WOMEN OVERSEAS

The Postal Service and the VFW from Antwerp, Ohio are collecting names and addresses for all those serving our country overseas to receive care packages. This is for service men and women from Paulding County. Contact the Antwerp Post Office or the Antwerp VFW with the names, addresses—APO or FPO—with this information as soon as possible.

WOODBURN HAPPENINGS

Woodburn City Wide Garage Sales will be held on Saturday, May 10, 2008, 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Woodburn Lions Club's donuts and the Legion's brats and chicken will be offered. This is sponsored by the City of Woodburn.

The city of Woodburn will hold it's annual Spring cleanup on Saturday, May 17, 2008. Items must be at curbside by 6:00 a.m. For more details call Woodburn City Hall at 260-632-5318. Sponsored by the City of Woodburn.

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LOST

This is Riley!
He is lost from home on CR53 near Antwerp. Lost on Mon, April 14 appx 10am. If you have seen him, have him or know what happened to him and couldn't tell me at the time, could you please call and let me know? I miss him terribly!

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Bon Voyage Brad Dysinger

Sunday, April 27
Thorn Bottom Hunt Club House,
21450 Road 60, Grover Hill

Starts at Noon till ?
419-587-3555

Come Join Ann and Brad Dysinger as they send their son Bradley off to Paris, Paris Island that is before he heads to Marine boot camp.

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OBITUARIES

Steven M. Head, 59, of Payne, passed away Friday, April 18, 2008 suddenly at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne.

Steven was born in Fort Wayne on March 27, 1949, the son of the late Roy and Edla (Anderson) Head.

He served in the U.S. Army in the Vietnam War and the Air National Guard. He was a manager at Al Gratz Body Shop, Fort Wayne and was a member of Payne American Legion Post 297 & St. James Lutheran Church, Payne. Steve served on the church council and Payne Village Council.

Steve enjoyed his family, motorcycling and woodworking. On March 28, 1970, he married, Kay Hilgeman, who survives.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Kay; daughters: Kara (David) Beers of Ft Wayne and Gretchen (Gregory) Baumle of Dayton, OH; son, Andrew (Racheal) of Payne; sisters: Marilyn Bender of Waynesboro, PA and Kathleen Kneppeler of Fort Wayne, IN; grandchildren: Isaac and Tyler Head, and Alexander Beers.

His brother, Lawrence precedes him in death.

You are invited to participate in his service at St. James Lutheran Church, Payne, at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 24, with viewing one hour prior to services. Rev. Joseph Allen will officiate. He will be laid to rest at Lehman Cemetery, Payne.

You may call Wednesday, 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Dooley Funeral Home, 5761, SR 500, Payne.

The family requests donations to Payne EMS.

Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

Hilda M. Polter, 85, of Paulding died Thursday, April 17, 2008 at the Country Inn Enhanced Living Facility, Paulding.

She was born August 3, 1922 in Napoleon, OH, the daughter of Charles and Rose (Waxler) Teeple. On September 21, 1940 she married Emmanuel C. Polter, who preceded her in death on April 1, 1993. She was a homemaker.

She is survived by a son, Robert (Sandy) Polter of Ellisville, MO; a daughter, Barbara Jean (Robert) Loesch of Moravia, MA; three sisters: Geraldine (Paul) Snyder of Leesburg, FL, Wanda Mack of Apopka, FL, and Bernadine (Donald) Reed of Hicksville, OH; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; two brothers; and five sisters.

Funeral services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 23 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, with Rev. Greg Bibler officiating.

Visitation will be one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of the donor's choice.

B. Jean Coblentz, 78, of Hicksville died on Saturday April 12, 2008 at the home of her daughter in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

She was born on July 5, 1929 in Moroco, Indiana the daughter of Dan and Essie (Miller) Leichty.

She married Sanford "Bud" Coblentz in March of 1952.

She was a homemaker that loved volunteering at the Dove's Nest and the Bargain Box. She worked for eight years as a cook at Yoder's Restaurant in Hicksville. She was a member of Church of the Good Shepherd - Leo, Indi-

ana. Her greatest joy was being a mom, a grandma, and a great-grandma.

She is survived by two daughters: Sherry (Ken) Keller of Ft. Wayne, IN and Brenda (Arlen) Stauffer of New Smyrna Beach, FL; and a son, Evan (Sallie) Coblentz of Hicksville; four granddaughters: Jaime Holle, Cassie Phillips, Abbie Coblentz, Mackenzie Booth; and a grandson, Justin Stauffer; two great-grandchildren: Gracie Holle and Jaxson Stauffer; a brother, Elvin Leichty of Florida; and a sister, Violet (Amos) Kauffman of Florida.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Bud; and a sister-in-law, Margie Leichty.

A Memorial service was held on April 17 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, 706 N. Main St., Hicksville, Ohio with Pastor Brad Miller officiating. Burial was at Lost Creek Cemetery, Farmer Township.

Preferred memorials to The Hospice of Volusia/Flagler.

COME ONE, COME ALL... TO THE CIRCUS

Ladies and gentleman, boys and girls... Step right up! The Circus is coming to the Paulding County Fairgrounds on Saturday May 10 at 2:00 and 5:30 p.m. The Kelly Miller Circus is one of the few traveling shows still in existence.

The Circus elephants will begin erecting the Big Top at approximately 9:00 a.m. circus morning and everyone is invited to come and watch free of charge. The Circus is sponsored by (and a fund raiser) for the Paulding Lions Club. This organization receives a greater share of the advance ticket sales than from tickets sold on Circus day. Show your support for this local group by purchasing your tickets early.

(Continued from Page 1)
toring services! If you would like to learn about additional ways to support Big Brothers Big Sisters in your community, are interested in becoming a Big Brother/Sister, or would like to become a committee or board member to represent Paulding County, contact our offices at 419-782-8313 or via email info@bbbsbigfun.org!

SOARING FOOD COSTS SEEN LINKED TO RAPIDLY EXPANDING ETHANOL SECTOR

The impact on food costs comes from the federal policy of subsidizing the conversion of corn into ethanol, which is then added to gasoline at a concentration of up to 10 percent for use in most vehicles and up to 85 percent for some vehicles. Until the last few years, corn was used mainly to make feed for livestock and poultry, but has increasingly been diverted into ethanol because of hefty federal subsidies. As a result, the price of corn has soared, along with soybeans and other grains and oilseeds also used in animal feed.

Elam spoke at a conference of food writers sponsored by the National Chicken Council and the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association. Chicken, turkey and egg producers are all major buyers of corn for animal feed. Elam estimated that as a result of biofuels subsidies, the poultry industry alone is being forced to absorb about \$8 billion in extra costs just this year.

Only about 4 billion bushels of corn will be available to the ethanol sector, meaning that it will be able to operate at only 75 percent to 80 percent of its capacity as early as next year, he said. Elam said many ethanol distilleries will have to suspend operations and most will operate at a significant loss.

Elam's study was commissioned by the National Chicken Council, National Turkey Federation, and the American Meat Institute.

PAULDING VILLAGE SPECIAL MEETING ON APRIL 2

Paulding Village Council met in Special Session on April 2, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Council President Barb Rife called the meeting to order.

Finance Director Tope called roll call with the following members present: Barb Rife, Roger Sierer, Randy Daeger, Sam Jeffery, and Ronnie Breedlove. Administrator Wiebe and Solicitor Jones were also present. Mayor White and Councilwoman Sutton were absent.

Solicitor Jones noted according to a 1980 Attorney General's opinion, Barb Rife retains her right to vote while filling in for the Mayor in his absence.

Ordinance 1373-08 re: An Ordinance to Vacate an Easement to Lay and Maintain Water Pipes Granted to the Village of Paulding by an Instrument dated June 26, 1954 and Recorded in Volume 151, Page 470 of the Records of Paulding County, Ohio and Declaring an Emergency, was read for the first time. Breedlove motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Jeffery. Vote: all yea. Sierer motioned to approve the legislation, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Daeger motioned to adjourn, seconded by Breedlove. Vote: all yea.



Front - Doyle Hartzog (previous owner). Back - (l-r) Rex Gray, Jim Phlipot, Lynn Keller (new owners) and Brian Miller of Sherwood State Bank.

HARTZOG LUMBER UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP

By: Sue Knapp

Hartzog Lumber has been a big part of Paulding, Ohio since 1800's and owned by the Savage Brothers. They called it The Southern Lumber and Supply Company.

In the '40's James A. None-man bought the business and built the building in 1948.

Doyle Hartzog bought it in the '60's, hence the name Hartzog Lumber.

After working for Hartzog Lumber for many years, three employees decided with the help of Brian Miller of Sherwood Bank, to buy it.

Rex Gray, employed there for 30 years, Lynn Keller employed there for 15 years and James Phlipot employed there for 18 years, bought the business in August of 2007. These men know the business inside and out with having all those years experience. Being all local people and raising their families here they know the people and what the needs are. Because of this they can come and do your job, not only with professionalism, but also as a friend. Linda Ringler, Office Manager for

BOY SCOUT MONTHLY RECYCLING

The Boy Scouts of Antwerp will be recycling this Saturday, April 26 from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. at the Antwerp Fire Hall. They can accept cardboard, glass, newspaper in brown bags, and aluminum and steel cans only.

LUNCHEON FOR RELAY FOR PAULDING LIBRARY RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

The Paulding Library Staff Team is having lunch Friday, April 25. They will be serving chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, chips and a drink. Free will donation to benefit the Paulding Library team for Relay for Life. Lunch will be in the Children's Department in the basement of the library.

over 30 years, keeps things going on an even keel.

At one time, Doyle's Hartzog Lumber was one of the largest builders in Northwest Ohio. He not only built houses, etc. but also built ambulance interiors for Braun. They also have their cabinets all over the world.

The business sells lumber, plumbing, electrical and some hardware. They do room additions, garages, remodel jobs, build houses, home repairs including windows and screens, roofs and just about anything you need. They also do wood and laminated floors.

Brian Miller, from Sherwood Bank, helped them to get a small business loan from the State. Called GrowNOW, the Ohio Treasury provides interest rate reduction loans for small businesses that qualify. A few of the qualifications are: you must be located in Ohio, your business must be for-profit and you must have fewer than 150 employees.

HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT BENEFIT TO BE PLANNED

To all those who love horseshoes, we are looking for people to form a horseshoe tournament this summer. We need to know the interest level, so if you are interested please call 419-258-2000 and leave a message.

All proceeds for this tournament will go to the Antwerp EMS and Fire Department.

Look for upcoming news in the West Bend News.

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TEACHERS SAY PARENTS ARE "UNPLEASANTLY SURPRISED" BY CHILD'S REPORT CARD

By: Jami Koenn, Center Director, Sylvan Learning Center

66 percent of North American teachers say they have been contacted by parents who were "unpleasantly surprised" by their child's report card, according to a survey by Sylvan Learning Center. Interestingly, 41 percent of teachers also report that their students have sometimes been surprised by their own report cards.

When asked why parents are often surprised by their child's report cards, 50 percent of teachers said that parents admitted they are not involved enough in their child's school experience. Additionally, 14 percent say the surprise comes from lack of effective communication by parents with their child's teacher. The teachers agree that parents aren't happy with report card surprises. In fact, 47 percent said that the most common comment heard from parents after receiving a report card surprise was "What can we do to improve my child's grade?" Furthermore, 21 percent remember hearing parents complain they didn't know their child wasn't performing well in class.

The first report card of the year can create feelings of pride, happiness and excitement for many parents. It can also produce feelings of anxiety and frustration for those who are surprised by their child's grades. However, effective and continuous communication among teachers, parents and students can help minimize the "report card surprise."

Report cards are part of every child's academic experience, and don't need to be a surprise to parents. If a parent is surprised by a poor report card, it often means that they haven't been effectively communicating with their child or their child's teacher throughout the year. Main-

taining open and continuous lines of communication with children and teachers throughout the school year, and not just when report cards are issued, will help parents stay informed about their child's progress and help them avoid the report card surprise.

Students who are surprised by their own report cards also need to improve their communication and organization patterns. A student who surprisingly receives a D or a failing grade on his report card learns the hard way that he needs to regularly talk with his teachers and stay on top of school work, homework and test results. Students should never be surprised by their report card grades.

Organization is an essential part of a student's education. By tracking test scores and all other assignments throughout the year and speaking regularly with teachers and parents, students are prepared for their grades come report card time, and can work to improve their performance prior to report cards.

It shouldn't take a surprise report card for parents and teachers to communicate effectively. Sylvan Learning Center, the leading provider of in-center and live, online tutoring at home to students of all ages and skill levels, offers the following advice to help parents maintain clear communications with their children and teachers:

Tips for Talking To Children

**Talk about school every day. Make it a regular part of the family's routine.

**Don't wait until report cards are issued to talk about school and grades. Frequently discuss with her how she is doing in each subject and what grade she anticipates receiving.

**Encourage your child to tell you about his day. Find out what he learned and what are his favorite activities.

**Teach your child that education is important to your family.

**Discuss goals and objectives for the school year. This may be a great way to learn about difficulties your child is having in specific subject areas.

**If your child is having trouble in school, talk about a method to help organize her schedule, subjects and activities. A calendar can be a great way to track tests, homework, activities and study plans.

**Talk with your child about his extracurricular activities, such as team sports or after-school jobs. Being overscheduled may affect his grades.

**Set improvement goals for your child. This will help her work towards an attainable grade for each class.

**Talk with your child about his study habits and develop a study plan. Set aside specific time for studying, projects and activities each evening and make sure that he has a properly equipped and well-lit area to work.

**Communicate with your child about her school experiences. Know what she is thinking and feeling. Also, openly talk with her about her worries and concerns as well as her joys and achievements.

Tips for Talking to Teachers

**Develop a parent/teacher relationship with your child's teacher and talk with this teacher at least once a month throughout the year. Remember that your child's teacher has direct contact with your child every school day and can offer invaluable insight into your child's day.

**Your child's teacher can benefit from background information about him - talk about activities he likes, special needs, close friends, motivation and things going on at home.

**Find out what the teacher's expectations are for the year and what type of curriculum she has set for the students. Have this insight at the start of school and keep track of it throughout the year.

**Talk to the teacher about any major programs or activities that are set for the year. Is there an annual science fair? A field trip schedule? Major papers? Tests?

**Remember - teachers are busy people, too. Find out the easiest way to communicate - by email, phone or in person. Finding the right communication method will make it easier to speak on a regular basis.

Visit <http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com/report-card-guide.cfm> to download a free

parents guide from Sylvan Learning Center - You and Your Child's Report Card. For more educational resources for children in grades pre-K through 12, please visit <http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com> or call 1-800-31-SUCCESS.

Jami Koenn is the Center Director at the Defiance, Ohio Sylvan Learning Center, the leading provider of in-center and live, online tutoring at home to students of all ages, grades and skill levels. With approximately 30 years of experience and nearly 1,200 centers located throughout North America, Sylvan's proven process and personalized methods have inspired more than 2 million students to discover the joy of learning. Sylvan's trained and certified personal instructors provide individual instruction in reading, writing, mathematics, study skills and test-prep for college entrance and state exams. Sylvan helps transform unique kids into uniquely inspired learners with the skills to do better in school and the confidence to do better in everything else. For more information, call 1-800-31-SUCCESS or visit <http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com>.

About the survey:

To understand teachers' experiences with the report card surprise, Sylvan conducted an online survey with teachers who use Book Adventure, a free reading motivation program created by the Sylvan Learning Foundation. More than 1,800 public and private school teachers throughout North America took part in this survey.

