

## WAYNE TRACE NOW OFFERS DUAL ENROLLMENT COLLEGE CREDITS



There are a total of 21 students taking these dual enrollment classes with 35 classes being taken. Several students are taking more than one course.

Pictured here (l-r) are Andrew Klopfenstein, Rebecca Ruble, Nickole Lay, Rob Pond, Bryant Gerber, and Zack Gerber.

At Wayne Trace High School students can earn college credit during the regular school day without leaving the halls of Wayne Trace. They can jump-start their college education at a fraction of the cost of attending college. They no longer have to miss out on the high school experience. There is no travel or travel expenses involved.

This program is an alternative and/or complement to the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Program. In PSEOP, students do not pay for the classes they take but typically have travel costs and time associated with participation in PSEOP. Credits will transfer to any college or university where the University

of Findlay credits transfer. It is advisable to contact colleges of interest to ensure that they will accept the credits earned through the University of Findlay.

Classes offered at Wayne Trace for college credit through the University of Findlay:

- Physics (4 semester credits)
- Psychology (3 semester credits)
- Spanish 4 (3 semester credits)
- American History to 1865 (3 semester credits)
- Calculus (4 semester credits)

These courses will be taught by Wayne Trace High School (Continued on Page 6)

## ANTIQUA ROAD SHOW" COMING TO THE JOHN PAULDING HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Do you have a treasured item that you are not sure of what it is, or what it's worth? Bring that item to the museum and find out just what it is, or what it's value is.

The John Paulding Historical Society will be sponsoring an "antiques road show" at the museum on Saturday, January 19, from 11:00 am. to 3:00 p.m.

Three appraisers from out of town will be on hand to give you an appraisal of your treasured items.

Dale Schleeter specializes in coins. Dale buys, sells and trades coins and will appraise any that you bring in. Marv Adams is a collector who appraises guns, paintings, dishes, books,

furniture and Indian artifacts. Bruce Fortier will be available for appraisals on jewelry.

There is a small fee for each appraisal (so check the ad in this paper for prices), so bring in up to three items and watch each person's collectibles be appraised. If you can get it to the museum, they will appraise it or identify it for you.

Lunch will be available at the museum during the time they are open. The museum is located at 600 Fairground Rd., Paulding. Any questions, contact Denny or Susie Thrasher at 419-594-2876.

## FIFTH & SIXTH GRADE BOYS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The Wayne Trace Athletic Department will host its annual fifth and sixth grade boys basketball tournament on Saturday, March 8 and Sunday, March 9. For more information, please contact Jim Linder at 419-399-4100 or via e-mail at linderj@wt.k12.oh.us

## FREE MEDICAL CLINIC DATES FOR 2008

Fountain of Faith Free Medical Clinic will provide services on the following dates in 2008. CMH Specialty Clinic #3 from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. First come, first serve.

February 2, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 12, August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1, and December 6.

News items are free, but pictures cost only \$4.00 per column. What a Deal!

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

## Fish Fry

**Fri, Jan 18**  
Feb. 1, 15, 29 & Mar. 14  
St. Michael's Church  
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4:30-7:00 p.m.  
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## FORT TO PORT BIG ISSUE AT ALLEN COUNTY MEETING IN WOODBURN

Woodburn had an excellent turnout of the meeting that took place Saturday, January 12. The meeting, when planned two weeks ago, was to be about the Fort to Port (US24 upgrade) and how Governor Mitch Daniels decided it would be beneficial to the state to cut out overpasses and cloverleaves (intersections). Since then the Governor had received so many complaints that it was decided to reinstate the original plan for reasons of safety.

Mayor Richard Hoepfner presided over the meeting and opened with the pledge of allegiance and prayer. It was then turned over to Indiana Senator Dennis Kruse (S14). Kruse stated that there are currently four plans that are to be decided upon for the future of Indiana's townships and counties. He also named about 30 taxes existing today which didn't 100 years ago, yet the country, state and county had no debt.

He introduced all of the representatives for the meeting and then turned it over to them to each speak for about 5 minutes.

Since the "Fort to Port" controversy appeared to be solved, the speakers tried to explain about the Kennan-Shepard Local Government



Indiana Senator Dennis Kruse (District 14) at the Woodburn meeting.

reforms. In a nutshell, all of the representatives in the local government (ie. auditor, treasurer, sheriff, township trustees, etc) would be replaced by one person called the "County Chief Executive". The intended effect would be a unified government from the state to the townships and remove all local control (because they want "qualified" people).

Bill Brown, Allen County Commissioner, took the floor next. He said we need to ask how to determine and move forward with the future of the township and at the same time, push taxes down.

Representative Phyllis Pond (H85) explained that the intersections were brought back for the US 24 project because of the people (Continued on Page 3)

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**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

- Wine tasting festivity - Jan. 16, 7:30 pm in the banquet hall, hors d'oeuvres, no charge
- Steak dinner - Sat, Jan 19, 12 oz NY Strip Dinner, 4:30 - 8:30 pm \$10
- TACOS every Thursday 4:30 - 7:30 pm - Taco pies, Nachos, Fajitas, steak or chicken Quesadillas
- Breakfast specials daily 8am Mon-Fri, Sat at 6 am. 2 eggs, bacon toast \$2.50, Biscuits & gravy \$2.25
- Coffee daily at 6 am Mon-Sat.

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**OBITUARIES**

**Mary B. Lichty**, 87, of Antwerp, passed away Thursday, January 10, 2008 at DeKalb Memorial Hospital, Auburn, Indiana.

She was born in Cement City, Michigan on February 24, 1920, the daughter of the late Andrew and Rose (Hoover) Traylor.

Mary was a valued employee at General Electric, Fort Wayne, for 19 years, a member of the Royal Neighbors and enjoyed knitting.

She married Max Lichty, who preceded her in death.

Mary will be sadly missed by her three sons and daughters-in-law: Robert and Mary of Payne, Andy and Marilyn of LaGrange, IN, and Frank and Shirley of Van Wert; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp January 14, with Rev. Jim Edwards officiating.

She was laid to rest at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

The family requests donations to First Baptist Church of Antwerp. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at [www.dooleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.dooleyfuneralhome.com)

**Mary M. Harshman**, 85, of Payne died Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at Lutheran Hospital of Indiana, Ft. Wayne, IN.

She was born July 29, 1922 in Berne, IN, the daughter of Fred and Lavina (Beer) Pickford. She was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, Payne, and the St. Paul United Methodist Women's Club.

She is survived by her husband, Ernest Harshman of Payne; a daughter, Frances (James) Litzenberg of Merritt Island, Florida, and Sharon "Sis" (Gary) Burke of Payne; two brothers: Fred Jr. (Patsy) Pickford of Pensacola, Florida, and Donald (Shirley) Pickford of Decatur, IN; two grandchildren: Rachelle Litzenberg and Matthew Burke; and a great grandson, Samuel Litzenberg.

She is preceded in death by her parents; a son, Eric Harvey; a brother, Stephen Pickford; a sister, Bernice Barte; and a great grandson, David Litzenberg.

Funeral services were conducted January 14 at St. Paul United Methodist Church, Payne. Burial was in MMRE Cemetery, Berne.

Donations may be made to St. Paul United Methodist Church. Arrangements were

handled by Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding.

**Nancy A. Johnston**, 65, of Cecil, passed away Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at Park View Nursing Center, Edgerton, Ohio.

Nancy was born in Defiance County on April 15, 1942, the daughter of Hugh and Iva (Crawford) Keegan.

She was a homemaker and enjoyed playing cards, garage sales and flowers. On April 17, 1960, Nancy married Max Johnston, who passed away January 14, 2005.

She will be sadly missed by her mother, Iva Keegan of Montgomery, MI; daughters: Debbie (Denny) Wells of Mark Center and Julie Johnston of Cecil; sons: Max, Jr. of Cecil and Mark of Fort Wayne; sisters: Karen Armstrong of Pittsburgh, MI, Sharon Hill of Brooksville, FL, Judy Altheiser of Montgomery, MI, Kathy Altheiser of Logan, WV, and Mary Keegan of Mark Center; brothers: Kenneth of Cecil, Hugh, Jr., Thomas, William, Gordon and George all of Montgomery, MI; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Also preceding her in death are her father; and sister, Dina Sue Keegan.

Funeral services were held at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp, January 12, with Rev. Jim Edwards officiating. She was laid to rest at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

The family requests donations to the charity of your choice. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at [www.dooleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.dooleyfuneralhome.com)

**Helen L. Whitman**, 92, of Payne, died Wednesday, January 9, 2008 at Van Wert County Hospital, Van Wert.

She was born December 15, 1915 in Payne the daughter of Harl and Estella (Myers) Sitcler. On October 24, 1936 she married Lawrence F. Whitman, who preceded her in death on April 9, 1981. She was a member of Payne Church of the Nazarene, CLub 36 Farm Ladies, and a former Sunday School teacher at the Payne Church of God.

She is survived by three sons: Larry (Shaaron) Whitman, Gerald "Pete" Whitman and Richard (Eileen) Whitman all of Payne; three daughters: Mary Harting of Fort Wayne, Judy Rosselet of New Berlin, WS, and Kay (Richard) Williams of Plano, TX; four sisters: Christine (Victor) Timbrook of Hicks-

ville, Shirley (Robert) Barbeau of Dayton, OH, Jean Gibson of Fort Wayne, and Sharyn (Gaylord) Willett of Oak Harbor, OH; 23 grandchildren; 48 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She is preceded in death by her parents; husband; a son, Jerry Whitman; and three sisters: Maxine Steibling, Madeline Gideon, Betty Landrie, and infant Nancy Sitcler.

Funeral services were January 12 at the Payne Church of the Nazarene, with Rev. Mike Harper officiating. Burial was in Lehman Cemetery.

Donations may be made to Convoy Care Center Activity Fund or Payne Church of the Nazarene Building Fund.



**Mary Louise "Mame" Groves** of Fort Wayne, IN was born to the late George W. Goings and Lillian Underwood in Washington Township, Paulding County, on December 27, 1916. She departed this life January 12, 2008 at Parkview Hospital. She married Elmer Maurice Groves on June 19, 1940 and was blessed with seven children.

Mary attended Michigan State University where she studied Child Development. She began working with foster children in 1969 and was involved in the Headstart Program for 14 years. She was voted Woman of the Year by the Paulding County Business and Professional Women's Association in 1979.

She was very active in the community and church. She was a member of the Latty Zion Missionary Baptist Church until moving to Fort Wayne in 1984. There she became a Watch Care member of the Renaissance Baptist Church.

Mary loved children and enjoyed gardening, and baking with her popular rolls, cakes, sugar cookies and holiday candies.

Mary leaves to cherish her memory two sons: George (Ruth) Groves of Van Wert, OH, and Elmer Groves, Jr. of Latty, OH; four daughters: Barbara Jean (Joe) Franklin, Beverly Groves and Beatrice (Vernter) Tabron, all of Fort Wayne, and Carol (Michael) Scott of Fredericksburg, VA; eighteen grandchildren and twenty-five great-grandchildren; and a host of extended family and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer Groves SR.; and son, Justus Groves.

Funeral services will be conducted 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 16, at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, with Rev. Michael Lathan Sr. officiating. Burial will be in Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding. Visitation will be one hour prior to services on Wednesday.

Donations may be made to Paulding County Headstart.

**HOME BIBLE STUDY IN MELROSE AREA**

A new Bible study group is meeting in the homes of members of the Melrose United Methodist Church. These study sessions will meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The next Bible Study gathering will be on January 23 in the home of Darleen Parker at 801 State Street in Melrose. She is also the leader and organizer for these home Bible studies.

Anyone in the Melrose area who is interested in learning more about what the Bible teaches is welcome to come participate in the discussions.

For directions to the Bible study location, to find out what Bible passage will be discussed, or for more information, contact Darleen Parker at 419-594-2208.

**REGARDING MOTORISTS AND PEDESTRIANS**

**By: Pastor Joel DeSelm, Woodburn Missionary Church**

Author John G. Williams says stuff that everyone else has thought but never put into words. Consider this observation of his:

"I'm always a bit alarmed to find that when I'm driving a car, I'm a totally different person from when I'm being just a mere pedestrian.

"I mean, whenever I find myself at the wheel of a car, pedestrians always seem to me to consist largely of imbeciles and half-wits who go barging off the pavement directly into my path without ever looking to see if there's anything coming. It's like they're in a daze. They wander on the wrong side of the road, stay oblivious to traffic and signals, and generally get in the way. Their one aim in life seems to be to make things just as difficult as they can for the poor, harassed motorist. Mind you, I'm not saying they ARE like that—I'm only saying that's what they seem like when you're driving a car.

"But the funny thing is, when I'm one of the pedestrians myself, it always seems as if the people driving cars and the idiots, honking their way along the street as if the whole place belonged to them and, in general, doing their level best to send you to the hospital.

"Now I'm sure I'm not the only person who feels this way ... And what it boils down to in the long run is a kind of selfishness on my part, simply seeing things all the time from my own

point of view and not the other person's. That's the only good reason I can come up with for why, when I'm a motorist, I abominate all pedestrians, and when I'm a pedestrian I abominate all motorists ... or at any rate, I do if I'm not careful."

Hits home, doesn't it? As I read Williams' observation, I realized that's often the way I see it too. You see, John Williams and I have this terrible disease called self-centeredness. And, like Williams, if I'm not careful, it can often get the best of me.

How easy it is to become frustrated, critical, sarcastic, and even a little bit ticked off at other people when they don't act the way I think they should or see everything the way I see it. People can be so unreasonable, can't they? If only they would see it MY way, life would be so much nicer.

I've got a hunch that John Williams and I aren't the only ones who think that way. In fact, the Bible tells us that ALL of us are that way. That's why the Apostle Paul tells us in Philippians 2, "Let each of you look not only to your OWN interests, but also to the interests of others."

In other words, Paul is saying, "Back off. Give other people some space. Allow them room. Take the time to look at it from the other guy's point of view. And above all, relax. Life's too short to become so easily bent out of shape over things that just aren't worth it. Stop sweating the small stuff."

Good counsel for all of us, don't you think? At least it's pretty good counsel for John Williams and me.

**PAYNE BALL ASSOCIATION JANUARY MEETING**

The January meeting of the Payne Ball Association will be held on Wednesday, January 16. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Payne Elementary cafeteria and is open to anyone who would like to attend/become more involved in the day-to-day operations. The meeting will focus on preparations in all areas for the upcoming 2008 season.

**WHAT AM I?**

This poem riddle was written by a lady in California in response to an elderly man in Philadelphia that he would pay anyone \$1,000 who wrote a puzzle he could not solve. He failed to do so and paid the \$1,000. The answer is one word and appears only four times in the Bible. (must be King James version)

What Am I?  
Adam, God made out of dust  
But thought it best to make me first  
So I was made before man  
To answer God's most Holy plan  
A living being I became  
I, from His presence then withdrew  
And more of Adam never knew  
I did my maker's law obey  
Nor ever went from it astray  
Thousands of miles I go in fear  
But seldom on Earth appear  
For purpose wise which God did see  
He put a living soul in me  
A soul from me He did claim  
And took from me the soul again  
So when from me the soul had fled  
I was the same as when first made  
And without hands or feet or soul  
I travel on from pole to pole  
I labor hard by day by night  
To fallen man I give great light  
Thousands of people young and old  
Will by my death great light behold  
No right or wrong can I conceive  
The scriptures I cannot believe  
Although my name therein is found  
They are to me an empty sound  
No fear of death doth trouble me  
Real happiness I'll never see  
To Heaven I'll never go  
Or to Hell which is below  
Now when these lines you slowly read  
Go search your Bible with all speed  
For that my name is written there  
I do honestly to you declare  
—Submitted by  
Pastor Dale T. Bass, Payne  
Retired Nazarene Pastor  
look in the West Bend News next week for the answer

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**PAULDING COUNTY'S NEW DOG WARDEN**



Mandy Lichty officially became Paulding County Dog Warden on January 1, 2008. She worked with Dave Cline as an assistant since July of 2007.

Mandy has been a vet technician and has worked very closely with Lynne Mansfield's dog rescue program.

Mandy, husband, Kent, children, Ava and Calvin have four dogs, raises Boer Goats (meat goats) and three cats. The whole family are animal lovers.

The Dog Shelter has a new website where all of the adoptable dogs can be viewed at <http://www.petfinder.com/shelters/OH709.html>

"I think there is a common misconception that dogs in shelters are somehow bad dogs. Most dogs in shelters are there through no fault of their own. Unfortunately in today's society pets are sometimes considered disposable objects to people," says Mandy. "When you get a pet you have to realize the degree of responsibility that comes with it. Another surprising thing to a lot of people are the number of purebred dogs in shelters. Not all shelter dogs are mixed breed pound puppies. Pet store designer dogs end up homeless too," she goes on to say.

Mandy would like to see the number of local adoptions increased and hopes to make the shelter a welcoming place where people can visit to add a great new pet to the family.

The shelter gets a large variety of dogs from toy size yorkies to giant mastiffs, great danes and everything in between. There are always some great dogs waiting for a second chance at a happy

home.

The shelter is open for adoptions on Fridays from 2:00-6:00 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The office and shelter are located at 13387 U.S. 127 Paulding, phone 419-399-9728.

Just a reminder: Dog licenses are due by January 31. There will be a penalty after that.

*editor's note: Look for Mandy's weekly column in The West Bend News*

**THE FIVE FINGER PRAYER**

1. Your thumb is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said, a "sweet duty."

2. The next finger is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.

3. The next finger is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.

4. The fourth finger is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger; as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.

5. And lastly comes our little finger; the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others. As the Bible says, "The least shall be the greatest among you."

Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

**PAYNE BOY SCOUT TROOP, GHOST HUNTERS VISIT WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB AND MUSEUM**

Taking advantage of the recent bout of spring-like weather, Payne Boy Scout Troop 137 visited the US Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

The Scouts viewed the more than 300 static display aircraft, from the beginning of flight, to today. They sat in the cockpit of a fighter jet, and tried their hand at landing the Space Shuttle. To end their visit, they attended the IMAX theater presentation featuring the Navy Blue Angels flight team.

They ate lunch outside, where they watched the mammoth C-5 Galaxy transport aircraft fly directly overhead. For lunch, many Scouts opted for MREs, Meals Ready to Eat - military field rations.

Some of the Scouts had an unexpected experience as they saw the Ghost Hunters team from the SciFi Channel moving about the base. Team-members Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson are investigating unusual activity at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The SciFi Channel will air their investigation on a future episode of Ghost Hunters.

If you would like to know more about Payne Boy Scout Troop 137, contact Scoutmaster Angie Gordon at (419) 399-2725, or email Asst. Scoutmaster Kip Long at [rev.long@yahoo.com](mailto:rev.long@yahoo.com).

**NAMI SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 21, at the Drop-In Center which is located at 407 N. Franklin, Van Wert.

NAMI is a support group for family members as well as interested consumers. All meetings are open to the public.

Since the Christmas party was cancelled due to bad weather, officers have decided to have the annual bingo party this month. Those attending are asked to bring a 'snack' to be shared through out the evening.

NAMI offers educational programs for family members as well as consumers. One of the most popular educational courses is Family-to-Family which is a free 12 week course that has helped more than 150,000 family members facing the challenge of serious mental illness.

The educational course is scheduled to begin in St. Marys on February 5 and in Lima on February 28. NAMI membership is not required. To learn more about the classes or how to register, please contact the local NAMI affiliate at 800-541-NAMI (6264) or 419-238-2413. E-mail may be sent to [namivw@msn.com](mailto:namivw@msn.com). The national organization may be reached at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org).

(Continued from Page 1)

that overwhelmed the governor's office voicing the needs of the area. She says we also need to keep everything local. "You contacting them is the key" to getting what is needed.

Linda Bloom said that funding has been received from INDOT to improve the corner at Webster and Woodburn Roads by Midwest Tile. She stated that the traffic will not cease to exist on the "old" 24 and that area will need to be improved for truck traffic.

Another area representatives said sometimes the reps don't know exactly what the people want or need because they are in Indianapolis most of the time and there they hear from lobbyists constantly. He supports and takes road trips to find out from the people what is the most beneficial.

Rep. Mike Ripley (H79) said he was very pleased with the turnout of this meeting (about 100 people were there). He had been to some where only two people showed up. A while back he was asked to sponsor a bill to eliminate townships in their current form. He refused. This is looking at the Kernan-Shepard recommendations.