Sidebar: Communication is Key

According to a recent study by Sylvan Learning Center, sixty-six percent of North American teachers say parents are surprised by their child's report cards. These same teachers offered the following suggestions for parents to avoid the report card surprise and help their child succeed in school:

**Maintain open lines of communication throughout the year with your child and the teacher.

**Stay involved in your child's education.

**Review his homework on a daily basis and be available to help him.

**Talk to your child about her assignments and how she feels she is doing in school.

**Be informed about his assignments by reading weekly reports and checking his backpack or planner.

**Be proactive and interested in her activities both in and out of school.

**Visit your child's classroom for a desk check at least twice a month.

**If you suspect your child may be having problems contact the teacher to see what things can be done to help.

**Be sure to watch for regular progress reports from the teacher.

**Get to know your child's strengths/weaknesses.

**Feel free to visit the classroom or call with questions.

**Starting from an early age, have regular discussions and encourage all family members to talk about their day.

**Help your child get organized. Try using a weekly folder for homework and a daily progress report.

**Consider supplemental education.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP TO MEET

The Paulding County American Cancer Society Support Group will be having a speaker from the Patient Navigation Program at their April 30th meeting. This will take place at 12:30 p.m. at the Paulding County Senior Center.

If you or someone in your family feels the need of a helping hand or support through a difficult time, please take the time to attend this meeting.

Our goal is to offer assistance in any way we can.

16-17

READ ALL ABOUT IT: USING NEWSPAPERS IN YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

The next meeting of the Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be April 28 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 title of the program for the meeting is "Read All About It; Using Newspapers in Your Genealogical Research". Program presenter will be Dwane Grace of Lima, Ohio. Currently he is serving as a Trustee for the Ohio Genealogical Society representing the Defiance District and part of the Bowling Green District. Dwane is the Vice President of the Mercer County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society. He serves as a Board member of the Allen County (Ohio) Historical Society.

The Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society has a new publication available for purchase. It is titled "Index to the History of Defiance County 1883". This people's names only index to the 1883 history contains 263 pages. Request a publications form by writing to Defiance Co. Chapter OGS; P.O. Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512; or visit the chapter's website <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ohdcgs/membership-form.html> to print the publication form.

This website also contains local genealogy information, a search engine for member surnames, links to Defiance County resources and other genealogy websites in the United States.

PAULDING SCHOOL STUDENTS EXPERIENCE REAL MONEY REAL WORLD SIMULATION

With the help of many community volunteers who staffed fourteen business booths, 48 students from Paulding Middle School and High School were assigned a career, a monthly salary and a specific number of children. Each student rotated through the Real Money, Real World simulation last week, making spending decisions at each booth, and hoping they would have enough money to make ends meet by the end of the month. The program was organized by OSU Extension Educator Sylvia Altenburger who collaborated with teachers Sue Helle and William Wonders to offer the money management program.

One of the biggest surprises to the students was the cost of child care. One youth, who came into the simulation with a very limited salary and two children, was discouraged to learn that using the grandmother for free babysitting was not an option. Phil Recker from Edward Jones at the financial assistance booth said, "Many students commented on how budgeting properly can help prevent them from working a second job," and, "students were not aware of the tax advantages available to them depending upon their income level and the number of children they have." Mr. Recker also stated, "in today's world, the earlier children can be taught financial responsibility, the better off they will be in the long run."

There is a financial education crisis in our country. There's an increasing use of credit cards, and record-breaking numbers of bankruptcy filings. Economic prosperity is difficult for everyone - especially hard for young people who've never learned how to plan to achieve financial security. With the advent of online shopping on the Internet, stored-value cards and aggressive credit card solicitation on college campuses, these barriers to youth spending are tumbling - and with them, the natural protection preventing our children from getting into financial difficulties. By providing the Real Money Real World Simulation, teachers at Paulding School hope that students will start to think about how much it costs for their parents to provide for their families.



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A.N.D.Y. PROGRAM OFFERS STOP SMOKING CLASSES

The Turning Point an organization promoting health and wellness, will offer smoking cessation classes starting in May on Wednesday nights to help adults reduce and eliminate tobacco use. Classes in Paulding, Ohio will start May 7th and will be held at The Turning Point.

The cessation classes will provide group/individual consultations and in-depth examination of the effects of tobacco use and ways to reduce and eliminate its intake.

Adults are encouraged to attend. There is a fee for the classes. Participants will also receive free childcare during the classes, free wellness program and a free 2-month supply of a stop smoking aid all for successful completion of the program.

"We're really excited to be offering these classes," says Cheryl Gasser, Project Director and Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist for the Tri-County Tobacco Free Coalition. "We're hoping the prevalence of classes will encourage those interested in reducing their tobacco use to attend."

The classes will adopt a lecture/interactive format to further engage the participants in the classes.

"We don't just want people to attend these classes," says Gasser. "We want to involve them in the process so they can experience first-hand effective ways to reduce their tobacco use."

To learn more about The A.N.D.Y. Program, smoking cessation classes and to register for a class call 1-800-417-9295 or 419-238-9223.

UPPER ELEMENTARY BOOK BRUNCH DISCUSSION GROUP

HICKSVILLE — Step back in time to the Summer of the Monkeys at the Johnson Memorial Library's Upper Elementary Book Brunch Discussion Group on April 26 at 10:00 a.m.

The Book Brunch Discussion Group is free and is open to fourth through seventh grade students. The group meets the last Saturday of each month, and any upper elementary or middle school student is welcome. The book discussion is facilitated by library volunteer Jaci Underwood. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends of the Hicksville Library. And this month's book is Summer of the Monkeys by Wilson Rawls.

"A tree full of monkeys is the last thing 14-year-old Jay Berry Lee expects to find on one of his treks through Oklahoma's Cherokee Ozarks," begins the book cover. "Jay learns from his grandfather that the monkeys have escaped from a circus and there's a big reward for the person who finds them... It's a summer of thrills and danger."

The library has ordered copies of the book and movie, so each group member may have one. Please stop by the library and pick up your copy today. For more information on the Book Brunch Discussion Group, call the Johnson Memorial Library at 419-542-6200.



ESSEN HOUSE HOSTS "LEGACY"

By: Sue Knapp

Saturday, April 12, at the Eszen House in Antwerp the band "Legacy" performing. Lots of energy went into the program as they sang about Jesus. Some of the residents of the Manor House was on tap to listen to the entertainment and the restaurant was full of people.

"Legacy" consists of seven people whose lives have been filled with music. Sonya Vukadinovich, Kim Askins and Krissi Rosales (are sisters), (their dad) Tom Diemer plays lead guitar plus a number of other instruments, Niel Price who was part of the original band the girls' parents had when they were young plays the rhythm guitar and also sang. Bob Bailey plays bass guitar. The family met him about 10 years ago and later asked him to play in the band. Tom Stuckman, is Bob's good friend, and blends well with the drums. He's been with the band about 1½ years.

The band is in it's 5th year. They practice once a week between full-time jobs, children and homes. During the performances they share their life experiences and testimonies.

They play at churches, social events, parks, fund raisers, etc. They are very busy with performances during the summer and fall.

The girls' husbands are very supportive with encouragement and watching children. These people are very talented, they all play by ear. They get along like brothers and sisters and you can tell they have fun and really enjoy performing.

The girls' mother also sings with them. She began having health problems and after three years waiting had a double lung transplant six weeks ago. She was there Saturday night giving the band encouragement. It is with prayer that they're hoping Mom will get to preform with the band by this fall.

On May 10, Legacy will be playing at the Defiance Christian Church at 6:30 p.m.

JUDGMENT LESSON #7 PART B

By: James Potter, Oakwood Church of Christ

This is a continuation of the study we had last week. To recap we were talking about Hebrews 9:27 and the appointment that no man, woman or child will be able to miss. If you still don't believe in a judgment please take the time to read Revelation 20:11-15. Notice what is said in verse 14 after being cast in the lake of fire. The second death it is talking about here is being forever spiritually separated from God as eternity goes on indefinitely.

There is no formal statement of immortality that occurs in the Old Testament, yet it constantly alludes to the cutting off of the wicked from God. While the Hebrew word Sheol, does not pointedly refer to endless retribution, but rather to a shadowy existence beyond the grave. Never the less it reflects the belief in a future and a continued existence once we die. Some scripture verses in the Old Testament you might want to read are as follows: Job 21:13; Psalms 9:17; Psalms 139:8. In the King James Version of the Bible it is worded different than in the New American Standard Bible, so if you have the NASB read it.

Also Jesus in the New Testament speaks of eternal punishment quite often. Scripture verses that you may wish to read on the following subject are as follows. Everlasting punishment (Matthew 25:46); everlasting fire (Matthew

18:8); The eternal fire (Jude 7); outer darkness (Matthew 8:12); the wrath of God (Romans 2:5); eternal destruction from the face of God (II Thessalonians 1:9). These are just a few scripture verses of the many that can be found in the New Testament. Remember it is written in the New Testament how that you can be saved; check the Bible to be sure your salvation is scripturally sound. Remember Jesus loves you and so do I!

LATTA STATEMENT REGARDING GENERAL PETRAEUS AND EMBASSADOR CROCKER TESTIMONY TO CONGRESS

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) made the following statement after General David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker delivered testimony to Congress this week.

"In light of General Petraeus and Ambassador Crocker's testimony, it is clear that a pre-mature withdrawal of troops from Iraq would be irresponsible and could create a more dangerous environment for our troops that they have fought so hard to secure. The Democratic leadership of Congress can no longer deny that the security situation in Iraq is improving, in addition to the progress the Iraqi government has made."

"Our troops need the continued support of Congress to complete their mission, including an upcoming clean supplemental bill and a responsible plan to continue to bring our troops home while maintaining stability in Iraq."

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CASH THE CHECK

A beggar stopped a lawyer on the street in a large southern city and asked him for a quarter. Taking a long, hard look into the man's unshaven face, the attorney asked, "Don't I know you from somewhere?" "You should," came the reply. "I'm your former classmate. Remember, second floor, old Main Hall?"

"Why Sam, of course I know you!" Without further question the lawyer wrote a check for \$10,000. "Here, take this and get a new start. I don't care what's happened in the past, it's the future that counts." And with that he hurried on. Tears welled up in the man's eyes as he walked to a bank nearby. Stopping at the door, he saw through the glass well-dressed tellers and the spotlessly clean interior. Then he looked at his filthy rags. "They won't take this from ME! They'll swear that I forged it," he muttered as he turned away.

The next day the two men met again. "Why Sam, what did you do with my check? Gamble it away? Drink it up?" "No," said the beggar as he pulled it out of his dirty shirt pocket and told why he hadn't cashed it. "Listen, friend," said the lawyer... "What makes that check good is not YOUR clothes or appearance, but MY signature. Go on, cash it!"

Isaiah described the sinful condition of man in a very descriptive and truthful way: "ALL of us have become like one who is unclean, and ALL our righteous acts are like filthy rags; we ALL shrivel up like a leaf, and like the wind our sins sweep us away" (Isaiah 64:6).

The Good News is... that Jesus has "written a check" to cover our debt of SIN. The payment for OUR SIN cost Jesus HIS LIFE. He bore our sins in His own body on the cross, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness. We can be healed of our sinful condition because He PAID THE PRICE for sin (1 Peter 2:24).

As we look at OUR filthy rags, however, we may feel unworthy of "cashing the check." Ashamed at our fruitless attempts to live the way that we should, we DON'T deserve it, BUT because of His love and mercy, God wants to give us a NEW BEGINNING. We will NEVER be able to earn this new life; we must simply "cash the check."

WHAT MAKES GOD'S "CHECK" OF SALVATION GOOD IS NOT YOUR CLOTHES OR APPEARANCE, BUT HIS SIGNATURE, WRITTEN WITH THE CLEANSING BLOOD OF JESUS!

TO "CASH" GOD'S CHECK OF SALVATION... WE MUST PLACE OUR FAITH IN HIM (HEBREWS 11:6), REPENT OF OUR SINS (ACTS 17:30-31), CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN (ROMANS 10:9-10), BE BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF JESUS FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS (ACTS 2:38), AND DEDICATE THE REST OF OUR LIVES TO FAITHFUL OBEDIENCE TO HIS WILL (1 JOHN 1:7).

DON'T LET THE "TATTERED CLOTHES" OF YOUR PAST KEEP YOU FROM CASHING GOD'S "CHECK" OF SALVATION.

OAKWOOD Church of Christ
 Meeting at the corner of TR. 191 and CR. 166, N. of Oakwood & S. of Defiance. Questions? Call 419-399-5022; 419-594-3969; 419-393-4775

GROUPS TO HOST TROOP APPRECIATION DAY FOR PAULDING COUNTY

ANTWERP, OH—The local VFW and other organizations are joining forces with the Postal Service to send care packages to troops stationed overseas. Troop Appreciation Day in Paulding County will culminate with a celebration at the VFW Post 5087 on Railroad Street in Antwerp on May 3, 2008 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Area service members who have recently returned from overseas are expected to speak. Schools, businesses and other organizations in Paulding County are being asked to send a care package, which will be collected during the May 3 celebration.

Postmaster Darla Kilgore and the Postal Service's Northwest Scenic Route Quality of Work Life Team will be providing free shipping supplies along with required mailing information. Organizations and individuals can send a package to service member of their choice, such as a family member, or can be provided the name and address of a soldier or sailor who is stationed overseas.

"We wanted a way to give back to the military people who support our nation," said Kilgore. "We are asking area residents and organizations to prepare a package, with postage, and bring it to our event for shipping overseas."

ROLE PLAYING GAME GROUP AT THE LIBRARY

HICKSVILLE — The Johnson Memorial Library will be hosting its twice monthly Role Playing Game Group on Friday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m.

The Role Playing Game Group is free and is open to teens and young adults, who are interested in a fantasy role playing games. The group will be facilitated by Youth Services' Librarian Dustin Harris.

For more information on the Role Playing Game Group, please call the Johnson Memorial Library at 419-542-6200.

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The Track and Field event lasted much of the day at Wayne Trace Saturday with teams from all over Northwest Ohio. Junior Paige Gerig from Hicksville shown here in the long jump. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK - ANTWERP/AYERSVILLE/ OTTOVILLE/STRYKER

A four-way match took place in the realm of high school track on April 15 between Antwerp, Ayersville, Ottoville, and Stryker.