Terry McDonald, Mayor of New Haven, was also at the meeting and said he liked to see the number of people at a meeting liked this.

After the representatives spoke the people where given the time to ask questions. Phyllis Franklin voiced her opinion quite well and said she was glad that the people finally were heard on the Fort to Port Project, but was very disappointed in the current system of government and asked why the area representatives every allowed it to go through in that form.

One man said he was disappointed with the Amish bridge that was being built for Bruick Road over the new US 24 for only 3 families. He said it should be a regular overpass because there are farmers who have land on both sides of the new road and will have to drive their equipment all the way to the next overpass and around. Another asked when the land was to be purchased for the 24 project. The answer he received was that it was to be started this spring, both purchasing and ground-breaking.

**ANTWERP BRANCH LIBRARY NEWS!**

We have some upcoming events at the Antwerp Branch Library we would like to inform you about! On January 22, we will show an after-school movie "High School Musical 2" beginning at 4:00 p.m.

On January 22, we have a program for new mothers and their children called "Baby-N-Me" at 1:00 p.m.

On January 24 and 31, we will be having pre-school storytime at 10:30 a.m.

Our next Teen Book Club meeting is on February 2 at 12:00 p.m.

For more information call the Antwerp Branch Library at 419-258-2855.

**PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS UPDATES ON UPCOMING PRIMARY**

The Presidential Primary Election for Ohio is Tuesday, March 4, 2008. All people who are not registered and who wish to vote in the upcoming primary election on Tuesday, March 4th, must register by Monday, February 4th, at the Board of Elections; (or, you may register to vote at an office of any Deputy Registrar of the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles; public libraries; public high schools or vocational schools; county Treasurer's Office; Office of Secretary of State or any of the 88 county Boards of Election).

Office hours for the Board of Elections in Paulding County are 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Extended hours are Saturday, February 2nd from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and on Monday, February 4 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Board of Elections office will be closed on

Monday, January 21 in observance of Martin Luther King Day.

Have you moved or changed your name since the last time you voted? If so, you should notify the Board of Elections by February 4. Persons not certain of their registration validity may phone the Board of Elections office at 419-399-8230, write, or stop in the office at 105 E Perry Street in Paulding.

Should you wish to register at the Paulding County Bureau of Motor Vehicles located at 119 W Perry Street in Paulding; hours are 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Monday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday; and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday.

You are qualified to vote if:

\* You are a citizen of the United States.

\* You will be at least 18 years old on or before November 6.

\* You will be a resident of Ohio for at least 30 days immediately before the election in which you want to vote.

\* You are not incarcerated (in prison) for a felony conviction under the laws of this state, another state or the United States.

\* You have not been declared incompetent for voting purposes by a probate court.

\* You have not been permanently disfranchised for violations of the election laws.

You are eligible to vote in elections conducted in your voting precinct more than 30 consecutive days after you are properly registered to vote in Ohio.

If you have any questions, please call the Board of Elections at 419-399-8230 or email us at [pauldning@sos.state.oh.us](mailto:pauldning@sos.state.oh.us)

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## ANTWERP HISTORY

By: Stan Jordan

This column today is about these two pictures of the 200 block of South Main Street on the east side. The oldest picture shows how much remodeling had been going on in those years. That oldest picture was taken after 1912, but not much after according to the car sitting down there.

The second picture was taken after 1927 because the new L. Smith & Son building shown here was erected in 1927.

That first store on the corner of Daggett and South Main was opened about 1906 by a Jerry Anspaugh. He sold it to Seslar and Johnson about 1909. It was purchased by Joe Carr in 1911. You can see they made major improvements on that corner and it was called Carrs IGA. Now that whole corner is the way I remember it starting in the 1930's. We bought most of our groceries from Joe's IGA because it was the closest. Thelma Billman was a clerk there, that is Pinky's mother.

Joe Carr was not one of the boys of The Grist Mill, Frank, Ed and Fred were managers of the mill. Joe was a very good

ball player, as most of the other boys were. He did not pursue a career in baseball, but he was one of the brothers.

Joe was quite a musician and he led an all-ladies band. We have a picture of that band but we don't have the names to go with it.

Joe had two daughters: Arletta lived in Payne and Ruth lived in Ft. Wayne.

I ran many errands for Mom into the IGA store. Years later, that was the fore-runner for Kammeyers IGA.

Looking at the older picture, I would say it was taken before 1912 because J. Warren Seslar erected his new building that year and that would be the second on the right. The Seslar's had a good garage business. Herb Bender was the head mechanic for many years. They also had a truck and delivered gas, oil and grease to the farmers. They also delivered some heating oil to some homes. Warren and Pearl had one son, Delmar. He served his country in WWII, in a bridge building outfit.

Warren was a deer hunter in his early years. He and Carl Smith both were always ready to talk about hunting. Both were very interested in con-

servation and wild life.

That next picture had to be taken after 1927 because that is when that new L. Smith & Son building was built.

In 1908, Lewis Smith and his son, Carl, moved from Defiance to Antwerp and purchased a hardware on that site from Alex Grant. Then in 1927 they erected that new building, and if you'll compare those two pictures you'll see what improvement it made to that block. That hardware

operated a home style restaurant up until the last part of the 1940's when it was taken over by Ray Putman and was named Ray's Restaurant. You cannot converse with any older folks from Antwerp without talking about "Tiny's". It was a place where you liked to go and you were welcome.

Now, let's go back to the corner of South Main and Daggett Street and over on the west side. About as early in the 1930's as I can remem-



advanced with the times and became quite a corporation. Actually, the Smith family and businesses were big leaders for our community.

In the 1930's, at the far end of the L. Smith & Son building was the Harry Wolfe Bakery. I think it was in business until WWII. The Wolfe's had a daughter, Ilene, and two boys, Robert and Duane. I think they are all gone now. Later



on a man named R. Klinder owned the bakery.

The next building was the Yager Restaurant. That place had its start when those three masonry buildings were completed in 1893. The Lunch Room was opened by Martha McCann. In a few years she sold it to Matt Wallace. He passed away in 1904 and that is when it became Yager's Lunch.

Then with the passing of the Yager's after 50 years of business a number of endeavors have been there. Plus at one time the V.F.W. met there.

The last building on that side of the block was Tiny's Lunch. After C.L. DeLong came home from WWI he



ber that building was a Ford Dealership by Mr. Zuber. During the depression they closed it and moved to Butler, IN.

Then I know later in the 1930's. Ike Boyce and Dorsey Waters had a gasoline station there called Mutual Oil Co. Then I knew later Alverda Johnson had a gas station on that site.

In the meantime, in the

back rooms of that place, Forest Vail had an automobile repair shop and he had a good business for many years.

Later on, Ike Boyce sold house insulation material and his pitch line was, 'if he insulated your house, you could heat it with a 100 watt light bulb'.

Looking on north in that picture, you see that small truck backed up to the sidewalk? That is the delivery truck for the Ralph Schooley Bakery. He is backed in there to load his truck and then make his deliveries out in the rural areas. About this time the next building was June's Beauty Shop. It was managed by June Donut West and Mike Horn.

Then along in there, John Hawkins had a barber shop and the American Legion had a meeting hall. Then the Kroger Store. In 1935 the Kroger Store moved down over the railroad and set up business where the Village Hardware is now. It was a going business until WWII came along and it closed because of no help.

Later on in the late 1930's, the Ehrhart Studio moved down on South Main Street where Mr. Schooley had his bakery. Cloide and Dorothy had about taken over the photography business because Otto Ehrhart was retiring.

The Kroger Store had moved up to the north and that takes us up to the Star Theater. That was the next to last business in that block. Frank Smith's Drug Store was on the corner of Railroad and

South Main Street. Mr. John Cromley was the owner of The Star Theater starting in 1919. It showed movies on Saturday and Sunday nights. It was a popular place to go at that time to see a good movie and have some good popcorn. In the 1950's it was sold to a young man from Hicksville named Ted Kerogorge and with the coming of good TV it went out of business. In the 1950's Frank Smith's Drug Store moved over north to what is now Marilyn's Petals and Vines. It survived there many more years.

See, Ya!

## CITY OF WOODBURN MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 17, 2007

Meeting was called to order with the pledge and reading of the minutes, with no corrections.

Ben Adams (Allen County Regional Water Sewer District) stated letter H of the contract was corrected; the rate was lower than it should have been, the new rate is \$56.37. Billing will start the 1st day of the month following the 45th day of notice to connect. They will start billing out half bills of \$70.23 on February 1, 2008. The City has the option to take over Platter Parkway sewer system after 20 years. Ben Adams stated the final loan closing date is December 27, 2007 and the Havenwood bond portion should be paid to the City after the first of the year. The money is to put into the Havenwood bond payment account. The construction should be done by Memorial Day. Councilmen made motions to accept the new contract, all agreed, motion passed.

Pat Proctor stated John Powel is working on the receivership for Havenwood. Lot A may be easement but he's not sure if there is a clear title. Easement is needed to get to the pump station and electrical pole. Mayor stated the farmer is willing to give easement. Councilman ask Jim Lauer if we should get a line under the new 24. Jim stated he would have it put in during construction. Jim needs financial statements for 2006 and 2007 for sewer.

Mayor Hoepner would like to continue with the public awareness meeting on January 12, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. He will be contacting Dennis Kruse, Mike Ripley, Phyllis Pond, and Mark Souder. Council would like an article in the courier asking residents to alternate parking on sides of the road for plowing snow and residents are responsible for cleaning snow from sidewalks around their homes. Councilman reported Police Department had 106 incidents for November. Council would like Kyle to find out who owns the semi trucks parking on Hickory St., Roemer Dr. and the liquor store and tell them they can't park there. Mayor Hoepner reported kids on the pond behind Subway, Councilman will contact owner of the property about putting up a fence.

Lesla went over payables above \$500.00 with council. Sherry Labs water testing bill was high, council would like Ryan to check on prices with other companies. Warrants totaled \$45,177.91, Check #'s 5887-5907. Councilmen made motions to approve warrants, all agreed, motion passed. Ryan reported he is done

with leaf pick up; there were 34 loads. Treece electric looked at the High school lift station and pulled pump 2. Wagner electric is fixing it and it is under warranty. Ryan stated John is on vacation till January 3, and he will be on vacation from December 31-January 9.