These are the team event results:

Boys - 1st Ayersville 83; 2nd Ottoville 81; 3rd Antwerp 70; 4th Stryker 19

Event results:

4x800 relay - 1st Antwerp (Woodard, Krick, Walk, Reinhardt) 9:09.0; 2nd Ottoville 9:26.6; Stryker 9:32.0

110m HH - 1st Kimmett O 17.7; 2nd Rellinger O 19.1; 3rd Lewis Ay 20.5

100m - 1st Trapps Ay 11.7; 2nd King Ay 11.8; 2nd Jargent O 11.8; 3rd Blevins Ay 12.4; 4th Turnwald O 12.5

4x200 relay - 1st AyersvilleA 1:37.1; 2nd Antwerp 1:44.0; 3rd OttovilleA 1:45.2

Shot put - 1st King Ay 48'8"; 2nd Wiles Ay 41'5.5"; 3rd Beining O 40'3"; 4th Cooksay Ay 40'0.5"; Opdyoke S 37'6"

1600m - 1st Krick A 5:00.2; 2nd Rue Ay 5:08.9; 3rd Martin O 5:14.8; 4th Ruffer S 5:19.0; 5th Planson S 5:16.8

4x100 - 1st AyersvilleA 46.2; 2nd Antwerp 49.1; 3rd Ottoville 51.6

400m - 1st Rue Ay 57.1; 2nd Henry A 57.7; 3rd Bashore A 58.5; 4th Zuber A 58.9; 5th Gable O 59.5

Long jump - 1st Wireman Ay 19'2"; 2nd Sargent O 18'6"; 3rd Turnwald O 17'11"; 4th Arnold A 17'0"; 5th Janly A 16'5"

High jump - 1st Eickhoff O 6'0"; 2nd Ricker O 5'8"; 3rd Weinman O 5'8"; 4th Agular S 5'6"; 5th Laney A 5'2"

800m - 1st Walk A 2:18.6; 2nd Reinhart A 2:19.2; 3rd Crawford A 2:23.9; 4th Gagger O 2:26.2; 5th Ruffer S 2:29.9

300m - 1st Rellinger O 47.8; 2nd Woodard A 49.4; 3rd Kimmett O 49.9; 4th Lewis Ay 50.9; 5th Knippen O 51.2

200m - 1st Brown Ay 25.1; 2nd Turnwald O 26.0; 3rd Arnold A 26.4; 4th Gable O 27.7; 5th Rohn Ay 27.9

Discus - 1st King Ay 137'0"; 2nd Beining O 121'4"; 3rd Bok A 111'0"; 4th Opdyoke S 110'0"; Warnelle O 109'9"

3200m - 1st Grabber S 10:54.2; 2nd Krick A 11:09.3; 3rd Rue Ay 11:29.0; 4th Planson S 11:42.3; 5th Looser O 11:46.4

4x400 relay - 1st Ayersville 3:46.6; 2nd Antwerp 3:51.8; 3rd Ottoville 4:00.7

PV - 1st Laney A 11'6"; 2nd Klima O 11'0"; 3rd Zachrich Ay 10'6"; 4th Kaverman O 10'0"; 5th Wieble Ay 9'6"

Girls - 1st Ottoville 136, 2nd Ayersville 56, 3rd Antwerp 37, 4th Stryker 16

Event results:
4x800 relay - 1st Ottoville 10:28.5; 2nd Ayersville 11:28.4; 3rd Antwerp 12:09.0

100m HH - 1st Rieger O 17.4; 2nd Bowers O 17.4; 3rd Kautman O 17.8; 4th Vail A

20.2; 5th Conley Ay 20.3

PV - 1st Opdyoke S 6'2"

100m - 1st Nicely Ay 13.9;

2nd Beining O 13.9; 3rd Florence Ay 14.4; 4th Graves Ay

14.8; 5th Beining O 15.0

High jump - 1st Kautman

O 5'0"; 2nd Honingford O 5'0";

3rd Vail A 4'10"; 4th Kimmett O

4'6"

4x200 relay - 1st Ottoville

1:56.2; 2nd Ayersville 2:01.5;

3rd Antwerp 2:11.3

1600m - 1st Maag O

5:38.2; 2nd Godeke A 6:16.4;

3rd Doekery Ay 6:23.1; 4th

Mottashed Ay 6:25.0; 5th

Mickelson S 6:33.2

4x100 relay - 1st Ottoville

54.4; 2nd Antwerp 56.9; 3rd

Stryker 66.2

400m - 1st Sietker O 62.8;

2nd Nicely Ay 64.8; 3rd Graves

Ay 71.1; 4th Reinhart A 75.3;

5th Beadale O 77.4

300m hurdles - 1st Heit-

meyer O 51.7; 2nd Rieger O

51.8; 3rd Kaufman O 57.2; 4th

Vail A 64.2; 5th Miller Ay 70.1

Discus - 1st Comden Ay

97'0"; 2nd Beining O 96'9"; 3rd

Ankney Ay 88'0"; 4th Coressee

S 83'9"; 5th Copsey A 79'7"

Long jump - 1st Heimeyer

O 14'11"; 2nd Beining O 12'0.5";

3rd Mickelson S 11'7.5"; 4th

Eickhoff O 11'6.5"; 5th Stuart

A 10'9"

800m - 1st Turnwald

O 2:44.9; 2nd Rodriguez O

2:48.6; 3rd Dockery Ay 2:53.2;

4th Horstman O 2:55.0; 5th

Luderman Ay 2:57.2

200m - 1st Bowers O 29.0;

2nd Schlatter A 30.3; 3rd Florence

Ay 30.8; 4th Baumert A

31.2; 5th Haniford O 31.5

Shot put - 1st Beining O

32'10"; 2nd Comden Ay 30'2";

3rd Raymond O 29'1"; 4th Cor-

essel S 27'9"; 5th Copsey A

27'4.5"

3200m - 1st Sielker O

11:59.4; 2nd Godeke A 13:37;

3rd Bendale O 13.53; 4th Becker

O 14:16; 5th Short A 14:33

4x400 relay - 1st Ottoville

4:27.8; 2nd Ayersville 4:43.4;

3rd Antwerp 4:56.7

ARCHER SOFTBALL SHUT OUT RAIDERS

Antwerp traveled to Wayne Trace on Tuesday afternoon in their first Green Meadows Conference game of the year and walked away with a 3-0 win over the Raiders.

Bryn Schlatter was near perfect on the mound facing 22 batters while giving up one hit, striking out 9 and walking 0 in the shutout victory.

At the plate the Archers were led by Christy Kortokrax who pounded out two doubles and Amanda Rieberal who came through with a single and a double.

RBI singles by freshmen Loni Walk and Paula Slattman helped round out the scoring for the Archers.

Antwerp currently stand at 3-2 on the year and 1-0 in the GMC.

Score by the innings:

(Continued on Page 6)



Wayne Trace was a busy facility Saturday, April 19. The Lady Raiders played the Ottawa-Glandorf Titans in a tight game. Sophomore Lindsay Ross passes the ball to Senior Courtney Young and she makes it just in time to tag out one of the Titans at home plate. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Antwerp boys played Lincolnview Friday, April 18. The outfielder, Sophomore Mike Stuart, shown here caught the ball in the last inning getting the second to the last out of the game. Antwerp won 9-12. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Woodlan boys won against New Haven in a close last inning. Woodlan won by only 1 point with a final score of 11-10. Junior Ben Schlie scores in this picture. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Wayne Trace opposed Antwerp April 15. The West Bend News is not sure of the results on this game. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

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RAIDERS POUNCE ON RAMS IN GIRLS SOFTBALL

April 17 the Lady Raiders pounced up against the Lady Rams. The final score was a victory cry for the Raiders - 9-1. Wayne Trace is now 2-5 overall on the season and 1-1 in the Green Meadows Conference.

Wayne Trace - 0 0 4 1 0 3
1=9 runs, 12 hits, 1 error
Tinora - 0 0 0 0 1 0 0=1
run, 2 hits, 1 error
Winning Pitcher - Marcie McDougale (7 innings, 2 hits, 0 earned runs, 12 strikeouts, 4 walks)

Losing Pitcher - Buehrer (5-2/3 innings, 7 hits, 5 earned runs, 6 strikeouts, 1 walk)
Other Tinora Pitcher - Tedderke (1-1/3 innings, 5 hits, 3 earned runs, 0 walks, 0 strikeouts)

Wayne Trace Hitters:
Morgan Lee - three singles, grand slam home run; Shelby Critten - single, double; Ashley King - two singles; Leah Ross - two singles
Tinora Hitters:
Wieland - single; Greear - single

ARCHER SOFTBALL FALLS SHORT IN GMC CONTEST

In a critical GMC contest at Fairview the Archer softball team fell short in a 4-3 loss to the Apaches.

Antwerp was able to out hit the Apaches but six errors proved to be too much to overcome resulting in our first league loss of the season.

At the plate Toni Winslow and Aliaine Wetli picked up two singles a piece with Kole Schlatter chipping in with double. Christy Kortokrax provided another single as the Archers outhit the Apaches 6 to 3. On the mound Bryn Schlatter suffered her third loss of the season by striking out 6 Fairview batters while allowing 4 bases on balls. None of Fairview's runs were earned in the contest.

HIGH SCHOOL GOLF: WOODLAN VS. HAMILTON

On Wednesday April 9, the Woodlan and Hamilton golfers took their battle to the green. Hamilton won 188-195. Individual scores for Woodlan are as follows:

A. J. Stites 42, Joe Schlie 43, Garrett Sell 50, Jessie Schlie 60, Andy Collins 63

BOYS & GIRLS TRACK: PAULDING VS. LINCOLNVIEW

April 15 saw Paulding and Lincolnview track teams pounding the pavement for victorious times and distances.

Boys team results: Paulding won 80-57.

Event results:
High jump - 1st Jordan L 5'8"; 2nd Troyer P; 3rd Vance P
Discus - 1st Jared L 117'4"; 2nd Webb P; 3rd Arend P
Long jump - 1st Troyer P 18'4.5"; 2nd Tope P; 3rd Andrew L

Pole vault - 1st Roughton P 12'0"; 2nd Stallkamp P
Shot put - 1st Arend P 43'10"; 2nd Kohart P; 3rd Webb P

3200 relay - 1st Lincolnview 9:27

100/110 hurdles - 1st Tope P 16.34; 2nd Kirk L; 3rd Shafer P

100 meters - 1st James L 11.50; 2nd Mott P; 3rd Austin L
4x200 relay - 1st Paulding (Mott, Beck, Troyer, Rhonehouse)

1600 meters - 1st Seth L; 2nd Porter P; 3rd Jordan L

4x100 relay - 1st Paulding (Tope, Vance, Troyer, Mott)



Paulding hosted a double header on Saturday, April 19 with Van Wert and Antwerp. Antwerp opposed Paulding first with a very tight game. The Archers won in the 9th inning with a score of 7 to 4. Senior Chantell Weidenhamer gets a hit for Paulding as Freshman Vanessa Gordon dives for the ball. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Paulding played Tinora Friday evening with a difficult game. Shown here is Junior Aric Mericle just missing the out at third. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

Razo) 55.6

400 meters - 1st Carr P 1:07; 2nd Brittany L; 3rd Clellan P

300 meters - 1st Sarah L 52.9; 2nd Gross P; 3rd Mary L

800 meters - 1st Katie L 2:34; 2nd Kylie L; 3rd Jordan L
200 meters - 1st Calista L 29.2; 2nd Carnahan P; 3rd Gross P

3200 meters - 1st Kylie L 13:15; 2nd Casey L; 3rd Kohart P

4x400 relay - 1st Paulding (Suffel, Razo, Clellan, Carr) 4:31

WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING NEWS

Two elementary wrestlers, George Clemens and Tyler Showalter, qualified for and competed in the Oac Elementary State Tournament, that was held in Athens, Ohio on March 29. Though neither placed, they became the first wrestlers from Wayne Trace to qualify and wrestle in the event.

Six wrestlers from the Wayne Trace wrestling club participated in the Boarder Wars Wrestling Tournament held April 5, 2008. The tournament was held in Mason Michigan and was a qualifier for the Boarder Wars National Tournament to be held November 1, 2008, in Battle Creek, Michigan. With over 500 wrestlers competing, four of the six placed and qualified for the national. The participating wrestlers were Zaine Cotterman, Zack Cotterman, George Clemens IV 3rd place, Tyler Showalter 2nd place, Kameran Clemens 3rd place, and Aaron Miller 4th place.

Five Wayne Trace wrestlers competed in and placed at the tournament held on April 12, 2008, in Bluffton, Ohio placing 1st Tyler Showalter; placing 2nd Brendan Laney, George Clemens IV, Aaron Miller and Kameran Clemens.

(Continued from Page 5)

Antwerp - 0 1 0 1 0 0 1=3 runs, 8 hits, 0 errors

Wayne Trace - 0 0 0 0 0 0 0=0 runs, 1 hit, 2 errors

Winning pitcher - Bryn Schlatter (7IP, 1 hit, 0 runs, 8 strikeouts, 0 walks). Wayne Trace's Shelby Critten had the lone Raider hit, a single, in the bottom of the seventh.

Losing pitcher - Marcie McDougale (7 IP, 8 hits, 3 runs, 1 earned run, 5 strikeouts, 0 walks)

Top hitters: Antwerp - Amanda Riebersal (single, double, run); Christy Kortokrax (single, double, 2 runs, RBI)

Wayne Trace - Shelby Critten (single)

Wayne Trace is now 1-4 on the season.

HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL RESCHEDULED DATE

The Tinora GMC league contest that was regularly scheduled for April 10 at Antwerp is rescheduled to May 8 at Antwerp at 4:30 p.m.

ADAMS CENTRAL GOLFERS NICKED IT OVER THE TOP AGAINST WOODLAN

The Woodlan and Adams Central played at Pond-A-River on the front 9 on April 15.

Team scores: Woodlan 172, Adams Central 177

Individual score from Woodlan:

A. J. Stites 40, Joe Schlie 41, Garrett Sell 44, Jessie Schlie 47, Caleb Hazlett 48

Reserve score: Adams Central 207, Woodlan 208

Individual scores for Woodlan:

Ryan Handschy 49, Garrett Renbarger 52, Andy Collins 53, Tyler Deitering 54, Cole Reeb 61

WOODLAN SOFTBALL VICTORIOUS OVER BLUFFTON 3-2

On April 14, Woodlan Softball tipped to the top against Bluffton. Woodlan's record now stands at 4-1. Woodlan had 3 runs, 3 hits, 1 error. Winning pitcher was Copeland.

Bluffton had 2 runs, 6 hits, 1 error. 2B-Folk, Walburn, Pace. Losing pitcher was Pace.

If you mailed 10,000 Postcards (circulation of West Bend News) it would cost \$2500 not including printing cost. A postcard size ad only cost \$72

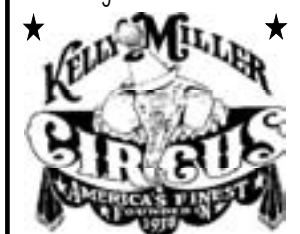
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- ☆ Valero Station
- ☆ Antwerp Pharmacy
- ☆ Morning Star Convenience Store
- ☆ N & N Quik Stop / Carry Out
- ☆ Cabbage Patch Restaurant



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47.08

400 meters - 1st Rhonehouse 54.03; 2nd Beck P; 3rd Schroeder P

300 meter hurdles - 1st Kirk L 44.93; 2nd Shafer P; 3rd Tope P

800 meters - 1st Kaleb L 2:18; 2nd Seth L; 3rd Bissell P

200 meters - 1st Rhonehouse 24.03; 2nd James L; 3rd Tyler L

3200 meters - 1st Seth L 11:16; 2nd Chris L; 3rd Allen P

4x400 relay - 1st Paulding (Schroeder, Mott, Beck, Rhonehouse)

Paulding girls came up short against Lincolnview with a final team score of 62-74

Event results:

High jump - 1st Razo 5'0"; 2nd Gross P; 3rd Lydia L

Discus - 1st Anderson 99'8"; 2nd Donaldson P; 3rd Ashton L

Long jump - 1st Casey L 14'2.5"; 2nd Razo P; 3rd Carnahan P

Pole vault - 1st Morgan 7'6"; 2nd Hammon P

Shot put - 1st Anderson P 37'2"; 2nd Sarah L; 3rd Bridgett L

3200 relay - 1st Lincolnview 11:20

100/110 hurdles - 1st Korte L 17.29; 2nd Gross P; 3rd Mary L

100 meters - 1st Calista L 13.4; 2nd Carnahan P; 3rd Myers P

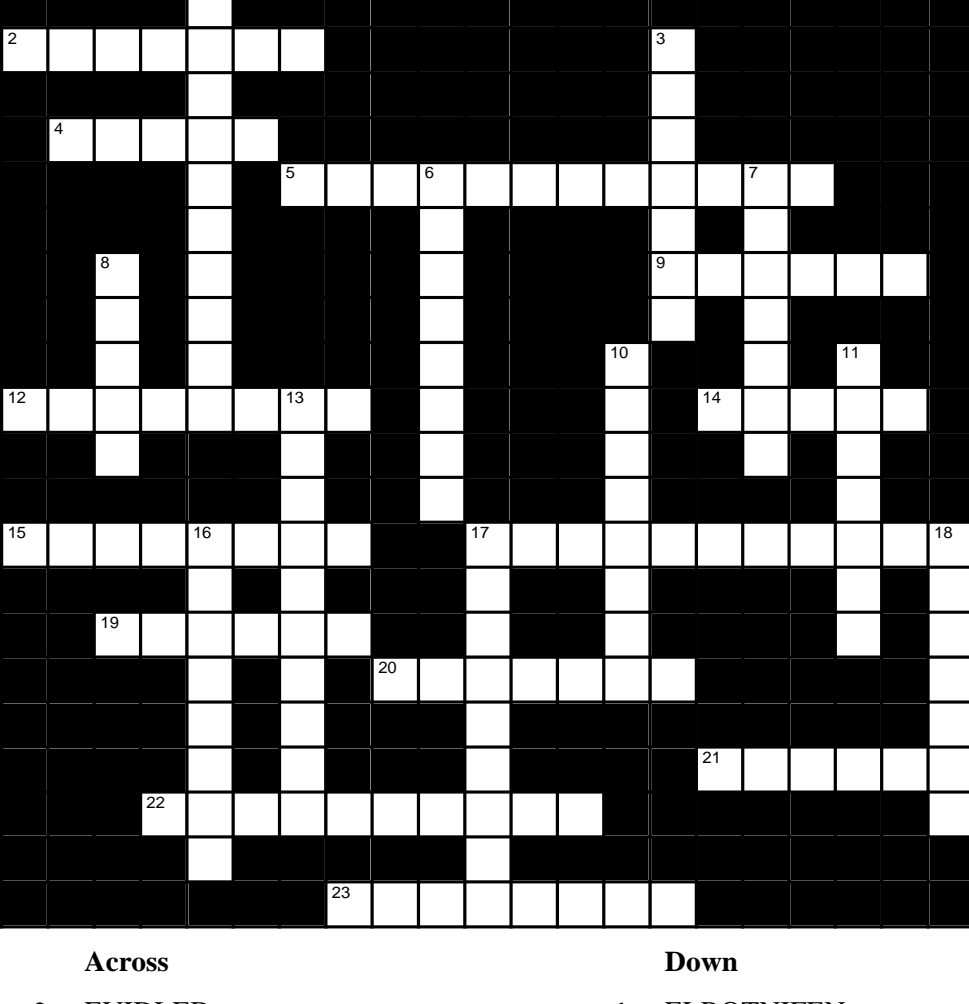
4x200 relay - 1st Lincolnview 1:56.6

1600 meters - 1st Kylie L 5:38; 2nd Suffel P; 3rd Taylor L

4x100 relay - 1st Paulding (Carr, Clellan, Carnahan,

Crossword Puzzle

Directions: Unscramble these egg clues to find all different ways to prepare eggs.



Across

- 2. EVIDLED
- 4. YURCR
- 5. TSGBNECDGEEI
- 9. TRAESE
- 12. SRVAEYOE (2 words)
- 14. ENREG
- 15. TOLMEETE
- 17. DUSEINSPUNY (3 words)
- 19. OGENGG
- 20. HAPDECO
- 21. HQECIU
- 22. BODIRDAHLE (2 words)
- 23. WDREPOED

Down

- 1. ELROTNIFEN
- 3. DEDODLC
- 6. HANWCSDI
- 7. RCSUTAD
- 8. DIFER
- 10. GERNIMEU
- 11. REABTS
- 13. BLTOIFOSDE (2 words)
- 16. LSGEGAAD (2 words)
- 17. MLBCRSEDA
- 18. KLDECIP

ARCHER BASEBALL CRACKS THREE WINS LAST WEEKEND

Archers hosted Lincolnview Friday, April 18. Score - 12-9 Antwerp over Lincolnview (Antwerp 3-2 overall and 1-1 in GMC)
 Top hitters: Lincolnview - Simpson double 2 singles; Evans HR & 3 singles; Thatcher HR & 1 single
 Antwerp - Anthony Smith single & grand slam HR (4 RBI); Beau Kobee double and 2 singles 3 RBI; Kyle Prox-

mire 2 singles; Mike Stuart single & double (2 RBI); Mark Parisot 3 run HR & single (3 RBI)
 Pitchers - Mark Parisot got the win 2-0; Simpson took the loss.
 Antwerp hosted a three-way on Saturday, April 19.
 Game 1:
 Score - 14-10, Antwerp over Hamilton, Indiana (Antwerp 4-2 overall and 1-1 GMC)
 Top hitters: Hamilton - DeForest HR triple & single (4 RBI); Stoy double & 2 singles; Gaetz 3 singles.
 Antwerp - Proxmire 4 sin-

gles (4 RBI); Stuart 2 singles (4 RBI); 2 singles each - Kobee, Carr, A. Smith
 Pitchers - Carr (1-0) took the win; King took the loss
 Game 2:
 Stryker 26, Hamilton 6
 Game 3:
 Score - 4-0 Antwerp over Stryker (Antwerp 5-2 overall 1-1 GMC)
 Top hitters:
 Stryker - C. Sullivan 2 singles
 Antwerp - A.Smith double 2 singles; B.Kobee double & single (2RBI); Z.Carr 2 single
 Pitchers - C. Frey got the loss; K. Proxmire (1-1) took the win 10Ks 6 hits

The Paulding Elementary PTO would like to thank the following Businesses and all our Volunteers and Parents for a wonderful Carnival. Without your help this would not have been possible!

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| T J Bar & Grill | Mike and Jen Mudel | Napa |
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| Raise the Barre | American Family Insurance | Dairy Queen |
| Maramart | Ace Hardware | Integrity Ford |
| Valero | Hot N Here | First Federal |
| Chief Supermarket | Richie's Hair Off the Square | Solid Surface Solutions |
| Spartech Plastics | Subway | Red Angel |
| Marco's | Busted Knuckles | Colleen's Cutting Edge |
| Ed's Car Care | Housa Pizza | Kircher's Flowers |
| Bubba J's | Holly Wood & Vine | The State Bank and Trust |
| Red Owl | Los Gallitos | Stykemain's |
| Signature Embroidery | Lindsay & Co. Hair Studio | TK Prints |
| Angels Four | Coopers | Advanced Auto |
| Curves | Erika Pease Photography | Tara Miller (Avon Representative) |
| Carrie Lero (Mary Kay Representative) | Susan Farr (Tastefully Simple Representative) | |
| Paulding Panther Boys Baseball | Paulding Panther Girls Softball | |
| Paulding Kiwanis Soccer | Paulding Panther Volleyball | |
| Paulding Panther Girls and Boys Basketball | | |

If we have left anyone out, we still want to thank you and to let you know your help is so appreciated!



By: Chelsea Vail

It seems that we're all fixin' to experience a bit of "The Big Easy" here pretty soon... "Rendezvous on Bourbon Street," theme of the 2008 prom, promises to deliver a taste of "Nawlins" as never before. Once again held at Grant's Reception Hall, the May 3rd festivities will begin at 7:00 p.m. with the walk-in promenade. Tickets can be purchased during lunch. Post-"carnival" activities will begin at 12:00 a.m.; all attending must stay until 4:00 a.m. Also, those oh-so-important permission slips are now available. Bring on the floats, masks, and doubloons!

While high school students gear up for the big party, the young'uns will still have their noses to the grindstone - Ohio Achievement Testing is planned for the week of April 28. Maybe a symbolic "gris gris" (a Voodoo luck charm, to those you not up on your New Orleans lingo) would be in order for those industrious little tykes.

JH Track: April 24, 4:00, @ Ayersville; April 28, 4:30, @ Hicksville

Varsity Track: April 26, 8:30, @ Ayersville; April 29, 4:30, @ Edon

JV Baseball: April 24, 4:30, @ Hicksville, April 25, 4:30, @ Lincolnview; April 28, 4:30, Woodlan; April 29, 4:30, @ Ayersville

Varsity Baseball: April 24, 4:30, Hicksville; April 26, 11:00, Montpelier; April 29, 4:30, Ayersville

Varsity Softball: April 24, 4:30, Hicksville; April 25, 4:30, @ Fayette; April 26, 11:00, North Central; April 29, 4:30, Ayersville

Word of the Week
 Lambaste \lam-BAYST\ verb

- 1. To give a thrashing to; to beat severely
 - 2. To scold sharply; to attack verbally; to berate
- Laissez le Bon temp rouler! ("Let the good times roll," New Orleans style!)

WOODLAN SOFTBALL LOSES TO SNIDER

On Friday, April 18 the Warriors Softball team took a blow in their record against Snider. The final score was 17-7.

- Woodlan: Record 5-3; They had 7 runs, 10 hits, 2 errors
- 2B - Wells(W)
 - 3B - Suder(W), Shinn(W)
 - LP - Copeland
- Snider: They had 17 runs, 21 hits, 1 error.
- 2B - Stevenson(S)(2)
 - 3B - Sims(S)
 - HR - Blackstone (S), Rogers(S)
 - WP - Blackstone

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LADY WARRIORS PROVE NO CONTEST TO NEW HAVEN



Woodlan Lady Warriors beat New Haven in a 18-1 game. Shown here is Senior Danae Lengacher getting a hit. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

Woodlan faced off against New Haven on April 15 and ended with an awesome win of 18-1.
 Woodlan's record now stands at 5-1.
 Woodlan had 18 runs, 14 hits, 0 errors; 2B-Neal, Suder(2); HR-Potter; WP-Wells
 New Haven's record is now 1-2; with 1 run, 5 hits, 2 errors for this game.
 LP-Jackson

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ANTWERP HISTORY

By: Stan Jordan

Here at the WBN some one gave us a small medicine bottle that states it is from The White Front Drug Store in Antwerp, Ohio. For the life of me, I can't remember who gave it to us, but I want you to know I sure appreciate it.

Sometime ago, Cyndy Bowers and her daughter Carolyn, and her husband, Scott, were beach-combing along the Maumee River and Scott found another one of those medicine bottles like the one you see here in the

WBN is Bryce Steiner, so in desperation I asked him to punch F.D. Graves in the computer to see if by chance we could find out anything about that man and/or the White Front Drug Store. We didn't get anything from the F.D. Graves, but we did get a lot of info about that whole family. It came off the Mike Ransom family genealogy. It seems they were kin of some type. So, I'm going to tell you about F.D. Graves.

James Dugan Graves was born in Warren County, Ohio in 1812. Kesiah Harris was born in England in 1841. They



picture. Well, Cyndy made me a print of the writing on the bottle and it states also that the owner of the drug store was F.D. Graves.

Well, I looked through all my books about the drug stores but nothing about one called The White Front Drug Store of Antwerp. I came up with some facts about a Mr. White, but he was in the stove business and that became a dead end. What and who was the White Front Drug Store? I knew of some people named Graves, but not one F.D. Graves.

were married in Paulding County, Ohio in 1863. They had three children: Samuel Graves, born in Antwerp in March of 1864, Francis Dugan Graves (our druggist) born 1866 in Antwerp and Harry A. Graves born in 1874 in Antwerp.

Our man is Francis Dugan Graves. He was born in 1866 in Antwerp and married Mary C. Richardson in 1894. She was born in Ohio in 1869.

They had two children, Carmen born in 1895 in Ohio and Donald G. Graves in 1903 in Michigan.

From what I can under-

stand. Frances Dugan Graves was a druggist and operated the White Front Drug Store here in Antwerp. I think he retired and sold the business to John C. Pate. He had a drugstore with his son, W.C. Pate for many years that a lot of us 'Old Timers' done business with. That would be right north of the Antwerp Pharmacy.

As I understand, the Frank Graves family moved to Florida. He died in 1942 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

His brother, Samuel, became a businessman in Antwerp in the grocery and clothing business. Sam was a nice old fellow and they lived for years where Mrs. Marjorie Leinard lived. At the time of her death he lived with his daughter, Eula, in Seattle, Washinton.

See, Ya!

HOUSE GOP WEEKLY RADIO ADDRESS

Hi. This is Congressman Bob Latta, and I represent Ohio's northwestern 5th district in the United States House of Representatives.

Right now, all across our country, American families are confronting soaring costs of living and skyrocketing energy costs while watching their home - the single most important investment they make in their lifetime - fall in value.

Last week, as millions of American families filed their taxes, they were reminded of the high costs of the Democrat Congress.

Earlier this year, House Democrats paved the way for the largest tax increase in American history. Clocking in at \$683 billion and putting the hammer to 115 million Americans, it's working families that will be hit hardest by the Democrat tax increase. For instance, a family of four making \$50,000 a year would see their tax bill go up by more than \$2,100. That is a one-time, 191 percent increase in that family's tax bill.

That hasn't stopped House Republicans from working to cut taxes and reduce wasteful spending. Just this week in fact, we gave House Democrats multiple opportunities to stop their nearly \$700 billion tax increase. They opposed our fiscally responsible efforts, and in doing so, straightforwardly told hard-working taxpayers that they know how to spend your money better than you do. At a time when families are tightening their belts in order to make ends meet, Washington Democrats are doing just the opposite.

Led by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, Democrats in Washington also promised

to lower your gas prices. But on their watch, drivers are now paying \$1.09 a gallon more than they were when Democrats took control of Congress 15 months ago. This "Pelosi Premium" puts a tighter squeeze on working families at the worst possible time. Democrats, having passed massive tax increases on American energy companies, believe they can tax our fuel tanks full. Well, they're wrong. And by many indicators, \$4 gasoline may soon become a cruel reality.

And just last week, at the behest of Big Labor, Speaker Pelosi hijacked the rules of the House of Representatives and essentially killed a bipartisan trade agreement with Colombia - our strongest ally in South America - which would help American farmers, workers, small businesses and manufacturers at a time when every economic advantage is crucial.

The American people can barely afford the cost of the Democrat Congress. My Republican colleagues and I are fighting to deliver what middle-class families need most - new tax relief. While Democrats have proposed historic levels of wasteful Washington spending, all to be bankrolled by a massive, job-killing tax increase, Republicans are committed to stopping their harmful actions. Reducing taxes is the most commonsense approach to help struggling families.

This is Congressman Bob Latta. Thanks for listening.

GENEALOGY HELP SESSION FROM THE DEFIANCE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Have you always wanted to research your family genealogy, but didn't know where to start? Maybe you tried, but didn't get very far? Have you compiled quite a bit of family information, but unsure how to go about organizing everything?

The Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society will be conducting a help session for anyone with questions or in need of assistance with their family genealogy research. Volunteer members will be at the Defiance Public Library Ohioanna Room April 26 from 10:00 a.m. until Noon to assist anyone with their families' genealogy. The library is located at 320 Fort Street in Defiance.

This help session is not limited to the Defiance County ancestor research. The Ohioanna Room has resources for most all of Ohio's eighty-eight counties. The library has access to several genealogy websites that can provide valuable nationwide and worldwide information via computer.