Lesla stated that a resident on Woodburn Road reported a sinkhole on his property. Ryan will look at. Lesla informed council that Gregg from Indianapolis would be coming on December 19 to advise with the end of year. January 7th will be our first meeting of the New Year and the swearing in of the officers.

Mayor Hoepner reported some business owners are interested in starting the chamber of commerce again and he would like to get something going for Woodburn days again. Council members will speak with business owners to see if they are interested and report at the next council meeting.

Councilman would like for Council to consider rebuilding Stenger St., and build sidewalks on Elm St., he would also like to see the Firework ordinance signed. Mayor Hoepner will check if we can adopt the county ordinance or need to do our own. Councilman suggested the Mayor send the Governor a Thank you letter for getting the U.S. 24 construction project changed.

We will have a meeting January 21, everyone is welcome.

Minutes submitted by Lesla Meadows

## HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION SIGN UP FOR TAX YEAR 2008

The 2008 Homestead Exemption application period is open the first Monday in January through the first Monday in June annually.

Senior citizen and disabled homeowners who were eligible for the homestead exemption in 2007 and missed the October 1 deadline can apply for the homestead exemption for tax year 2008 and future years, as well as for a reduction in the 2007 taxes (to be credited later in 2008).

The Homestead Exemption program was originally introduced in 1972 for low-income homeowners age 65 and older to help alleviate the burden of tax increases caused by escalating property values. Now, the Ohio General Assembly has enacted a new, expanded Homestead Exemption that will provide property tax relief to ALL qualified senior citizens and permanently and totally disabled homeowners.

Starting July 2, 2007, the Homestead Exemption was expanded by the State to include homeowners who:

—Are at least 65 years old during the current year; or

—Are totally and permanently disabled as of January 1 of the current year as certified by a licensed physician or psychologist, or a state or federal agency; or

—Are a surviving spouse of a person who was receiving the previous Homestead Exemption at the time of death and where the surviving spouse was at least 59 years old on the date of death; AND

—Own and occupy the home as their principle place

(Continued on Page 6)

## APPRAISALS & IDENTIFICATION

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John Paulding Historical Society Museum

600 Fairground Rd.,  
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Saturday, January 19th  
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Light lunch will be available  
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Antwerp Senior TJ Short put the ball in the basket against Lincolnview Saturday night. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Last Thursday the Woodlan boys received the opportunity to play at the coliseum in Fort Wayne. Warrior Senior Josh Gorrell shown here working to get the 2 points. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Paulding's Tiffany Razo scores against LCC Thursday night. The Lady Panthers tried but couldn't win against LCC. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

**AREA HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS RESULTS**

Woodlan boys went to the second round of ACAC basketball tournament action on Thursday, January 10 against Bluffton. They played a hard fought game but the Tigers clawed out a victory with a final score of 68-43 advancing them to the finals on Saturday, January 12 at the Fort Wayne War Memorial Coliseum.

In Panther country, the varsity Lady Panthers played host to LCC also on January 10. LCC dominated the evening with a final score of 68-45.

Back over to Archer territory, the JV and varsity played host to the Wayne Trace Raiders. It was a Raiders dream come true this night as they pulled off both a JV win and a Varsity win for the boys.

JV score was 47-28. JV Archer record 3-7 and 1-2 in the GMC.

Varsity score 51-45. Archer record 8-2 and 2-1 in the GMC. Wayne Trace record 7-2 overall, 2-1 GMC

Top Players:  
Wayne Trace - Aaron Hockenberry 15 points, 5 assists; Riley Linder 13 points, 3 assists; Alex LaBounty 12 points, 4 rebounds

Antwerp - TJ Short 9 pts.; Boston Hormann 7 pts.; Tim Ryan 11 pts., 5 rebounds; Adam Taylor 12, Bob Bragg 6.

On Friday, January 11, the Lady Raiders faced off against the Antwerp Lady Archers. The final score was a Lady Raider victory 40-30. Records - Wayne Trace (7-3 overall, 3-0 Green Meadows Conference); Antwerp (7-7 overall, 2-1 GMC)

Top Players:  
Wayne Trace - Kacee Hockenberry 11 points, 3 assists, 4 rebounds; Jo Ellen Fickel 10 points, 6 rebounds  
Antwerp - Bryn Schlatter 14 points, 14 rebounds

To end off the sports weekend Antwerp boys hosted Lincolnview in both Varsity and JV. Both Archer teams pierced a victory out of the Lancers.

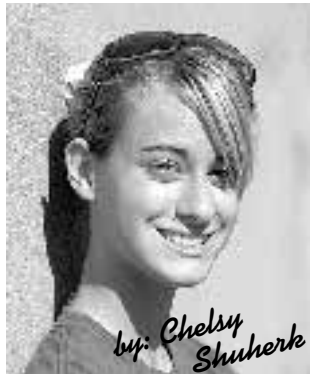
JV score was 33-29, and their record now stands at 4-7, 1-2 GMC

Scoring for Archer JV - Bryson North 5, Isaac Yenser 5, Hayden Krick 4, Travis Woodard 10, Beau Kobee 4, John Rindahl 4

Varsity score 62-52 and Record 9-2, 2-1 GMC

Scoring for Varsity - Jared Delong 2, TJ Short 15, Boston Hormann 10, Tim Ryan 8, Adam Taylor 11, Nate Ganger 2, Anthony Smith 9, Bob Bragg 4, John Rindahl 1.

**RAIDER REPORT**



Did you ever have an imaginary friend or maybe an imaginary pet? I bet about half of you have, and the other half knows someone who did. For the record, I never had an imaginary friend or pet, but I know people who did. I am not sure how the half of you who did not have one feels, but I know I do not understand how a person can have an attachment with something that is not real. Although, I do understand why someone would want to, or why it is okay for them to.

"Imagination is the one weapon in the war against reality", said by Jules de Gaultrier.

That is the best way to put it because your imagination is an escape from reality. Some days that sounds like a great idea because real life is not always peaches and cream. So, your imagination is a nice place to be because everything is perfect. That shows how imagination is unlike reality because a lot of the time reality seems completely imperfect. Imagination is like a comfort because it gives you something to hold onto and hope for. This leads to the reasons why it is okay to have imagination in your life.

Imagination is a safe outlet for what a person feels. Your imagination is everything you want but do not have in life. Your imagination creates goals for you because seeing what you want makes you want to turn the imaginary into reality. That improves you, unlike some different outlets people use. For example, some people turn to drugs, alcohol, sex or violence. So, go back to the time when you loved crayons, Barbies, and G.I. Joes, and see if you are moving in the direction of accomplishing what you imagined.

If you mailed 11,500 Postcards (circulation of West Bend News) it would cost \$2760 not including printing cost. A postcard size ad only cost \$72

**NOW READ THIS**

By: Stan Jordan

This story takes place in The Old Country or some place in Europe where they used to have "Monks."

As a rule it was in the basement of an old castle, usually made of stone and generally cold and damp.

This young man started as an apprentice Monk and that is what he wanted to be. He worked hard and long and then soon 10 years had gone by. The Head Monk came along and asked, "How are you doing?" The young Monk said, "Cold in here."

The young fellow worked hard and long and soon 10 more years had gone by. The Head Monk came by again to check on him. He asked, "How are you doing?" The young man replied, "Work's hard."

After a lot of busy hours another 10 years had gone by. The Head Monk came and asked, "How are things going?" The young man replied, "Food's bad!"

After another 10 years of hard work the Head Monk came and asked, "How are things going?" The young man replied, "I quit!" The Head Monk replied, "That figures, all you've ever done was complain."

See, Ya!

**BOYS BASKETBALL AT WAYNE TRACE**

On Saturday, January 12, the Wayne Trace Raider dominated their home court against the Continental Pirates. The final score for the varsity game was 76-56. Records now stand at Wayne Trace 8-2, Continental 2-12.

Top players:  
Wayne Trace - Aaron Hockenberry 29, Alex LaBounty 20, Riley Linder 10  
Continental - Brock Homier 13, Chase Ordway 12.

**WOODLAN FINISHES THIRD IN WOODLAN WRESTLING INVITATIONAL**

Elkhart Central and New Haven each had 4 champions and 4 runner-ups, but the 5-1 edge for third place finishers put Elkhart Central over New Haven in the New Haven Wrestling Invitational. Woodlan finished a distant third with Jordan Buuck (125) the lone champion for the Warriors

**PAULDING JR PANTHERS TAKE 2 FROM DELPHOS**

Paulding traveled to Delphos for a NWC game on Tuesday, January 8.

In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade the Panthers played aggressive pressing defense, forcing the Wildcats into 25 turnovers, defeating them 47-34.

Neil Roehrig led the Panthers with 17 points, 10 rebounds and 4 assists. Lance Foor also added 11 points and 5 steals.

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade also defeated the Wildcats, the Panthers used their height to their advantage to out rebound Delphos and coast to a 39-22 victory. Josh Hanenkraat and Zach Gawronski led the Panthers with 10 points each. Eric Adams, Kyle Mohr and Anthony Arellano also chipped in with 6 points and 8 rebounds each.

Paulding 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade record now stands at 2-6.

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**Benefit Chili Supper for Ashley Burt**

Friday, January 25th  
4-6pm Wayne Trace High School Cafeteria

**"Free Will Offering"**

Ashley is a student at Wayne Trace/Grover Hill and in May she will be competing against other 12 year old girls from 42 nations in Taiyuan, China at the 2008 World BMX Championships.

We invite you to come and meet Ashley. This benefit will help with Ashley's expenses when she travels to China. Thank you for your support and consideration.