Mark your calendar today. Attend the session to get answers about your family genealogy project. Be sure to bring your ancestors' birth dates, death dates, or any other information that might help the volunteers assist you. Contact the chapter by writing to Defiance County Chapter OGS; P.O. Box 7006, Defiance, OH 43512; or their free website www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ohdcgs



NOW READ THIS

By: Stan Jordan

This is a picture of the office and scales of the West Elevator. You can see it was called the Peoples' Elevator, but then the name was changed to the Antwerp Equity Exchange. This picture was taken some time ago.

That whole front end was torn down and those cement silos were built around late 1951 or 1952.

A lot of the farmers helped with the erecting of those si-

los because once they started pouring the cement, they couldn't stop, until it was finished to the top. So it required three, eight hour tricks to do the job.

The procedure at the Elevator runs like clockwork and Susan Arend is the main spring. I talked to her the other day and she is too young to remember anything about the picture. But she told me that those two new steel storage bins are about equal to all of those other cement silos. Those two metal bins hold 798,000 bushels.

WACHTMANN ANNOUNCES OPPOSITION TO KENO

At a press conference today with other members of the Legislature, state Representative Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon) announced his opposition to a proposal by the governor to use Keno to help fill Ohio's estimated \$733 million budget shortfall.

"The governor's support of Keno is a direct attack on the middle- and low-income families here in Ohio," Wachtmann said. "Voters in Ohio have repeatedly turned down efforts to expand gambling in our state, and I believe that the governor should respect their wishes."

The governor recently announced that anticipated state revenues will not meet expectations. To help fill the budget gap, he has proposed placing video Keno machines in bars,

restaurants and social halls that have liquor licenses. The governor believes Keno could raise approximately \$73 million to help fill the shortfall.

In Keno, players choose a set of up to 10 numbers between one and 80. They can earn cash prizes based on how many of their numbers match those randomly selected by the Keno machine. The governor's plan would allow Keno drawings every 20 minutes.

Today's press conference was held in support of House Bill 514, introduced by state Representative John Adams (R-Sidney). The bill prohibits the Ohio Lottery from operating Keno or similar electronic games. The legislators believe permitting Keno contradicts last year's efforts to curtail privately-run games of chance in bars.

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Auglaize Golf Club

Auglaize Golf Club's 2008 2 Person Ladies League is Forming Now!!!

Call 419-393-2211 today to sign up!!!

League begins Thursday, May 15th with tee times as early as 5:00 pm

Cost per person: \$16/cart, \$10/walk
May sign up as 2 person team or individual

A league meeting will be held May 1 at 6:00 pm at the AGC clubhouse. Those interest in joining the league are encouraged to attend!

Paulding ALUMNI GAME

July 19 at 8 pm

\$30 required to play with money going to the Paulding Little League Football Program for new equipment.

An Injury waiver form must be signed.
Full contact above the waist game.

For registration and information please contact

Chris Doster 419-399-2148
Bill Wolfe 419-399-2034
Dan LaFountain 419-399-3599

PAULDING VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING FOR MARCH 17

Paulding Village Council met in Regular Session on March 17, 2008, at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Municipal Building. Mayor Greg White called the meeting to order.

Finance Director Tope called roll call with the following members present: Barb Rife, Roger Sierer, Randy Daeger, Sam Jeffery, Ronnie Breedlove, and Kim Sutton. Administrator Wiebe and Solicitor Jones were also present.

Jeffery motioned to approve the minutes of the March 3rd meeting, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Ordinance 1371-08 re: An Ordinance Establishing a Public Records Policy and a Records Retention Schedule for the Village of Paulding, Ohio, was read for the third time. Breedlove motioned to approve the legislation, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Sierer presented the Recreation Committee's minutes of their March 10th meeting with the Parks Board. He noted the Parks Board proposed several minor revisions to the Pool Manager and League Commissioner's job descriptions. Sierer recommended Ron Riggenbach be awarded a one-year contract as League Commissioner. The following items were also discussed:

**Pool employee interviews will begin in April.

**The pool heater has been fixed.

**Free pool admission to those 65 years or older.

**Admission prices have been set at \$3 for both adults and children.

**Tentative pool opening May 26th.

**Ron Riggenbach reported several improvements made to Reservoir Park on behalf of the Paulding Reservoir Ball Association (new pop cooler compressor, new stove, wireless scoreboard, cemented back stop & dug outs, stone & graded parking, and brick dust for the infields).

Solicitor Jones requested a correction be made to the Committee's minutes reflecting the "Paulding Reservoir Ball Association" not the "Paulding Ball Association" made the above mentioned

improvements.

**It was stressed that anyone wanting to schedule the Reservoir Park fields please contact Ron Riggenbach.

**Mr. Riggenbach requested the street be widened to prevent people parking in the grass, and two (2) catch basins be installed (one by the 3rd field, and one near the old tennis courts) to help with drainage.

Sierer motioned to approve the Recreation Committee's report, seconded by Breedlove. Vote: all yea.

Breedlove presented the Safety Committee's minutes from their March 10th meeting. The Committee discussed the following:

**Recommended approving Porter Sanitation's request for an \$.80 increase per residence for trash pick-up. Wiebe will contact Porter's to confirm their acceptance of the rate increase. The new rate is based on a 3% cost of living and a 5% fuel increase. Residential rates will increase to \$11 per residence, effective May 1st.

**Becky Suvar of the Paulding County WMEA was present to discuss the recycling program currently offered by the County. The Committee noted they have received several requests for a Village recycling program, and inquired the impact such a program would have on the WMEA. Ms. Suvar noted that the WMEA program does not receive any monies for the items they collect, and encouraged the Committee to proceed. She did note that May 31st is County Recycling Day. Trailers will be on-site at the Terra Plant located on US 127 South; and will be accepting tires, appliances, computers, and old TV's.

Mayor White read Resolution 1372-08 re: A Resolution Amending the Village's Solid Waste Contract with Porter's Sanitation, for the first time.

Daeger presented the minutes of the Street Committee's meeting on March 5th. The Committee discussed the following:

**Charlie Martz of Homestead Acres was present to discuss sign placement for the Homestead Acres addition. Mr. Martz was instructed to receive the Zoning Inspector's approval for the sign design and placement.

**Pot holes in the streets

and alleys will begin being filled as weather permits. Wiebe noted he will contact Premier Patching to schedule the Village for street repairs. He also noted it may be advantageous for the Village to purchase its own machine. He will present additional information regarding the topic at the next Street Committee meeting.

**The Committee would like to review, and possibly revise, the current snow removal ordinance. Mayor White noted it has been suggested that banners be inserted on the light poles in the fall after the flags have been removed to inform the public of the Village's snow removal policy.

Mayor White related Mayor's Court collect \$1,162 for the month of February 2008. He encouraged Council members to attend the Paulding County Area Foundation Annual Dinner to be held on Thursday, April 3rd. Mayor White also read an invitation from Emmanuel Baptist Church inviting government officials to partake in an honorary luncheon on May 2nd. Senator Steve Buehrer will be present.

Wiebe presented a letter he received from Otto Gerdeman of GNG Development Services, LLC. Mr. Gerdeman is conducting a water service study for the Village of Cecil. The following information was requested:

**The location of the proposed main from the Paulding system to the location along US 127. Wiebe noted he will verify with Poggemeyer Design Group that the information gathered from the last study is still pertinent. Wiebe believes the cost of a new study, if needed, would be incurred by the Village of Cecil.

**The cost of water and connection fees. Wiebe noted that until the Village's new Water Plant is fully functional the actual cost of processing water will not be known. He also relayed there are several questions surrounding the project that have yet to be answered.

Solicitor Jones noted he has filed the four (4) small claims complaints for delinquent utility bills. A court date has been set for April 24th.

Sierer noted the Buildings & Grounds Committee has sought quotes from two other contractors to repair the mausoleum. One response has been received.

The following Committee meetings were scheduled:

**Street Committee - Wednesday, March 14 at 5:30 p.m.

**Village of Cecil water-line project - Monday, March 31 at 10:30 a.m.

Daeger motioned to pay the bills, seconded by Jeffery. Vote: all yea.

Jeffery motioned to adjourn, seconded by Breedlove. Vote: all yea.

VANTAGE WELCOMES ALL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Over 90 school board members, treasurers and superintendents from Vantage home schools were on hand as U.S. Representative Bob Latta (R-5th District) spoke at the annual All Boards dinner and meeting on Monday, April 7, 2008. After the dinner, the regular monthly meeting of the Vantage Board of Education was held. The treasurer's

report included the approval of the March 6, 2008 regular board meeting minutes and the financial statements for the month of February, 2008. The board approved a resolution of SERS Tax Deferred Payroll deduction.

Superintendent Staci Kaufman welcomed Bruce Miller, from Garmann/Miller Architects and Engineers, who presented their proposal of the OFSC building renovation and expansion project. Ms. Kaufman also provided information to the board regarding the proposed elimination of the Business Information Technology program. She announced a special board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 22 at 7:00 p.m.

In new business, the board:

—Approved employment of the following, as needed, as scheduled: Dave Young, Maintenance Supervisor, Robin Burns, Food Careers Instructor, Susan Farr, Special Education Instructor, Jim Fisher, Guidance Counselor, Amy Grothouse, Cosmetology Instructor, Rachael Harpel, Science Instructor, Kelly Horstman, Math Instructor, Mike Klutka, Industrial Mechanics Instructor, Mike Knott, Math Instructor, Cindy Kirzan, Assessment Coordinator, Larry Mengerink, Building & Grounds Instructor, Nancy Moore, Network Systems Instructor, Theresa Ratliff-Dotterer, English Instructor, Larry Ray, Precision Machine Instructor, Jerry Robinson, Carpentry Instructor, Duane Sheets, Science Instructor, Maureen Teman, Cosmetology Instructor, Jennifer Waltz, GRADS, Ben Winans, Social Studies Instructor;

—Approved supplemental contracts for Nancy Moore, Advancer Training Participant (reimbursed by West Central Ohio College Tech Prep);

—Employed the following Adult Education instructors as needed, as scheduled: Gary Showalter, Health Careers;

—Approved student trip to Phoenix, Arizona from May 6, 2008 to May 11, 2008 for the BPA National Convention;

—Approved reimbursement of moving expenses incurred by Staci Kaufman, Superintendent in the amount of \$870.00;

—Approved Enrollment Agreement between Delphos City Schools and Vantage Career Center effective July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2013;

—Resolution to abolish non-teaching position and to suspend (layoff) a non-teaching employee;

—Resolution to approve the administrative restructuring plan presented by the Superintendent at the March board meeting;

—Resolution to create the certified staff position of Attendance/Discipline Officer;

—Resolution to approve the In School Suspension Coordinator (revised) job description;

—Accepted with thanks the donation of \$500 from the First Presbyterian Church to the Haiti Interact Club.

The Superintendent and Treasurer requested an executive session for the purpose of reviewing the Draft Audit Report for FY 2007.

ANOTHER ANTWERP SENIOR SELECTS UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS



From L-R Front Row: Jason Hormann, Boston Hormann, Kelly Hormann, Back Row: Chad LaCross (St. Francis Golf Coach), Mr. Scott McMichael (Antwerp School Rep).

High School scholar and athlete Boston Hormann chose University of Saint Francis as his college of choice for the 2008-2009 school year. Hormann, a senior at Antwerp Local Schools, has excelled in a number of activities over his high school career including academics, basketball, baseball, and golf. Boston has received several

scholarships from Saint Francis including golf, basketball and academics. Boston plans to major in Pre-Dentistry and minor in biology with a career as a dentist in mind. Currently Boston works for Pond-A-River Golf Course. While at the signing, Boston was asked what his dream job would be. He thought for a moment and replied, "Coaching Duke."

THANK YOU

Larry and I would like to thank all of those who sent gifts and flowers and offered prayers during the time of the loss of our brother, Nick. We want you all to know that we gratefully appreciate your kindness.

—Penny Ryan P

GIRLS AND BOYS TRACK: WAYNE TRACE VS. FAIRVIEW

Girls final score: Wayne Trace 82, Fairview 53

Event scores:
3200 Relay - Fairview 12:51

100 Hurdles - Schroeder (F) 20.7, Mueller (F) 23.1, Litzenberg (WT) 23.2

1000 Dash - Priest (WT) 13.9, Schroeder (F) 14.2, Rhodes (F) 14.8

800 Relay - Fairview 2:03.8

1600 Run - Stoller (WT) 6:04.8, Hill (WT) 7:07.5, Tekeunberg (F) 7:09.0

400 Relay - Fairview 58.3
400 Dash - Buehing (F) 1:09.0, Akkerman (WT) 1:14.5, Ferguson (WT) 1:20.4

800 Run - Stoller (WT) 2:47.4, Breining (F) 3:19, Czartoski (F) 3:20

200 Dash - Priest (WT) 28.6, Baumle (WT) 30.3, Hockenberry (WT) 30.3

3200 Run - Miller (F) 16:42, House (WT) 18:34

1600 Relay - Wayne Trace 5:17, Fairview 5:21

High Jump - (tie) Ehresman (WT) and Rosebrock (F) 4-6, Schroeder (F) 4-4

Pole Vault - Baumle (WT) 7-0, Johnson (F) 5-0

Boys final score: Fairview 92, Wayne Trace 40

Event scores:
3200 Relay - Fairview 9:14, Wayne Trace 11:00

110 Hurdles - Davis (F) 20.3

100 Dash - Webb (F) 12.3, Newcomb (WT) 12.6, Huffman (F) 13.1

800 Relay - Fairview 1:50.8

1600 Run - Alvarez (F) 5:05.6, Irwin (WT) 5:34.9, Klopfenstein (WT) 5:35.2

400 Relay - Wayne Trace 49.6, Fairview 49.9

400 Dash - Kempf (F) 58.4, Tonneas (F) 59.6, Hartman (WT) 1:00.7

800 Run - Coolman (F) 2:15.0, Alvarez (F) 2:16.0, Zartman (WT) 2:57.0

200 Dash - Newcomb (WT) 25.8, Kimmel (WT) 27.2, Hartman (WT) 27.6

3200 Run - Alvarez (F) 11:10, Irwin (WT) 11:53.3, Singer (F) 11:57

1600 Relay - Fairview 4:20

High Jump - Kempf (F) 5-6, Keesbury (F) 5-0

Shot Put - Webb (F) 38-11, Keesbury (F) 37-1-1/4, (tie) Reuille (WT) 33-4 and Comer (WT) 33-4

Discus - Coolman (F) 94-9, Reuille (WT) 84-6, Comer (WT) 82-5-1/2

Long Jump - Keesbury (F) 18-8, Kimmel (WT) 18-3, Newcomb (WT) 17-9

Pole Vault - Klopfenstein (WT) 11-3, Keesbury (F) 8-0, Singer (F) 7-6

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH MENUS FOR WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS FOR THE WEEK OF 4/23 THROUGH 4/29

Breakfast:
4/23 - Pancakes or waffles, sausage, milk
4/24 - Egg/cheese omelet, toast/jelly, milk
4/25 - Turnover, milk
4/28 - Pizza, milk
4/29 - Egg/cheese/bacon muffin, milk

Lunch:
4/23 - Sloppy joes, smashed pots, fruited jello w/ whipped topping, milk
4/24 - French toast sticks, hash brown, sausage, 100% juice, milk
4/25 - Chicken nuggets, fries, trail mix, milk
4/28 - Cheeseburger or bacon cheeseburger sandwich, potato wedges, mandarin oranges, milk
4/29 - Breaded chicken sandwich, seasoned fries, pears, milk

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**WAYNE TRACE GROVER
HILL ELEMENTARY THIRD
NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL
2007-08**

All B's:
3rd - Brandon Laney
6A - Matt Lambert, Marcus McVay
6B - Allison Laney

**PAULDING EXEMPTED
VILLAGE SCHOOLS BREAK-
FAST AND LUNCH MENUS
FOR THE WEEK OF 4/23
THROUGH 4/29**

MS/HS - Breakfast
4/23 - Ham, egg & cheese
croissant, juice, milk
4/24 - French toast, sausage, juice, milk
4/25 - Sausage gravy w/ biscuits, juice, milk
4/28 - Breakfast pizza, juice, milk
4/29 - Cook's choice, milk
MS/HS - Lunch
4/23 - Chicken fajita or italian sausage, crosstrax potatoes, assorted fruit, milk
4/24 - Pizza sticks w/sauce, corn assorted fruit, milk
4/25 - Bar-b-que pork on a bun, au gratin potatoes, assorted fruit, milk
4/28 - Popcorn chicken, broccoli w/cheese, dinner roll or corn dog, baby carrots w/ dip, assorted fruit, milk
4/29 - Mandarin chicken, salad, garlic toast, assorted fruit, milk

Paulding Elementary - Lunch

4/23 - Vegetable beef soup w/crackers, bread w/peanut butter or margarine, fruit cup, milk
4/24 - French toast, sausage, tator tots, fruit cup, milk
4/25 - Pizza sub, vegetable, fruit cup, milk
4/28 - Salisbury steak on a bun, vegetable, fruit cup, milk
4/29 - Pizza, corn, fruit cup, milk
Oakwood Elem. - Lunch
4/23 - Hot dog on a bun, baked beans, fruit, milk
4/24 - Pepperoni cheese bread stick w/sauce, green beans, fruit, milk
4/25 - Hamburger on a bun, vegetable, fruit, milk
4/28 - Popcorn chicken, whipped potatoes w/gravy, bread, sherbet, milk
4/29 - French toast sticks, mini sausages, fruit juice, fruit, milk

**"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT": VANTAGE
BLOODMOBILE - #28!**



Vantage senior Health Careers students Casey Roop from Van Wert (left) and Andrea Freeman from Crestview say, "Thumbs Up!" to the Vantage students and staff for their support of the 28th annual bloodmobile.