**Ashley Burt - 2007 Midwest Regional Champion, 2007 Team USA, 2007 NBL National #12, 2007 State Champion**

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Not valid with any other coupons. Expires 1-31-08

**WOODLAN WRESTLING AGAINST BISHOP DWENGER**

Four pins by Woodlan wrestlers weren't enough to get the Warriors a match win against Bishop Dwenger and Woodlan fell 42-27 to the Saints. Woodlan picked up pins at 125, 152, 160, and 285. The Saints took the reserve matches over Woodlan 36-6

- 103 - Austen Vore (BD) dec Joe Schlie (W) 8-3, 0-3
- 112 - Tim Burns (BD) dec Jesse Schloe (W) 5-4, 0-6
- 119 - Brandon Baccari (BD) forfeit 0-12
- 125 - Jordan Buuck (W) pin Vince Hguyen (BD) 3:27, 6-12
- 130 - Jack Dahm (BD) pin Nate Wiedeman (W) :35, 6-18
- 135 - Devin Kees (W) dec Ben Porter (BD) 8-6 OT, 9-18
- 140 - Jordan Venderly (BD) dec Blake Weil (W) 5-4 OT, 9-21
- 145 - Dan Nix (BD) pin Alex Brenneke (W) :41, 9-27
- 152 - Jayme Schwartz (W) pin Daniel Ryan (BD) 1:40, 15-27
- 160 - Aury Keller (W) pin Tyler Weilbaker (BD) :56, 21-27
- 171 - Brendan Berghoff (BD) dec Ben Sowles (W) 5-0, 21-30
- 189 - Greg Svarczopf (BD) pin Ethan Gessner (W) 1:33, 21-36
- 215 - Isaac Evans (BD) forfeit, 21-42
- 285 - Joe Grueb (W) pin Scott Campbell (BD) 1:53, 27-42

**LADY WARRIORS BATTLE WITH LADY LIONS IN ACAC BASKETBALL**

Woodlan hung tough with Leo in girls ACAC basketball, but the Lady Lions held tougher to get a 50-41 win over the Warriors. Leo led by just 1 point at 10-9 after the first quarter and stretched the lead to 26-20 by the halftime break, Leo pushed the lead to 9 points after the third quarter. Hannah Koeman scored all 10 of Woodlan's points in the third quarter and finished with a game high 14 points for the Warriors. Jordan Robbins paced the Leo Lady Lions, getting 21 points including 5 three-pointers.

**Scores:**  
 Leo 10 16 13 11—50  
 Woodlan 9 11 10 11—41  
**Stats for the game:**  
 Leo - Robbins 21, Lengacher 9, Peck 8, Baer 6, Meeks 4, Miller 2  
 Woodlan - H Koeman 14, Lengacher 12, Carver 7, Kayser 4, S Koeman 4  
 Leo outscored Woodlan 19-6 in the second period and went on to beat the Warriors 34-21 in the reserve game. Laura Speith was high scorer for Woodlan with 7 points.

**VAN WERT DEFEATS PAULDING JR PANTHERS**

Paulding traveled to Van Wert for a make up game on Monday, January 7.

In the 7<sup>th</sup> grade game Paulding couldn't overcome a cold night shooting, falling to the Cougars 33-21. Neil Roehrig led the Panthers with 11 points and 5 rebounds, Logan Doster also added 4 points.

In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade game Van Wert took advantage of their height and quickness for a 35-19 victory. Zach Gawronski and Josh Hanenkratt led the Panthers with 6 points and Kyle Mohr added 4 points.

Paulding 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade record is 1-6.

**PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS AND DISMISSALS**

- Admissions:**  
 1/8 - Wanetta Bradford, Oakwood  
 1/9 - Cheryl Germann, Oakwood  
 1/13 - Kevin Hill, Cecil; Ellen Riggenschach, Paulding  
**Dismissals:**  
 1/11 - Wanetta Bradford, Oakwood

(Continued from Page 1) teachers who have completed coursework through the University of Findlay and are adjunct faculty of the University of Findlay.

Students must have a GPA of 3.2 and/or teacher recommendation to qualify to take these college classes at Wayne Trace. They also must maintain a "C" grade. The price is a substantial reduction of the actual cost. The rest of which is subsidized by the University of Findlay and the Wayne Trace Local School District. However, students who drop out of these classes or receive a grade lower than a "C" will be required to repay the full amount.

The Wayne Trace Local Schools are providing their students with this extraordinary college opportunity. Over the course of two years, a Wayne Trace high school student could earn up to 17 semester hours of college credit.

(Continued from Page 4) of residence as of January 1 of the current year for real property, or January 1, 2008 for manufactured homes.

All homeowners who qualify for the Homestead Exemption will now receive a flat \$25,000 property tax exemption on the market value of their home. For example, an eligible owner of a home valued at \$100,000 will now be billed as if the home were valued at \$75,000. However, there is a maximum amount allowed by the State to be applied for the homestead exemption.

In 2007, Paulding County had a total of 1525 approved Homestead Exemption applications with a total dollar amount of \$275,883 in tax reduction. These totals include applicants that were previously approved for the old Homestead Exemption program and the applicants that are now eligible for the new Homestead Exemption program.

For those homeowners who currently receive the homestead exemption, please be advised that you will soon



By: Chelsea Vail

*I have a dream...* That school will be canceled next Monday. Oh, wait, that's reality! In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and all he helped to accomplish, no classes will be held on January 21. Woot! (I trust you all now know what "woot" means).

Okay, moonwalk back a few days, or grapevine, if you prefer. Note that the junior class's parents are sponsoring a spaghetti dinner before the January 18 basketball game against Ayersville. Partaking of their homemade pasta will surely be a *thriller* for your taste buds, and will make supper as easy as "1, 2, 3," as simple as "do, re, me"... I think you know where I'm going with this.

**JH Girls Basketball:** January 17, TBA, Home (7<sup>th</sup> grade GMC Tournament); January 19, TBA, @ Wayne Trace (GMC Tournament)

**JH Boys Basketball:** January 17, 5:00, @ Paulding; January 22, 5:00, @ Parkway

**Freshman Boys Basketball:** January 17, 4:30, @ Wayne Trace

**Varsity Girls Basketball:** January 17, 6:00, @ Ayersville; January 22, 6:00, Crestview

**Varsity Boys Basketball:** January 18, 6:30, Ayersville; January 19, 6:00, North Central

**Word of the Week:**  
 Maladroit \mal-uh-DROYT\ adjective

1. Clumsy; awkward; inept  
 Example: "Though the Lincolnview team was by no means maladroit, the Archers undoubtedly commanded the floor throughout last Saturday's contest against the Lancers."

I suppose the Archers' inherent adroitness made all the difference. Catch our twinkle-toed boys in action this week in home match ups with Ayersville and North Central, both games in which they *won't stop 'til they get enough* (points, that is). Now, *beat it!*

be receiving a Continuing Homestead Exemption Application for Senior Citizens, Disabled Persons and Surviving Spouses (DTE 105B) form. You must report any changes that would affect your Homestead Exemption eligibility by completing and returning this form. Some examples of changes that could affect your eligibility would be change of ownership of the home or if the home is NO longer your principal place of residence, also if the owner's disability status has changed or owner has died. If any changes affecting eligibility have occurred, you must complete this form and return it to the County Auditor by the first Monday in June. IF NO CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED, YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RETURN THE RENEWAL FORM.

If you have any questions concerning eligibility or in signing up for the 2008 year, please contact the Paulding County Auditor's office at the courthouse or by calling 419-399-8205 prior to the June 2, 2008 deadline.

**LOCAL ACTS SELECTED FOR OHIO HAS TALENT!**

VAN WERT—More than 20 performers from north-west/west central Ohio are set to participate in Community Health Professionals' first *Ohio Has Talent!* variety show on February 9, 7:00 p.m. at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center in Van Wert.

Based on the popular television program *America's Got Talent!*, the event will feature three acts from Paulding County, 10 from Van Wert County and the remaining from throughout the area. They were chosen from among 58 musical, dance and various other acts that came out for auditions, held November 30–December 1, 2007.

Paulding County performers include:



—Kenzie Clemens, a fourth grade student at Payne Elementary, is an honor roll student and cheerleader for Payne little league football. At age eight she competed in the Dream Big singing contest in St. Marys in 2005 and made it to the finals. Her parents are George and Victoria Clemens.



—Rob Pond, a senior at Wayne Trace High School,

performs a mix of illusions and classical elegant magic using doves, candles, cards, coins and billiard balls. He was featured in the April 2007 edition of Linking Ring magazine as a "Millennials Rising Star of Tomorrow." He will be one of the featured performers at this year's Magifest in Columbus and was chosen as best stage magician in last year's event.



Morgan Seibert, a sophomore at Wayne Trace High School has studied dance for 11 years including ballet, jazz, tap, lyrical, kickline, hip hop, and pointe.

Just like on the TV show, winners will be chosen by the audience and awarded cash prizes: \$500—first place, \$250—second place, \$100—third place. Tickets are on sale now at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center ticket office or online at [www.npacvw.org](http://www.npacvw.org)

Proceeds from the show benefit Community Health Professionals' Van Wert Area Inpatient Hospice Center project.

**NOTICE**

The Village of Antwerp will hold its regular council meetings every third Monday of each month 6:00 pm at town hall, 118 N. Main Street Antwerp, OH



Wayne Trace had a good week in sports and it didn't stop with the girls. Sophomore Rylee Ulm attempts a layup against the Archers. More pictures at [www.westbendnews.net](http://www.westbendnews.net)



The Raiders were unstoppable last week. Senior Nate Jewell scores against the Archers. Both Antwerp and Wayne Trace worked hard for this one. More pictures at [www.westbendnews.net](http://www.westbendnews.net)

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# Opinions, Opinions ...

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

*Responses need to be received by Friday at 5:00 pm to be considered for the next publication. We reserve the right to edit for length and content. email: westbend@verizon.net*

*fax: 419-258-1313  
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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I'm not native to these parts (NW Ohio) but I am an Ohioan. Many families have their reasons for relocating, for me I have mine, I moved from Columbus to Paulding. Being a responsible adult and parent I read and researched, asked questions, interviewed people, schools, and organizations, took tours, and compared the area to those similar. To be perfectly honest I chose this area not only for the friendly people but their commitment to their children and families. That was November of 2004, it didn't take long, January 2005, and my honeymoon was over. That's when my battle ensued against a wall—Paulding Exempted Village School District.

I cannot go into specifics of the case, but after a two year legal battle, spending nearly \$50,000.00 for legal, expert, and medical fees, we finally settled. But if anyone wishes details, like names and such, I would gladly provide those just as soon as you provide a notarized statement from PEVS releasing myself and my family from any liability. In the meantime, my

child is healthy, happy, flourishing as some have said, and open enrolled in a neighboring district. One would reasonably ask why bring it up at all unless, yep, we're up against that same iron wall again! Oh! Don't be fooled! The residing district may not have my child but they hold the purse string. And quite frankly, the law may say one thing but guaranteed there are three more that will contradict it and it's that gray area that school districts can stand upon unless you have strong legal representation to assist you.

Let me backup, \$50,000.00 is a lot of money; money that I didn't have but rather my family extended to me. So, before someone asks, "why didn't you just take that money and move"—it wasn't my money! Last two things: First, We spent everything to relocate; Secondly, why should I have to move again (two months after I BUY a home) because someone or some system didn't want to fulfill their commitment? In the future, when representatives of Paulding seriously discuss ways in which to attract others to this community, you might want to keep in mind these things: honor, honesty, integrity, sincerity, humble, grateful, trustworthiness, respect, fairness and responsibility; after all, that is the definition of a community's backbone!

Special Education is specific in that it helps those students who might not otherwise learn without the aid of additional instruction or assistance. Not every child learns the same way but it doesn't mean that each will need special instructions; and not all disabilities require special education. But for those students who genuinely need these services it opens up a world of hope and opportunities that would otherwise be lost. I know, as most have often heard me explain that my child is autistic and he receives special education.

For him, his education is his world.

Without going into detail there are formulas, a number of them from federal, state and local governments, that is calculated and it is this base fee that our schools receive to educate a child. When determining a special needs student it gets complicated by their degree of disability, but for my child "Autism," that being the most severe under The Ohio Revised Code a multiple factor of 4.7342. Yep! That's 4.7342 times the normal student fee! For example, in Paulding a normal student fee is \$5,471.68 per academic school year but an autistic child would be \$25,904.02. That's a big difference but it ensures that these students can achieve and learn, like their peers, and relieve some of the pressures off districts and struggling families. In addition to the \$25,904.02 Paulding recently received new funding dollars for my child of (\$3,000.00-\$5,000.00) from the federal/state governments for special education transportation and/or related services, but we were denied transportation reimbursement citing the district didn't have to comply. Tell me, if the attending district receives \$15,000.00 that means that Paulding is receiving \$10,904.00-\$15,000.00, where does my child benefit? If my child was a normal student open enrolled in a neighboring district I would not be requesting transportation reimbursement. Both parties yielded to the experts, the damage was irreparable, we all agreed that open enrollment was our only alternative, but when a district receives monies for a handicapped student and withholds that money it is essentially stealing in a legal way. My child's special education or the lack of it is not a means for this district to subsidize their budget!

Open enrollment is pretty clear about transportation costs and reimbursement—none; that rule is very clear. This is one of those gray areas because one rule says one thing but vice versa in another, but under The Special Education Sec. 3323.01 Education of handicapped children definitions (C) "Related Services" means transportation, and such developmental, corrective, and other services as may be required to assist a handicapped child to benefit from special education. In OAC Chapter 3301-48 Open Enrollment Programs; (G) Transportation of students: A school board enrolling an adjacent or other district student whose family has an income below the federal poverty line, may reimburse the parent from funds received under division (K) of section 3317.024 of the Revised Code for the reasonable cost of transportation from the student's home to the designated school bus stop. The attending district would then be reimbursed by the residing in this case.

I and my family are poor (below the Federal 200% poverty level), we have each other and little means to get by but other than my support and love, the greatest gift I can give my child is his education. We spend nearly one quarter of our monthly income on transportation, taking him to and from school. We were told that we could request reimbursement from

the district under the special education services yet we are denied. Why?

This time I won't stay quiet! This time I won't be intimidated or fear for my child! This time I will speak up and out! I moved here hoping to have a small homestead, build a barn, have some animals, design arts and crafts, enjoy my family and new friendships but that was shattered in just two months after I invested EVERYTHING. No more! I have no other option but send a formal compliant to federal investigators in Washington, D.C. and hire another attorney—again! Just one difference this time, it's public.

Most Humbly,  
—Christina L. West

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing this letter to inform the public of HR2640, a.k.a. The Veterans Disarmament Act. It strips veterans their right to bear arms because of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. It also will affect anyone who has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder and Autism. A house that has someone living in it with any of these disorders, can not have a firearm in it.

Understand this, the goal to disarm America has started. Please, look at all the people who are running for public office, from President down to local officials. Make sure you understand exactly what they support and oppose. Voting for someone who opposes any part of our constitutional rights only guarantees our freedoms being flushed down the toilet. Do the research for yourself if you don't believe me. And by all means, please thank a veteran for what they have done for this country. We owe it to them to vote a person in office that will give them back their constitutional rights and their benefits that have been striped from them.

"For those who fought for it, freedom has a flavor the protected will never know."  
—author unknown  
—Tim Dauten

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

It has come to my attention that President Bush recently signed what has come to be known as "the veteran disarmament bill". This bill would allow for a veteran that was diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to never be able to possess a firearm in his lifetime. So what this boils down to is that a young man, good enough to serve his country in a war zone, possibly for multiple tours, experience combat that could be described as the closest thing to hell on earth, now can come home, be diagnosed with PTSD and lose his constitutional rights; not by "due process of law" but by the word of a doctor! This bill was incidentally passed through both House and Senate by voice vote during the Christmas holiday when many senators and representatives had gone home. I must ask the veteran: Did you take an oath upon entering the service of our country to fight against all enemies FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC? Could it be that George Washington; one of our founding fathers and first president of our republic was right when he said:

"the traditional enemy of the people has always been government"?

—Phillip Piersma

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I never saw the Nazi billboard in Antwerp, but it offends me nonetheless as it should everyone. Certainly, if it weren't for Hitler, the swastika would still be positively regarded as a symbol of life, power, strength and good luck. In fact, we would still see it on greeting cards and in advertising.

However, all that changed when Hitler made the swastika the symbol of Nazi Germany and all that it became. The swastika isn't a symbol of fascism. That's sanitizing it. The swastika is a symbol of evil, intolerance and murder.

It represents Nazi Germany and Hitler's final solution—the extermination of at least 2.5 million European Jews and possibly as many as 6 million. The swastika represents Hitler's concentration camp murder of at least 250,000 gypsies, 250,000 persons who were mentally or physically disabled, and at least several thousand Jehovah's Witness and homosexuals—none of whom met Hitler's vision of the perfect race. Therefore, they needed to be killed. This is what the swastika represents.

Nearly 300,000 American soldiers were killed in battle fighting Hitler and his allies. Additionally, hundreds of thousands of soldiers from other countries, America's allies, died to defeat Hitler, not to mention the millions of innocent civilians who became collateral damage of the war.

You don't have to be Jewish, Roma, disabled or any other victim of Hitler's violence to recognize the swastika as an offensive symbol of hatred.

Of course, in America we protect, allow and even tolerate offensive behavior and speech. But the fabric of a community is woven with respect and compassion for others. It's a higher standard. If we value freedom, we cannot afford to think or say nothing when evil or intolerance is masqueraded as free speech. We need to say it's wrong and say it clearly so that what happened before never happens again to anyone.

—Louis Levy  
Paulding, Ohio

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I am writing this letter to the editor as a warning to Veterans. Most people are not aware of recent legislation that strips Second Amendment rights from Veterans. The Veterans Disarmament Act is an attack on Veterans that suffer from even mild forms of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D). This bill was introduced to the House as HR2640, this legislation has already passed. Introduced to the Senate as S 2084 again passed, without even a record as to who voted for this abomination.

Veterans have willingly gone for the defense of our country. Some have faced the harsh realities of war, and some have even paid the ultimate price for freedom. To these men respect is due. The suffering these men encountered is clearly a ransom paid to return home and enjoy the American dream. From Viet-

nam and before, through Iraq Freedom our troops have paid dearly for the ability of you and I to enjoy the freedoms set forth in our Constitution. I can scarcely think of the combat conditions our men have faced, or the mental problems some now suffer. I will say again, respect is due.

I am sure that a lot of you are familiar with the name Audie Murphy. He was the highest decorated soldier of World War II, including the Medal of Honor. He killed, wounded, or captured hundreds of enemy soldiers in three years of fighting in Europe. Audie was wounded three times but survived the war. Audie slept with a loaded revolver under his pillow until the day he died. Just the mere fact that having that gun there made him feel better is a good enough reason to have it. No one would ever have even thought to try to disarm this American hero. Audie paid dearly for his right to bear arms. Audie suffered from depression, insomnia and severe bouts of "Battle Fatigue". The latter term "Battle Fatigue" is now known in the psychiatric community as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (P.T.S.D). Audie suffered P.T.S.D., but at no time was he a danger to others. After the war he even had a successful acting career where he reenacted some of his battlefield experiences. He made westerns also. I remind you again, at that time no person would even have entertained the thought of taking away Audie's Second Amendment right to bear arms.

You see, when Audie went to war no one was at home scheming to take away his Second Amendment right to bear arms. Are we just gonna sit back and let these people in office attack our fighting men like this? These legislators took an oath to protect the Constitution against all enemies foreign and domestic. We did not tell them to go into office and trim, undermine and destroy the Constitution. I personally consider these actions as an act of Treason against the people of the United States of America. This legislation would have disarmed Audie Murphy and a lot of battle-field heroes just like him. A lot of American Veterans collect partial and full benefits for P.T.S.D and pose no threat whatsoever to anyone. Without even a trial these Veterans will suffer under this legislation.

This legislation is a giant leap in gun control. The bill itself covers Veterans suffering P.T.S.D., people suffering from A.D.H.D and children that were in the school IDEALS program. The warm and fuzzy name that it was given was the School Safety Act. You may possibly think, "Well that doesn't affect me, I do not suffer from those things." Does anyone under your roof suffer from these problems?

Why do I ask? Well, if someone under your roof has these problems you now have these problems. These rules will apply to the household and the occupants thereof where these unfortunate souls reside.

The term given to these unfortunate souls is "Mental Defectives". This term also covers people that suffer from Alzheimer's or Autism and on and on. Why would someone that was in the school Ideals

(Continued on Page 8)

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(Continued from Page 7)

program lose their rights? Did these kids, a lot of whom are now adults, make the decision to take Ritalin? Do these legislators think that childhood problems never go away? Do they give a crap?