For the past 27 years, the Vantage Bloodmobile has been an annual event, and so it was again this year. The bloodmobile is a team effort with students and staff from several different programs working together to get organized and set up for a bloodmobile. The Vantage bloodmobile has grown so much in recent years, that this is the second year it was a two-day event!

Thanks to members of the junior Health Careers morning class and junior Early Childhood class for moving all the furniture and setting up the donor rooms. Junior and senior Health Careers students served as Red Cross volunteers, handling first aid and escort duties. The Early Childhood Education students and Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Myers, staffed the canteen and provided cookies, sandwiches and beverages to everyone who donated a unit

KIDS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By: Sue Knapp

A big celebration is going on at the Friend's house. Ray and Anita Friend are the grandparents of Drew Friend, son of Jeff and Shannon Friend of Monroe, Ohio.

The time came for Shannon to ask Drew what he wanted for his 5th birthday.

of blood.

Vantage is one of the largest high school bloodmobiles in the region and has one of the highest numbers of first time donors. This year's blood drive was no exception. There were 196 students and staff members who registered to donate blood. Many of those were first-time donors.

"We're very proud of our students - both the donors and those who volunteered to help and we felt that the two day bloodmobile was very successful", said Mrs. Shirley Jarvis, Sr. Health Careers instructor at Vantage and on-site coordinator for the bloodmobile.

Vantage staff and students donated 150 units of blood at this year's bloodmobile. Including this year's units, the grand total for 28 bloodmobiles is 4,238 units of blood donated. Great job Vantage students and staff!

Drew commented that he liked his old toys, would like to keep them and could he give his new toys to children in need.

Shannon (who has worked hard to make this as big as it is) took Drew's comment to the pre-school he attends at the Royal Redeemer Lutheran Church and it grew from there, then it grew and grew and just kept growing. Via e-mail Drew's pre-school teacher Jeannie O'Shaughnessey asked for items to be donated for a local family in need. This has spread over to more than three dozen churches being involved in donating. Two (with one completely full) moving trucks were filled with toys, furniture, clothes, electronics, bicycles, and more. So far, Royal Redeemer has helped two families and a college student.

The Oprah Winfrey Show sent a crew to Drew's birthday party, which was aired on April 21 with Drew and his family present.

After the birthday party, a fire truck pulled up to the front of Drew's house. The fire truck gave Drew a lift as the gifts were delivered to the family.

Through all this, Drew, can't understand what the big deal is, anyone can do it and doing it makes his heart feel good.

Drew is a big brother to Tyler, 3½ and Emily 2. Through this he is teaching his siblings strong characteristics to live by. His parents and grandparents also deserve a lot of credit, for they have instilled something into this child that is needed in all of us.

Drew's "Big Give" (as it is called) will continue as long as donations keep coming in.

**ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOLS
LUNCH MENUS FOR THE
WEEK OF 4/23 THROUGH
4/29**

4/23 - Chili w/crackers or salisbury steak on bun, peas, peaches, gogurts, string cheese, milk; PLUS: salad bar or pineapple crisp
4/24 - Blueberry pancake & sausage on stick or broccoli cheese soup, hash browns, orange juice, milk; PLUS: salad bar or cook's choice, no fries
4/25 - Pizza bagel or chicken salad sandwich, salad, pineapple, pretzels, milk; PLUS: salad bar or peanut butter bar
4/28 - Burrito or BBQ beef on bun, tortilla chips w/bean dip, celery sticks, peaches, milk; PLUS: salad bar or cook's choice
4/29 - Toasted cheese or chicken on bun, noodle soup, carrots, mixed fruit, milk; PLUS: salad bar or macaroni salad

**LIMA BATH RELAYS - 10
TEAMS RUN FOR VICTORY**

Paulding girls track team finished 5th out of 10 teams at the Lima Bath Relays on April 12.

Final team results: 1st Ottawa Glandorf 145; 2nd Shawnee 98; 3rd Wapakoneta 82; 4th Van Wert 62; 5th Paulding 42; 6th Bluffton 37; 7th Elida 31; 8th Bath 20; 9th LCC 9; 10th St. Mary's 8

Event Results for Paulding:

High jump - 1st Tiffany Razo 4'8"

Discus - 2nd Tiffany Anderson 107'3"

Shot put - 2nd Tiffany Anderson 36'7"

1600 meters - 6th Kara Suffel 6:09

4x100 relay - 2nd Jaclyn Carr, Hayley Clellan, Alicia Carnahan, Tiffany Razo 54.4

400 meters - 5th Jaclyn Carr 1:09.1

200 meters - 6th Jaclyn Carr 29.84

4x400 relay - 4th Jaclyn Carr, Hayley Clellan, Kara Suffel, Tiffany Razo 4:34.06

Paulding boys track team placed 5th out of 10 teams at the Lima Bath Relays on April 12.

Team scores: 1st Bluffton 108.5; 2nd Wapakoneta 97; 3rd Shawnee 71; 4th Van Wert 50.5; 5th Paulding 48; 6th LCC 46; 7th Ottawa Glandorf 45; 8th Elida 34; 9th Bath 24; 10th St. Mary's 1

Event scores for Paulding:

High jump - 3rd Troy Vance 5'8"

Discus - 6th Eric Ross 118'

Long jump - 3rd Bryant

Troyer 18'11"

Pole vault - 3rd Jacob Roughton 11'6"; 4th Dalton Stallkamp 10'6"

3200 relay - 6th Brian Porter, Eric Beck, Wade Bissell, Corbin Rhonehouse 9:27

100/110 hurdles - 6th Jacob Roughton 18.14

4x200 relay - 3rd Andrew Mott, Eric Beck, Bryant Troyer, Corbin Rhonehouse 1:37

400 meters - 2nd Corbin Rhonehouse 52.96

200 meters - 4th Corbin Rhonehouse 23.93; 6th Andrew Mott 24.50

4x400 relay - 4th Brady Schoeder, Eric Beck, Bryant Troyer, Corbin Rhonehouse 3:45

**CURVES OF HICKSVILLE
INVITES LOCAL RESIDENTS
TO SHARE THE GIFT OF
WEIGHT LOSS**

As early as childhood, people are taught the importance of sharing, and Curves of Hicksville is reinforcing that behavior by offering a "2-for-1" promotion for local residents. This offer will allow new members to share the service fee with a friend.

"At Curves we understand that having a friend involved can help motivate new members to start a weight loss program, so we're determined to do whatever it takes to help Hicksville women achieve their fitness goals," said Jerrica Steffens, owner of Curves of Hicksville, located at 143 E. High St.

In addition to facing the challenge of weight loss together, new members will have the chance to win one of 10 three night getaway weekend trips, including a spa treatment. Winners will receive a Monograms vacation for two, including airfare, three nights at a premium hotel in one of America's top cities, a spa treatment and a sight-seeing program.

Under the direction of Richard B. Kreider, PhD, FACSM, scientists at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, have put the Curves fitness and weight-loss program to rigorous testing, scrutinizing its effects on hundreds of women. The results? Curves works! Women on the Curves plan have lost weight and kept it off, boosted their metabolism, lost body fat, gained muscle, and enjoyed other significant benefits.

For more information on Curves of Hicksville, or the "2 for 1" promotion, please contact Jerrica Steffens at 419-542-7400.



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AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS FROM ASSISTANT SURGEON GENERAL, DR. ANNE SCHUCHAT

When you're a parent or caregiver for a child, you're like an umbrella. Not only do you have to be ready to offer protection at any given moment, but you never know what's going to be raining down. It's often up to you to be that layer protecting your children from the elements, whether it's making sure the carseat is secure or insisting on broccoli before dessert. Today, let me remind you that you can shield your children from something you may take for granted—vaccine-preventable diseases.

Approximately one million kids in the U.S. are not fully immunized by two years old. While the occurrence of most vaccine preventable diseases is declining; we have seen resurgence of whooping cough (also called pertussis) over the past few years. In

2006, there were over 15,000 cases of whooping cough reported nationally. To prevent whooping cough, a child needs four doses of a vaccine called DTaP by age two. It can be hard to get your children to the doctor or clinic for their immunizations, but that fourth dose is critical to protect them against this serious and sometimes deadly disease. You can sometimes use a "sick visit" to catch up on immunizations; ask your doctor or nurse. It's not just kids that need shots—did you know that grown-ups can spread pertussis to others, too? Ask your healthcare provider about a pertussis booster shot for adults and pre-teens to protect the entire family, including infants who haven't been completely immunized from this serious disease.

Just as an umbrella can collapse in the wind, protection from childhood diseases can break down if vaccinations are missed or doses skipped. The sad fact is that low immunization rates can

lead to outbreaks—clusters of disease—that can hospitalize or even kill children who are not up-to-date on their immunizations.

April 19-26, 2008, is National Infant Immunization Week. All around the country, doctors, nurses, clinics, and parents will be working together to get children caught up on their immunizations. Our goal is that ever child will be immunized "on time, every time" by two years old. Don't wait until a child goes to school to catch up on vaccinations—you would be shocked to know how vulnerable your infant or baby is without the recommended immunizations. Older brothers and sisters, relatives, or even a trip to the grocery store can expose an infant to disease. By boosting babies' immune systems through vaccination, they are protected from what used to be common childhood diseases.

The good news is that we are fortunate in this country to have free and low-cost vaccination programs. There are 14 diseases you can protect your child against by immunizing them on time before they turn two years old. We have seen a great reduction in many diseases, and we want to continue that trend. I urge you to continue to be your children's umbrella, shielding and protecting them. How can you do this?

1) Make sure your child is up-to-date on immunizations; visit CDC's childhood

scheduler online at http://www2a.cdc.gov/nip/kidstuff/newscheduler_le/ find out what immunizations your child needs;

2) get an immunization card or record, and bring it to every doctors visit;

3) ask at every visit if your child needs an immunization;

4) talk with your child's doctor, and don't be afraid to ask questions; and

5) visit the CDC website at www.cdc.gov/vaccines or call 1-800-CDC-INFO for more information on immunizations.

SOMETIMES THE BEST WAY TO GET SOMEONE'S ATTENTION IS TO CATCH A LITTLE BREEZE

Thousands of colorful children's pinwheels turn peacefully in the breeze in parks and public areas across Ohio this April as a visual reminder that too many of Ohio's children know firsthand what it means to live with violent conflict. In Paulding County, there will be blue/silver pinwheels placed at the courthouse to represent the 119 reports received in 2006. These represent the reported cases. There were 117 reports made in 2007. Staci Sonnenburg made the sign that will be displayed with the pinwheels.

The colorful pinwheels are lovely to look at displayed in mass and blowing in the wind, but they represent a very ugly reality for Ohio—the more than 93,251 children in 2005 that were reported as neglected and abused.

"Pinwheels for Prevention" is a new public awareness and prevention campaign being implemented in the state of Ohio that was created by Prevent Child Abuse in Georgia. Entering the fourth year of a licensing agreement with PCA Georgia, Prevent Child Abuse Ohio is proud to be offering this campaign in all 88 counties throughout Ohio in 2008.

Pinwheels for Prevent—Don't you wish the problem of child abuse in Ohio could simply be blown away? Information was obtained from Prevent Child Abuse Ohio (www.pcao.org).

—Janice E. Chambers, Social Service Supervisor

THE BEST FIELD TRIP EVER!



Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschoolers recently went on a field trip to visit kindergarten! We boarded the big yellow school bus with Mrs. Nancy Wilcox and rode all the way over to big school! We were greeted at the door by Mrs. Jan Kohart (kindergarten teacher) who took us right into her room and showed us all around. Then Mr. Marty Miller (principal at PEVS), took us on a tour of the library, other kindergar-

ten and preschool rooms, the gym, cafeteria, nurse's office and secretary's office. We had such a great time and we can't wait to go to kindergarten next year!

Shown here with Mr. Miller and Mrs. Kohart are all the excited children from the morning class of four and young five year olds. Their preschool teachers are Mrs. Chris Adams and Mrs. Ann Miller.

ANTWERP COMMUNITY GARAGE SALES

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring Community-wide Garage Sales on Friday and Saturday, June 13 and 14. Just plan your sale and put out a sign, the Chamber will be placing ads in the area newspapers.

Mark your calendars now for the annual A Day in the Park set for August 9, also sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. This will be a day full of entertainment, food, crafts, and fun and games. If you would like to participate, please contact us at 419-258-1722 and your call will be returned. All organizations are welcome to have a booth for information only or to raise funds, just let the Chamber know.

As a special part of A Day in the Park, we will honor the Gem of Antwerp. Nominations are being accepted now and the forms to do so are available at the Antwerp Bank. The nominee must be a resident of the Antwerp school district, has had a positive impact on the people of the community and is an inspiration to others.

Also as a part of A Day in the Park, we will kick-off the sale of the Chamber's 2008 Collectible Christmas ornament. This year's glass ball features the original Wabash Depot and only a limited number were ordered.

The planning committees are already at work putting together a fun-filled day for all ages. The American Heritage Girls will again be sponsoring a morning parade and those details will be out in the near future.

This day takes alot of time and manpower to pull-off. Anyone wishing to lend a hand would be appreciated! We thank the Chamber members for their support and we'd like to remind anyone in the community that has an interest in these events that you too, can be a member of Antwerp's Chamber of Commerce. Business ownership is not a requirement, all are welcome. As our logo states, "Community is Commitment" and the group strives to make certain that those words hold true.

GENERAL FUND PAULDING COUNTY EXPENSES

Handling growing expenses and stagnant revenue streams remain a great concern for Paulding County. However, many other Ohio counties are in the same predicament.