Now the rest of the story. The President of the United States, George Bush, signed this trash on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2008. Did you see or even hear anything about this on the news? Did you even know that anything like this was even going on? It seems to me that secrecy played a large part in the passage of this legislation. The news media did not cover this story as it should have been covered. Maybe even they too are practicing secrecy as the legislators exercised. It is not nearly as important as a meat and potatoes story about Brit-tany Spears. The big game too, don't forget the game.

Wake up! Forget the game! Legislators are attacking our Veterans. I believe every person that signed this legislation is a CRIMINAL. These men took an oath to support uphold and defend the Constitution. The Second Amendment is part of that Constitution! The oath has been broken! This legislation is a wall between the people and the Constitution. This legislation is an overt act of treason. Please do not let this act by our officials go unpunished! Who will stand up for our soldiers? While they were away we let this happen! Like I said before in this letter, this is a giant leap in gun control. The final goal of gun control is to disarm the entire public. History shows us that gun control is deadly, and a lot of people that have been disarmed have also fallen victim to Genocide. A lot of people would have saved themselves from slaughter had they not given up their firearms. I will not be silent about this effort to disarm our people! Ask the veterans of WWII what happened to people that surrendered their weapons to their governments.

What now? Do we go to the police and report a crime? Make no mistake—this is a crime. Please google "Veterans Disarmament Act" or HR 2640 and get up to speed. We need to answer this action soundly. We take the

Second Amendment rights away from felons not Veterans. Our soldiers have committed no crime. Is this how Washington honors Veterans? This legislation will be broadened in the future to encompass more groups of people. Will you speak up before this includes you? Every Congressman, Senator and the President having signed this legislation have broken the oath of office.

This cannot go unnoticed. You would think that the NRA would have blown the whistle on this maneuver by warning the public. NO! The NRA has given praise to this abomination. Please, get up to speed on this issue. Let the NRA know about your concerns and maybe even burn a membership.

—Chuck Starry

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Mars Attacks**

How many of you remember the movie, "Mars Attacks" from the 1990's? In the movie the only way earth men could kill the Martians, who were pillaging the earth, was by broadcasting a Slim Whitman song over a public address system. The song went "I'll be seeing you-oooo-oooo" (believe me I type the song better than I sing it). When the Martians heard Slim's song it made their heads explode. If you can remember the sight of the Martian's head popping inside their clear helmets you know how I feel when I hear a politically correct news anchor giving their opinions and calling it news.

If I hear one more 25 year old blond bombshell on TV from some Ivy League School, tell me what she thinks, or what I should think, or what she thinks I should think, about the candidates for President, or about illegal immigration, or the war with Islamic terrorists, or how we're not spending enough tax money on education, or global warming, or hear her expound on how great the UN is, I'm afraid my head is going to pop too.

I want to make myself clear lest you get the impression that I'm some political incorrect, border line male chauvinist, computer despising, freedom loving, conservative, libertarian leaning, gun toting NRA member who

thinks government should stay out of American citizens business and just do what the constitution says they can and "let us alone" type person. I don't want you to have that impression; I want you to be sure of it. That is me. My East and West Coast friends call me a Red Neck and I call them Commies, but we still talk to each other. I've never taken being called a red neck as an insult.

Were you as surprised as this red neck to read the headline in the December 12th Paulding Progress, "Jail may be 'the least affected' in 2008 county budget"? I would think that County officials would realize that voters aren't happy with the jail costs and the way it's being operated, but by the news that's coming out of the court house and sheriffs office it seems they are operating under the assumption that a loss is a win and that the voters of Paulding County will do as they're told. I think they hope that by putting pressure on other county agencies and squeezing them financially, voters will knuckle under and pass another jail operating levy.

I'm sure we haven't heard the last of the courthouse's attempts at passing another jail operating levy (God forbid the Sheriff should be forced to cut costs).

I'm going to share with you some facts I found when I was doing research for the great debate with Ex-Commissioner Ron Lane concerning the jail. As hard as it is to believe there never was a village building permit issued or asked for to remodel the old AEP building into a jail. I've heard the soon to be Ex-County Administrator didn't think one was needed and I guess the sheriff and commissioners didn't think it important to ask for one either. If they had, they would have found out then for sure the AEP jail was in the flood hazard zone. This not bothering to get a permit should be comforting to any of you "regular" citizens who've been hassled about not having a permit in the past, or if you're a village business getting sued or threatened over too much noise or too big of a sign. Hopefully you won't feel too bad that laws and rules don't apply to everyone.

In fact the only permit of any kind I was able to find is a certificate of plan approval issued for an addition on 11/27/2006 that lists former Paulding County Engineer Mark Stockman as the owner. Mark Stockman had been out of office for two years in 2006, so when he called me, after the Great Debate he said he was surprised to know he owned a jail located in a flood hazard zone. He wasn't surprised the AEP building was in a flood hazard zone, because he told the commissioners it was back at the beginning when the commissioners were first looking to buy the building, he just didn't know he was listed as the owner.

It appears the county missed a lot of red flags when they first decided to start on the mad rush to buy the AEP building and make it a jail. Another fact "as Ron said at the debate" is that for 25 cents on the dollar the county bought the building. Now when was the last time anyone sold the government anything for 25% of its value?

Who saw whom coming? Do you think it was the county or the building's owner from New York?

An older Paulding Progress headline is from a story by Melinda Krick from the October 16, 2002 paper titled "Jail proposal is 'most economic'". If you're so inclined you can go to the Paulding Library and look this article up or ask the Paulding Progress for a copy like I did, they were very helpful in sending me a copy and I want to publicly thank them. Ron Lane and Dave Harrow are the County officials interviewed in the article. I'm not going to go quote for quote but some of the "RED FLAGS" in this article are apparent.

Right off the bat it says that if the Jail Levy passes the county wouldn't begin collecting money until "prisoners start using a new jail." This was either a deliberate lie and the commissioners and sheriff fully intended to collect the tax right from the word go, or it was a miss quote by the paper in which case a retraction should have been printed in the paper before the election. Or maybe the county collected over \$1,100,000 that should not have been collected and the county owes the tax money back to the tax payers? There can be no other answer; it has to be one of the three. I'm hoping for a tax refund. Do you think we should hold our breaths waiting for an explanation, or will this "real issue" be ignored? Why don't some of you try and find out and then let me know what you're told.

The more I read this article the more "facts" jumped out at me. Lane said "members of the BAD viewed the AEP building with an architect and said it was the best building for rehabilitation they'd seen". This statement made me wonder if it was in fact the first building the architect had ever seen. From the best information I can find the county paid the architect firm around 100 grand for this good advice, and any other fine services they rendered.

I think BAD stands for what advice they offer, because with all of the investigating I've done I haven't found any authority BAD has to shut down a county jail. I've never seen the law, just what I've read in the papers. BAD made me do it. So excuse me if I don't believe everything I've read in the past about BAD and their power.

I suggest you read this article from the October 16th, 2002 Paulding Progress and see what you think, especially those of you who call me nuts for not believing how good and how great the deal was. I lived on the East Coast for about eight years and anytime someone from New York tried to make me a deal too good to turn down, that's exactly what I did, I turned it down.

I'll leave you with some comparisons between the Counties of Paulding and Defiance concerning sheriff's budgets.

Defiance Sheriff - 2007 \$1,497,916; 2008 \$1,538,049  
Paulding Sheriff - 2007 \$1,427,954; 2008 \$1,370,548  
The Defiance 2008 Sheriff budget is 14 percent of Defiance County's general fund, Paulding County's Sheriff budget is 34 percent of the Paulding County general fund. Paulding County also had 1.1 million dollars of a

five year operating fund that wasn't to be spent [or wasn't to be collected] until prisoners were in the new jail. According to the court house there is only \$483,623.37 left in the operating fund out of the 1.1 million dollars collected, which means that in the last half of 2007 the county and sheriff's office spent \$616,377.00 of the operating levy that was supposed to last five years.

If you add this 600 grand to the 1.4 million from the general fund, it appears the Sheriff's budget in 2007 was actually over TWO MILLION DOLLARS, a lot more than the Defiance County Sheriff's budget.

Since the Paulding Court House tells us the jail won't have enough money to operate for all of 2008 even with the \$483,623.37 left in the five year operating levy fund added to the 1.3 million from the general fund it means that the new, most affordable jail is costing us around 2 million bucks a year. How does a county like Defiance with twice as many people as Paulding get by with less money than Paulding County? How much will our most affordable jail cost us in 2010, 2015, 2020? Does anyone in county government have a clue; will it be 50%, 75%, 100% of the general fund by then?

Like you, I read how economical the new jail was going to be for the county, and how it's the fault of state regulators, or BAD, someone, anyone, other than any of our local officials who actually control the purse and make the decisions. How does that article of 2002 look now, does anyone still believe the new jail was or is the most economic?

There are roughly nineteen thousand people in Paulding County. If we can't even get our own county government's story straight on something as important as a third of the budget who are we to blame the state and federal governments when they can't. With 300 million people in the USA and 12 million in Ohio, I don't have a lot of say on what happens, but with fewer than 20 thousand in our county just a few people, just one person in fact can make a difference. So when I hear elected local officials blame the state, or the Feds, or anyone else for the fix we find ourselves in my head wants to explode like those Martians' heads did when they heard Slim's song.

So, if that's a Slim White-man song I hear playing from the court house P.A., instead

of whining, I'll be OK because I'm not from MARS, but if it is indeed whining, I'm going to grab a roll of duct tape and put a few safety wraps around my noggin. Unless you're from Mars maybe you should too.