The question persists, what can our county do with or without as this problem continues? The options are somewhat limited at this time.

Since 2002, the county has experienced an initiated general fund reductions in the following areas of local government:

- Reduced contributions to the law library
- Eliminating old Health Building costs
- Apiary Inspector eliminated
- Staff reductions - two in the Commissioners' Office
- Capped County employees' health insurance in 2002
- Reduced funds for buildings and grounds
- Previous wage freezes for County employees
- Previous reductions from Paulding County Economic Development, Fairboard, OSU Extension, Jacob Eaton, SWCD, and EMA
- Eliminated funding for the DARE program

The results show approximately \$435,000.00 in reduced funding and staff over the last few years to maintain reasonable County offices' staff and services. It also indicates that many of the reductions have continued to sustain the general fund since 2002.

Thus, the present results have presented a problem that voters can help to alleviate.

Many residents have shared with the Commissioners that 1.5 mills would not be sufficient to continue at the current level, requiring further reductions in 2009. Others have suggested a 5 mill levy to provide a return to previous employee levels and services. Also, the 5 mills would adjust to further annual cost of living increases for a few years.

Discussion, however, has drawn a general consensus that a 2.5 mill levy would best serve the needs of Paulding County.

—Paulding County Commissioners Office

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PIEPER ELECTED AS PAULDING COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIR

Fred Pieper, Paulding, Ohio, has been elected as the chair of the Paulding County Republican Central Committee. Pieper has been active in the Central Committee for over a decade. He has run campaigns for County Auditor, Ohio State Representative and U.S. 5th District Congressional.

Pieper was elected to the Paulding County Republican Central Committee, representing Paulding Township and Latty Village in the March primary election. Pieper has three goals to achieve during his tenure: to educate voters about the Republican Platform; to encourage more participation at the precinct level; and to get youth involved by forming Young Republican groups in Paulding County high schools.

For more information about the Paulding County Republican Central Committee contact Pieper at 419-399-9021 or fredpieper@bright.net

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

SUPPORTING MILITARY MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Guest Column From Our State Representative: Lynn Wachtmann

The men and women currently serving in the military endure a number of personal sacrifices while serving our country. When these service members are deployed overseas, these sacrifices are shared by the family members and loved ones they leave behind. With thousands of Ohio Army and Air National Guard troops being mobilized and deployed across the globe, it is essential that we reach out to our military families and support them during these difficult times.

Here in the House, my colleagues and I are working to assist our servicemen and women as well as their families through several pieces of legislation. Last year we passed House Bill 372, which exempts military retirement pay from the state income tax and provides military personnel returning from overseas duty with a six-month window to renew professional licenses that may have lapsed during their service. We are also discussing legislation to create a cabinet-level Department of Veterans Affairs to consolidate the many services and resources available to veterans into a central location.

In addition to our work in the Legislature, there are also a number of ways you can help support our military members and their families. Recently, the Adjutant General's Office announced a series of meetings across the state for those individuals in-

terested in assisting military families.

These meetings will be used to introduce citizens and organizations interested in helping military families to the Ohio National Guard's Family Readiness and Service Member Support structure that serves all our military members as well as their families. By contacting their local Family Assistance Center, individuals can get information on a variety of opportunities available to support military families in their community.

Here is a sampling of ways you can help support local military families: provide phone cards for service members, attend deployment or recognition ceremonies, make banners, write letters of support and assist with family support and youth events. For more information about these programs contact the Family Assistance Center in Bowling Green at 1-888-278-5755.

We owe a tremendous debt to the men and women of our military, as they place their lives at risk each day so that we can continue to enjoy our freedoms. I hope you will join me by volunteering some of your time and talents to help support our military families and thank them for their service.

As always, I welcome your thoughts on any of the matters we discuss here at the Statehouse. I can be reached by phone at (614) 466-3760 or by writing me, State Representative Lynn Wachtmann, 77 South High Street, District 75, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

THE ROLE OF THE OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

From Our State Representative: Lynn Wachtmann

Since the beginning of our country's history, states have called upon their citizens to help protect the nation in times of war. These militias fought during the Mexican War, the early months of the Civil War, and the Spanish-American War. As their roles in our nation's defense grew, these militias were organized in 1916 to become the National Guard.

The National Guard system is composed of the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. These units are trained and equipped in the same way as their Army and Air Force counterparts and use the same ranks and insignias. Here in Ohio, there are currently more than 15,000 soldiers serving in the National Guard, spread throughout 100 units from across the state. As the United States engages in military operations around the world, National Guard units are increasingly being called upon to assist our armed forces in protecting our freedoms. Since September 11th, more than 13,000 Ohio Army and Air National Guard soldiers have been deployed to dozens of countries in support of the fight against terrorism.

In addition to their efforts fighting in the global war on terror, Ohio National Guard members also provide a valuable service to our communities and state. When areas of our state are struck by flooding or other natural disasters, Ohio National Guard units are often activated to assist communities with clean-up and rebuilding efforts. Military personnel further assist our communities by acting as volunteers and mentors at local schools and through programs such as GuardCare, which offers free health services in Ohio communities while providing training and professional development opportunities for medical personnel in the National Guard.

The men and women serving in the armed forces and the National Guard are making tremendous sacrifices for our country and it is important that we do all we can to support their service. Here in the Ohio House, my colleagues and I have passed several bills during this General Assembly that recognize our veterans.

Last year, we approved House Bill 372, legislation exempting military retirement pay from the state income tax and allowing veterans returning from overseas duty additional time to renew professional licenses. Other military-related legislation approved by the House includes House Bill 273, which creates "Ohio National Guard Retired," "U.S. Paratrooper," and "Civil Air Patrol" specialty license plates that can be displayed by veterans, as well as "Support Our Troops" license plates. Later this month, Senate Bill 25 goes into effect, making "Gold Star Family" license plates available to families to have lost a loved one in combat. Currently, we are discussing a bill to create a cabinet-level Department of Veterans' Affairs to help ensure better access to the services and resources available to veterans in Ohio.

The Ohio National Guard has played an important role in protecting our state and our country for more than 100 years and will continue to do so well into the future. Those who have answered the call to duty endure many personal hardships during their service and it is only fitting that we do all we can to ease the burden on them and their families while also recognizing their dedication. I hope you will join me in supporting all those who are serving in the military, whether here at home or overseas.

As always, I welcome your thoughts on any of the matters we discuss here at the Statehouse. I can be reached by phone at (614) 466-3760 or by writing me, State Representative Lynn Wachtmann, 77 South High Street, District 75, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

FIRE CHIEF OF AUGLAIZE TOWNSHIP RETIRES



Fire Chief Don Johnson (left) retired March 31, 2008. Rob Gray (right) - new Fire Chief appointed on April 1, 2008.

Retired Fire Chief Don Johnson was presented a statue in honor of his recent retirement. Newly appointed Fire Chief Rob Gray presented the award on behalf of the fire department. Auglaize township trustees also presented Don with a watch.

The Auglaize Volunteer Fire Department was estab-

lished on January 1, 1975. Don Johnson was one of the first volunteer firefighters. Don was appointed fire chief in July 1995 and retired on March 31, 2008.

Rob Gray joined the fire department in 1994 and later was appointed Assistant Chief; and on April 1, 2008 was appointed Fire Chief.

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HART'S FAMILY RESTURANT OPENS IN ANTWERP



By: Sue Knapp

Tiny's Restaurant in Antwerp, Ohio had been open for around three weeks when health problems with the owner forced Tiny's to close.

Michael and Angela Hart decided to open Hart's Family Restaurant where Tiny's was on 116 S. Main, Antwerp. Angela has been in the restaurant business for 10 years and Michael all his life (as his parents have always been in the restaurant business) and when the opportunity came to open up their own, they jumped at the chance.

Angela will run the restaurant with Michael's help when he's not driving truck for 5C's Farm in Hicksville. They also have recruited family to help out.

Angela and Michael have five children: Braden 9, Jackson 8, Alexis 6, Kaleigh 5 and Gaige 10 months. The family lives in Hicksville.

The hours will be 6:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday. The restaurant will not be open on Sunday. Their phone number will be 419-258-2162.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be served with breakfast being offered the whole day. They will have a lunch and dinner special as well. The hamburger patties will be fresh and hand-pattied and home made pies will be available.

Michael and Angela are looking forward to serving you and you will always be welcomed with a smile.

VAN WERT COUNTY YMCA TO HOST 5K RUN/WALK

By: Sue Knapp

On April 26, 2008 the A.N.D.Y. Program (funded by the Ohio Tobacco Prevention Foundation) along with the YMCA and the Community Health Professionals are holding a Kids, Kites & 5K run/Walk.

The Run/Walk starts at noon. It consists as a flat 3.1 mile loop at Camp Clay, water stop at halfway point and refreshments at finish line. A one mile run at 12:45 for anyone under 13 will also be held. Awards and door prizes

will be given for the top two male and female overall, top two male and female in age group.

5K age groups are divided as under 13, 13-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60+.

You may register with the form in this issue of the paper or on the day of the walk/run.

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.

YMCA OF VAN WERT COUNTY 2008 KIDS, KITES, & 5K RUN/WALK REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE _____

ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE #: _____

AGE (DAY OF RACE): _____ DOB: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (for race results): _____
*or include a self-addressed stamped envelope

SHIRT SIZE: (CIRCLE ONE) CHILD S M L

*PRE-REGISTERED ONLY ADULT S M L XL

By submitting this entry form, I waive and release all rights and claims for damages I may have against the YMCA and Community Health Professionals, their staffs, volunteers, and sponsors for this event. I attest that I am physically fit and sufficiently trained to participate in this event and have full knowledge of the risks involved.

Participant Signature: _____

Parent Signature (If Under 18): _____

Today's Date: _____

Pre-Registration: \$10.00

Race Day \$12.00

WOODBURN COMMUNITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

By: Sue Knapp

On April 19, the Society hosted Paul Bunnell of Woodburn. Mr. Bunnell shared his research on the Anthony Wayne Trail. Although Anthony Wayne's main spot of his 'Campaign' was Ft. Wayne, he did stop and camp around Woodburn and Antwerp. It was very interesting and brought a part of the history of this area closer to home.

Gaylen Goff Stetler brought an invoice from the Woodburn Lumber Co. dated 1934. Even though terms today are different, it was come to the conclusion that it was for roofing materials: tar paper, nails and lumber totaling up to \$11.00 and some cents. The other item was a Woodburn Conservation Club Membership Card dated 1944. These items were found by Andy Eubank and a friend while exploring in an old barn on the property purchased by Andy's friend's family.

The next meeting of the Woodburn Community Historical Society will be held on June 19, at the Woodburn Library at 7:00 p.m. All are invited.

WOODBURN: SMALLEST INCORPORATED CITY IN INDIANA

By: Gaylen Goff Stetler and Eugene Nahrwold

This week we're going to tell about a couple of men, Robert B. Shirley and Lloy Ball. These men, from the past and not-so-distant past, helped put Woodburn on the map.

Robert B. Shirley: Robert B. Shirley was born on October 28, 1842 in Defiance County, Ohio. He was the son of James and Elizabeth (Gilbert) Shirley. He died on February 6, 1930 at his home on the banks of the Maumee River near Shirley City, now Woodburn, Indiana, at the age of 88 years; he was a farmer. He married Ladora Faulkner, daughter of William and Catherine (Gray) Faulkner.

For many years Robert was a Democratic leader in county and state politics.

A splendid example of the self-educated man, Mr. Shirley received only a common school education in the Defiance County schools. Later, through avid reading, he became well-educated and studied law for a time. Mr. Shirley's political career began in 1871 when he was elected Justice of the Peace and land appraiser of Maumee Township, Allen County, Indiana. He served as township trustee from 1880-1885 and served in other public offices. For a number of years he served in the State House of Representatives and reached the height of his career as State Senator from 1922-1926.

A memorial tribute prepared by a committee of governmental leaders read as follows: "While the physical presence of Robert Shirley will pass from among us this day, his splendid spirit, his unselfish and fine character, his genial and useful personality will live on. His character is molded into the spiritual structure of Allen County by the many years of unselfish service rendered in its behalf. We are grateful for

his life; he left his community a finer place in which to live." —State of Indiana Legislative Manual for 1909.

Now we're going to say a little about a more current gentleman from Woodburn.

Lloy Ball, born on February 17, 1972, is the son of Sandy and Arnie Ball from Woodburn. Lloy grew up in Woodburn graduating from Woodlan High School in 1990. Lloy's dad coaches volleyball at IPFW where Lloy went to college and earned a degree in communications. There he played volleyball under his dad. Lloy and his wife Sarah, have a son and a daughter.

Lloy has participated in three Olympics and has won many medals and honors. He will once again participate in the Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. Lloy says this will be his last Olympics—he plans to retire. He has retired two times before always coming back to participate one way or another.

Woodburn wishes Lloy and all the American teams in this summer Olympics good luck.

COFFEE HOUSE POETRY NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY

HICKSVILLE—As a part of National Poetry Month, the Johnson Memorial Library will be sponsoring a Coffee House Poetry Night on Thursday, April 24 at 6:30 p.m. as a part of its monthly teen book discussion group.

The Coffee House Poetry Night is free and open to everyone. Anyone may come out to read or to listen to poetry and share a cup of coffee or two. The Friends of the Hicksville Library will be providing "coffee house" refreshments for the evening.

"Whether you like to read poems, write original lyrics, or just listen, come on out for a great night of poetry! Help us to celebrate National Poetry Month and recognize some of our local poets," explained Branch Manager Amy Murphy.

If you have any questions, would like additional information, or would like to sign up to do a reading, please call the Johnson Memorial Library at 419-542-6200.

HICKSVILLE RESIDENT'S MUSICAL TO HOLD TRY OUTS AT THE ALLEY

"Hicksville: The Musical" was written by Dan Cole, a Hicksville resident. At present Dan is battling cancer. A group of supporters have organized tryouts for his play which is to open this summer at the Huber. Try-outs are Sunday, April 27, from 2:00-4:00 PM at The Alley on West High Street in Hicksville. Men and women from teens upward (a variety of ages) are needed. There are parts for both singers and non-singers. Performances are the weekend of July 11. Proceeds will help defray Dan's medical expenses.

The musical features a series of vignettes, mostly humorous with a few nods to the serious side of history. Amelia Bingham, Native American trail of tears, AP Edgerton, Hart's Bands, and the Meuse Argonne story are among the tales to be told.

For more information please contact Sandra at 419-769-3991 or 419-542-8238.

WESTERN BUCKEYE ESC GOVERNING BOARD ACTS ON PERSONNEL ISSUES

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center Governing Board held their regular monthly Board meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2008 in the Van Wert ESC Board Office. Board President Mr. William Poe II welcomed Board members and school personnel to the meeting.

The Board members approved the agenda for the evening, which included a number of contract renewals for Western Buckeye ESC employees. The Board also accepted the retirement resignation of Mary Johns as an Administrative Assistant in the Van Wert ESC Office and commended her for her 18 years of service with the Western Buckeye ESC and also expressed appreciation for her volunteer time prior to employment.

Treasurer Kristine Stuart informed the Board that the Western Buckeye ESC has recently been awarded a new \$999,997 three year federal Teaching American History Grant. Superintendent John Basinger informed the Board that the Western Buckeye will begin coordinating the Paulding County Family and Children First program beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. Basinger also reviewed other recent Western Buckeye activities and several personnel issues.

In other business, the Board:

- **Approved the minutes from the regular March 13, 2008 meeting.
- **Approved the current financial reports as presented by Treasurer Mrs. Kristine Stuart.
- **Employed Janice Ditto as a NOACSC DASL Student Services Liaison for the period 4/1/08 thru 6/30/08(1 year contract), salary as per NOACSC salary schedule. Salary is contingent on DASL State Funding.
- **Voted to implement a 55 cent per pupil fee for NOACSC for FY 2009 for SSEM to all participating member districts; for non-member districts the fee will be 140% of the fee set for member districts.
- **Accepted the FY07 student fee as charged to the NOACSC districts which was \$2.00 per ADM instead of the \$2.50 per ADM as agreed upon by the governing board. The fees charged were an error and there will be no retro active fee charged to its member and non-member districts.
- **Reduced the position of Paraprofessional at Marsh Foundation effective at the end of the 2007-08 School Year as per Board Policy No. 4112 (Layoffs of Non-certified Employees) and O.R.C. 3319.172, due to a reduction in the level of service requested by the local school district.

**Approved the following Certified Contracts:

Michelle Berry - Continuing Certified Contract

Cynthia Lamb - Continuing Certified Contract

Sandra LeMieux - Continuing Certified Contract

Stephanie Brady - 2 Year Limited Certified Contract

Rhonda Burroughs - 2 Year Limited Certified Contract

Linda Krauskopf - 1 Year Limited Certified Contract (part-time)

Julia McGrath - 2 Year Limited Certified Contract

Brenda Recker - 3 Year Limited Certified Contract (half-time)

Michael Schweinsberg - 2 Year Limited Certified Contract

Ashley Shepherd - 2 Year Limited Certified Contract

Jeff Tomlinson - 1 Year Limited Certified Contract (part-time)

**Approved the following Non-Certified contracts:

Jim Johnson - Continuing Certified Contract

Donna Worchuck - Continuing Certified Contract

Heather Barnhouse - 2 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract

Sally Bowers - 1 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract (part-time)

Sherray Elliott - 2 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract (part-time)

Gary Frysinger - 1 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract (part-time)

Brett Hammons - 2 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract

Robert Miller - 1 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract (part-time)

Cathy Ruiz - 1 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract (part-time)

Lisa Ryan - 2 Year Limited Non-Certified Contract

**Employed Ronda Niemeyer as a Teacher for the 2008-09 School Year (1 year contract) effective August 25, 2008 as per salary schedule.

**Approved a Family Medical Leave for Erin Lichty for the period of April 4, 2008 to June 4, 2008.

**Approved a motion to provide scholarships of \$250 for Franklin B. Walter All Scholastic Award winners: Jonathon Ross, Paulding High School and Collin Grooms, Crestview High School.

**Accepted a quote for 2008 lawn care services with ACC Lawn Care/John Hurlless, Owner for the Van Wert WBESC office at a cost of \$40 per trip and Student Learning Center at a cost of \$77.00 per trip.

**Approved a revised FY08 Service Contract with Van Wert City Schools.

The Governing Board meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m. with no additional Board action. The next regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting of the Western Buckeye Educational Service Center is on May 8, 2008 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the Paulding ESC Office.

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JOHN DEERE LX 173 48" deck, \$995 obo. 419-263-2854.
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LAWN TRACTOR SIMPLICITY 5216 Briggs & Stratton twin cylinder, brakes, 48" newer deck, excellent condition. Hydrostatic transmission out, \$350. 399-4587.

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

HUGE GARAGE SALE: April 24-25, 9-5. Antiques, furniture, few clothes, lots of misc. All in good shape, Singer serger, table & chairs, lots of stuff. North of Antwerp, 2 miles to 204, east 1/4 mile.

GARAGE SALE: Fri the 25th, 9:00 am til 5:00 pm, Sat the 26th, 9:00am till 1:00 @ Litz's - 111 W. Woodcox, Antwerp.

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SENATE APPROVES BUEHRER LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH OHIO CASTLE DOCTRINE

The Ohio Senate yesterday cast an important vote to reaffirm Ohioans' Second Amendment rights and strengthen the ability of every person to defend themselves and their family against violent attack.

Senate Bill 184, legislation sponsored by State Senator Steve Buehrer (R-Delta), would make needed changes to Ohio's self-defense law. The bill, which is known as the "Castle Doctrine," received overwhelming bipartisan support on the Senate floor.

"SB 184 began as a strong pro-victim, pro-second amendment bill and, after hours of testimony in committee, several amendments and meetings with interested parties, the Senate passed a measure that maintains these core principles," said Buehrer. "I want to commend my colleagues in the Senate for acting with great thought and consideration to move this important measure forward."

Under current Ohio law, if a person uses force to protect themselves or their family from attack in a home or car, the civil and criminal burden is placed on that victim to prove in court that they were acting to defend themselves from serious harm.

SB 184 makes two necessary changes to the law to remove this unfair burden on Ohioans, who are forced to defend themselves. First, the bill would shift the rebuttable presumption from the innocent victim and onto the perpetrator. This means if a

criminal forcibly enters or intrudes into a person's home and that person chooses to act to protect themselves from harm, they would be legally presumed to be acting in self-defense.

In addition, the proposal would grant a victim civil immunity if it is proven that he or she acted in self-defense. Under current state law, even after a legal finding of self-defense, the victim still faces the possibility of being held liable for damages in a civil lawsuit. Furthermore, the bill will prevent any person who is committing a felony or a misdemeanor crime of violence from seeking civil recovery.

"SB 184 sends a strong message that if you are a criminal, in the midst of a criminal act that is a felony or a misdemeanor of violence, you do not have the right to sue your victim," said Buehrer. "In other words, if you commit a crime, you do so at your own peril."

"The provisions in this bill are common-sense," added Buehrer. "People of all persuasions, all walks of life, and even people with differing views on gun rights can agree that a person should have a right to protect themselves and their family."

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CONGRESSMAN BOB LATTA REMINDS NORTHWEST OHIO RESIDENTS ABOUT ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE

With tax day (Tuesday April 15th) just around the corner, Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) wants to remind Northwest Ohio residents of important details regarding the economic stimulus package's tax rebate passed by Congress earlier this year. Ohioans who file a tax return this year can expect to receive the tax rebate in May or June, according to the IRS.

"During this economic slowdown, this tax rebate will help Ohio families. It is important for people to realize that the tax rebate is not taxable and will not affect your 2007 or 2008 federal tax return," Latta said.

"It is also important to know that in order to receive the tax rebate, you must file a tax return this year, including senior citizens," Latta added.

Courtesy of the IRS:
Who's eligible?

Any citizen is eligible to receive the tax rebate if they show at least \$3,000 in income on their federal tax return. Some people with no tax liability may also qualify. This includes Social Security and Railroad Retirement beneficiaries, recipients of certain veterans' payments, low-income workers with earned income and/or benefits of at least \$3,000 and individuals who have a combined income of at least \$3,000 from any combination of these sources. Some higher-income tax-payers will not receive a payment or will receive a reduced payment.

How do I receive the Tax Rebate?

All you need to do is file a federal income tax return for 2007. Even if you are not required to file a tax return, you must file a 2007 return to receive the Stimulus Payment. If you usually do not file a tax return, more information about what form needs to be filed is available in Fact Sheet 2008-16 <<http://www.irs.gov/>

irs/article/0,,id=179096,00.html>

If you qualify, all you need to do is fill out Form 1040A in a few places. A sample version of Form 1040A <<http://www.irs.gov/pub/newsroom/1040a.pdf>> illustrates which lines to fill out.

How Much is the Tax Rebate?

There are two parts to the stimulus payment: a basic amount based on tax liability, filing status, or other qualifying factors and an additional amount based on whether a qualifying child is reported on the return. If a taxpayer is claimed on someone else's return as a dependent, that person will NOT receive a tax rebate.

The basic payment amount is between \$300 and \$600 for individuals and \$600 and \$1200 for couples filing jointly based on income. Eligible recipients, who have a dependent child under the age of 17, will receive an additional \$300 for each qualifying child.

For more information visit the frequently asked questions of the IRS website <<http://www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=179181,00.html>> or call 1-800-829-1040.

ODOT INVITES ALL OHIOANS TO JOIN THE "TRANSPORTATION CONVERSATION"

Inviting all Ohioans to join in a first-of-its-kind "Transportation Conversation" to determine the type of transportation system the state needs for the future, the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) officially launched the Ohio 21st Century Transportation Priorities Task Force by naming the diverse mix of industry experts and state leaders who will lead the historic endeavor.

"Unlike past statewide planning efforts, the Transportation Priorities Task Force will explore a broader spectrum of issues facing the state," said ODOT Director James Beasley. "We need to prioritize how the state balances the movement of people and freight, promotes safety

MONICA TRAYLOR TO REPRESENT BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Monica Traylor, daughter of Danny and Roberta (Culler) Traylor of Katy, Texas and granddaughter of Mrs. Robert (Gilda) Culler of Antwerp, OH was selected to represent Boy Scouts of America 2007 Report to the Nation as a Delegate. Monica is a Sea Scout of Ship 502 in Houston, Texas. Monica is a SEAL graduate and sailed on the EAGLE last summer. She will be a fresh-

man at the University of Texas next fall. Sea Scouts is an Adventure Program of Boy Scouts of America. As a delegate, Monica, was one of eight members of BSA that presented the Report to the Leaders of the Nation in Washington, D.C. Monica presented the Gift of the Eagle to President George W. Bush in March of 2008.

and reduces congestion, creates jobs and encourages responsible growth, helps to build sustainable communities, and links all modes of transportation - connecting highways to rail, aviation, water ports, and transit."

The task force will also identify the fairest ways to finance Ohio's future transportation system, finding new funding tools for state and local governments, and innovative ways to partner with the private sector.

Leading the task force will be Chairman Ty Marsh, president of the Columbus Chamber, Vice-Chair Frank Jackson, mayor of Cleveland, and Vice-Chair Deborah Liberman, commissioner for Montgomery County. The statewide conversations will be led by individual steering committees centered on three key issues: promoting a multi-modal system, maximizing public investment, and generating economic development.

Also serving on working committees will be experts from both private and governmental sectors, with backgrounds ranging from business and industry, shipping and logistics, finance and development, urban planning and agriculture, education and health care, transportation, and state and local government.

In addition to gathering public input and information at a series of open meetings across the state, the task force is encouraging all Ohioans to join the conversation by submitting their ideas and opinions online at TransportationForTomorrow.ohio.gov.

"The opportunity for a statewide dialogue of this scale is rare," added Assistant Director Jolene Molitoris, who expects a final report from the Task Force this Fall. "Through a consensus around these important issues, Ohio can have one voice on its transportation needs as we enter debate on the state's next biennium budget and the authorization of a new federal transportation bill."

Last month, Director Bea-

sley appointed Molitoris to Assistant Director, assigning her to lead several new transportation initiatives at the department, including work with the task force. The task force will also include input by state legislators, serving as ex officio members, and a multi-state agency support team.

The Ohio 21st Century Transportation Priorities Task Force will convene its inaugural meeting May 7 at ODOT's Central Office in Columbus. Details about the meeting, the complete list of task force members, and updates on meeting times and locations can also be found at TransportationForTomorrow.ohio.gov

SENATE VOTES TO STRENGTHEN SELF-DEFENSE LAW, REAFFIRM OHIOANS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

Capitol Letters Weekly Column by: Senator Steve Buehrer

People want to feel safe in their homes. This past week, the Senate took an important step in preserving the right to self defense and reaffirming Ohioans' Second Amendment rights by passing "Castle Doctrine" legislation to affirm the right of people to defend themselves and their family in the home.

On Wednesday, after weeks of testimony in the Senate Criminal Justice Committee and hours of discussion with interested parties, my colleagues and I gave overwhelming bipartisan support to Senate Bill 184, legislation I introduced last year that would establish Ohio's Castle Doctrine. The bill makes needed, common-sense changes to Ohio's self-defense law, which build upon the age-old adage that "a man's home is his castle," and he has the right to defend it and the people inside from harm.

Under current Ohio law, a person has a "duty to retreat," if possible, should they find themselves in a potentially

life-threatening situation. However, some Ohio courts have recognized the right of a person to take action against an intruder, who intends to kill or seriously injure them or their family, under the state's existing self-defense law. This common law doctrine has led some commentators to argue that SB 184 is not necessary. The reality is that despite these favorable court rulings, Ohio is one anti-gun judge or prosecutor away from seeing this fundamental right disappear.

SB 184 works to ensure Ohioans' Second Amendment rights, and the right to defend oneself and one's family from attack, are protected. First, the bill removes the duty to retreat clause from Ohio law, when a person unlawfully enters another person's home.

In addition, while state law recognizes the affirmative defense of self-defense, if a person uses force to protect themselves in their home or car, the civil and criminal burden is placed on the victim to prove in court that they were truly acting to defend themselves from serious harm. I believe it is wrong to ask an innocent victim to defend their actions in repulsing a criminal act.

SB 184 removes this unfair burden, by shifting the rebuttable presumption from the victim to the perpetrator. This means if a criminal forcibly enters or intrudes into a person's home and that person chooses to act to protect themselves or their family from harm, they would be legally presumed to be acting in self-defense.

The bill would also deny any person who is committing a felony or a misdemeanor or crime of violence from seeking civil recovery. For example, some may have heard absurd stories about criminals who break into someone's home, injure themselves tripping over something on the floor or running out the back door, and then sue the homeowner for damages. Unfortunately, the victim of the crime may be liable in these cases under current law. Even after a criminal finding of self-defense, the victim still faces the possibility of being held liable for damages in a civil lawsuit. SB 184 sends a strong message to all criminals that if you commit a crime in someone's home, you do so at your own peril.

When I introduced Ohio's Castle Doctrine several years ago, I set out to pass a bill that would affirm Ohioans' right to defend themselves and their families from the threat of violence in their homes, and to do so, if necessary, with deadly force. Even after consideration of multiple versions of SB 184 and years of discussion, the Senate passed a bill

this past week that upholds these core principles. This legislation is a common-sense bill that people of all walks of life—even people with differing views on gun rights—can agree upon. As the bill moves to the Ohio House for further consideration, I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass a measure that maintains these standards and makes the people of Ohio feel safer in their homes and communities.

A MORNING UNDER THE BIG TOP: A DAY OF LEARNING, LAUGHTER AND FUN

Come out and experience the 2008 edition of the Kelly Miller Circus as we fill your day with an exciting, learning adventure. The journey begins as we pull onto the Circus grounds at 7:30 a.m. and begin the transformation into an educational wonderland.

As the hustle and bustle of Circus life envelops the grounds, you become lost in the unloading of equipment and animals. The giant elephants help raise the Circus Big Top and free guided tours are given to let everyone take part in the excitement. The huge creatures are so fascinating to watch. Many people have spent the entire day enjoying their playful antics. You can observe the elephants as they play together in their "elephant pen" unchained! The silly games they play will delight and amaze you.

The elephants are awesome but don't forget the rest of our Circus family. Our horses, camels, llamas, ponies and miniature Sicilian donkeys are equally enjoyable. They perform for you along with the other amazing acrobats and aerialists from around the world, in the two main Big Top Circus performances.

The friendly personnel in the Animal Department will be glad to answer any questions you may have about the Circus animals on display. What better way to learn about the animals than by having a live example in front of you to observe and to ask questions about?

If you have ever wondered what a camel's foot looks like or how much an elephant eats, come out and see for yourself. The fun will be there for everyone and what you learn you can take home for free.

The Kelly Miller Circus will be coming to your community on Saturday, May 10. It will set up at 9:00 a.m.

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