—Brad Dysinger

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**Woodlan Scholar: A Average with no grades below a B-**

Grade 7 - Kelsey Brown, Jason Carlson, Edward Cook, Carissa Eisenmann, Robert Goldin III, Clayton Graber, Joshua Hettinger, Carly Huth, Misty McSorley, Blake Miller, Caleb Raber, Lori Renner, Hannah Robbins, Logan Smead, Rachel Sowles

Grade 8 - Rachel Biddle, Nolan Bigelow, Alyssa Chandler, Alex Emenhiser, Adelina Gomez, Brandon Hathaway, Madelynne Hostetler, Katie Knoblauch, Ashley Koomler, Alyssa Miller, Corrine Neal, Sarah Pringle, Dianne Schmucker, Austin Szilagyi, Logan VanHorn, Courtney Widdifield

**Woodlan High Honors: B+ Average with no grades below a B-**

Grade 7 - Logan Braaten, Mikiala Doster, Marena Drewery, Andrea Emenhiser, Alex Geiger, Kimberly Graber, Austin Grubaugh, Caleb Hall, Gabriel Helmke, Chelsy Hoersten, Katie Hornmann, Kari Howard, Colby Kirkwood, Justin Landis, Jaryn Malfait, Joseph McKinley, Ayrika Pier, Kyle Quaintance, Donovan Rennaker, Kylie Stocksdale, Quinn Wentz, Justice Williams, Seth Wilson

Grade 8 - Ashlee Abbott, Dakota Bowser, Caleb Clevenger, Rebecca Estell, Evan Fritz, Nathan Garstka, Austin Hammon, Brock Hines, Payton Hunt, Alyssa Knoblauch, Ryan Lengacher, Kyle Lininger, Danielle Mathys, Austin Jakob Mendenhall, Kyle Nieuwlandt, Nicholas Patterson, Caleb Perkins, Lindsey Pettyjohn, Jason Price, Shelby Reeb, Zachary Rudolph, Zachary Schwartz, Cody Waterman, Mariah Wynn, Cody Zink

**Woodlan Honors: B+ Average with no grades below a B-**

Grade 7 - Trey Delagrang, Justin Fuelling, Katie Gerardot, Jordan Hall, Jimmy Hall Jr, Dakota Hotchkiss  
Grade 8 - Jared Delagrang, Trinity Meadows, Alexis Sipe

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Auditions will be held on January 21st at 11am. Please have your own cheer, one stunt, and two jumps prepared. You will learn teamwork, dedication, and have fun making new friends! The age range is 10-18 yrs. A cheer or tumbling background is preferred but not necessary.

**Please call 419-399-3222 for more details and to reserve a spot.**

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**MASONS TO HAVE SPECIAL MEETING**

Walter T. Schilb opened Lodge last Wednesday and the pledge was given. There were 13 Past Masters in attendance and six 50-year members.

The 50-year members included Doyle Johnson, Der-rill Kline, Elmer Woodcox, Fred Shaffer, Wayne Carr, and Charles Carey. Others there were Walter Schilb, Robert Stotler Jr., Bill Metz, Scott Ruppert, Mark Leavell, Rus-sell St. John, Richard Wann, George Underwood, and Jus-tin Krohn.

Birthday cards were signed and sent to Terry Ayers Janu-ary 10, Eric Clark January 15, John Grimm January 18, Raymond Gross January 13, Gene Stauffer January 14, and Kenny Wittig January 12. A get-well card was sent to Hon-orary member RWB George Rosendaal of Bryan.

A new petition was read and a committee assigned. RWB Schilb called for a spe-cial meeting to be held on January 16 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting degree work. The Grand Secretary's Newsletter was read in open lodge.

A report was given from the Carpet Committee. Three bids were accepted and re-ferred to the committee. The lowest bid will be accepted. It is the intention of the Temple Board to completely carpet the entire lodge room. The old carpet was laid in 1980 and is showing signs of wear. Through the generous dona-tions of many members, this goal can be accomplished.

The Founder's Day Din-ner was discussed in detail. Masons in Ohio are celebrat-ing 200 years of Masonry. The 5<sup>th</sup> District is sponsoring a dinner program to be held at Northwest State Community College on January 26. Tick-ets can be purchased from WM Kline. Special speakers will be George Braatz and re-nowned Masonic song writer Howie Damron will enter-tain.

The next meeting is to-night Wednesday, January 16 at 7:00 p.m. The next stated

meeting is January 23. The new website is www.hicksvil-lemasoniclodge.blogspot.com

**NAMI OFFERS EDUCA-TIONAL COURSES FOR CAREGIVERS**

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) area will be presenting a free 12 week course for family care-givers of individuals with se-vere mental illnesses that dis-cusses the clinical treatment of these illnesses and teaches the knowledge and skills that family members need to cope more effectively.

Two Family-to-Fam-ily courses will be available in the local area. Beginning Tuesday, February 5, a course begins at the WE CARE CENTER in St. Marys. Lee and JoAnn Kuhlman are the facilitators and they may be reached at 419-753-2460. Pre-registration for the course is necessary but those attending do not have to be a member of NAMI.

The second Family-to-Family Class begins at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 28, at the BOARD OFFICE on North Street in Lima. The contact for registration and information is Nina Gib-son who may be reached at 419-225-6689 or by e-mail at ninae4@embarqmail.com. Classes fill up quickly so it is suggested that interested fam-ily members call ahead.

NAMI offers an array of peer education and training programs and services for consumers, family members, providers, and the general public. NAMI's education and support programs pro-vide relevant information, valuable insight, and the op-portunity to engage in sup-port networks.

These programs draw on the lived experience of mental health consumers and family members who have learned to live well with their illnesses and have been extensively trained to help others, as well as the expertise of mental health professionals and edu-cators.

**"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT:" SKILLS FOR TOMORROW**



**Vantage Auto Body instructor John Kenueke watches closely as senior Jonathan Young from Lincolnview applies paint to a fender using an HVLP gravity spray gun.**

At Vantage Career Center, there are nine different Trade and Industrial programs offered to high school students in the Industrial and Engi-neering Systems cluster. Here is a brief look at those pro-grams.

In the Ag Diesel Mechan-ics program, students learn the techniques for the main-tenance, service and repair of industrial diesel and agricul-tural equipment and engines. Students in Ag Diesel Me-chanics belong to the Vantage FFA Chapter.

Auto Body students learn the basic skills of collision repair and refinishing, as well as auto body and shop man-agement skills. Performing repairs to plastic and fiber-glass components are unique skills of this trade.

The two-year Auto Tech-nology program provides hands-on experience in the areas of hydraulic brake sys-tems, automotive engines and suspension systems. Students learn the skills required to inspect, repair and adjust ve-hicles.

In the Precision Machin-ing Technology program, students learn to operate and use lathes, grinders, mills and computer numerical controlled (CNC) machines to shape metal into useable tools and parts. Blueprint read-ing, computer aided drafting (CAD) and manufacturing processes are emphasized throughout the program. Using a Dimension 3D printer and Solidworks software, perfect working models can be printed in tough, durable ABS plastic.

The Vantage Welding pro-gram is a nationally recog-nized AWS (American Weld-ing Society) training and testing facility. Students have the opportunity to earn in-dustry certifications in plate and pipe welding. This pro-gram has earned the National Exemplary designation in car-reer technical education.

Industrial Mechanics stu-dents learn how to perform preventive and corrective maintenance and the set up and adjustment of plant ma-chinery. Students learn the basics of welding, electricity,

machining, metal fabrication, residential and industrial plumbing, heating and air conditioning.

The Electricity program provides entry-level train-ing ranging from residential wiring to industrial electrical applications. Students learn how to install, maintain and troubleshoot a variety of elec-trical systems, including the installation of coaxial or fiber optic cable for computers and other telecommunications equipment. Seniors also use their residential wiring skills to wire the Vantage Carpen-try House project each year.

In the Building and Grounds Maintenance pro-gram, students are introduced to a wide variety of skills necessary to keep buildings and their surrounding areas in good condition. Students learn basic plumbing, instal-lation of concrete and mason-ry walls, landscaping, paint-ing and light carpentry skills. This year, they are using their skills to complete the renova-tion of an existing home.

Build a house while still in high school? That's just what Vantage senior Carpentry students do. Carpentry stu-dents learn the skills required for residential construction, including blueprint-reading, computerized house design, framing, roofing, drywall, cabinetry, stairs and outside finish work. Junior carpentry students follow precise speci-fications and use 3D Cabi-netware software to build custom cabinets for the house project.

If you're interested in finding out about career op-portunities in any of these fields or have questions about the trade and industrial pro-grams at Vantage, please call Tom Mershman, Student Ser-vices Supervisor at 419-238-5411 ext. 140 or email him at mershman.t@vantagecareer-center.com.

Mark your calendars now for the annual Vantage Open House and Scholarship Din-ner, which will be held on Monday, February 11, 2008 from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Visit the labs, meet the teachers and see what's new at Vantage. Don't miss it!

**LEGISLATURE HAS MUCH TO ACCOMPLISH IN 2008**

**Capitol Letters weekly column by: Senator Steve Buehrer**

The coming year is shap-ing-up to be a historic one for the country and this state. As we have seen in the craziness surrounding the early prima-ries in Iowa and New Hamp-shire, the Presidential election is already in full-swing, and in no time at all, Ohio will once again be at the center of this important contest. There are also several key seats up in Congress, as well as big races in the Ohio House and Senate and at the local level that are sure to have a significant im-pact on the lives of Ohioans.

While campaign season can be an exciting and dem-anding time, it is important that those of us already in of-fice not get too caught up in the election fervor and lose sight of our primary respon-sibility—looking out for the best interest of our district and the people we represent. This is particularly true in the 127<sup>th</sup> General Assembly where my colleagues and I still have much to accomplish in 2008.

As part of a larger goal to position Ohio's economy for growth and long-term suc-cess, the Legislature spent a great deal of time in 2007 crafting legislation designed not only to attract business investment to the state, but enhance educational oppor-tunities for our workforce in an effort to spur research and innovation and bring jobs to our local communities. This economic effort could receive a significant boost in the com-ing months through passage of the state capital budget.

The capital budget—which provides important fund-ing every two years for in-frastructure projects across the state by issuing bonds as opposed to using current tax revenues—has traditionally included money for upgrades to Ohio's primary, secondary and higher education facili-ties; financial support for lo-cal governments to improve roads, bridges and water supply systems; and other valuable dollars for research and economic development projects. For instance, the state's most recent capital budget measure in 2006 dedi-cated \$700 million to support renovation efforts at elemen-tary, middle and high school buildings around the state, as well as more than \$526 million for facility improve-ments at Ohio's colleges and universities. The state needs these tangible investments to

ensure our local communities have the infrastructure and workforce necessary to sup-port the growth and expan-sion of new industries.

In October, the Senate passed Senate Bill 221, a com-prehensive state energy pro-posal that seeks to make util-ity rates more predictable for consumers and businesses, while helping to jump-start the budding alternative en-ergy industry in Ohio. The House is currently having hearings on the bill. Like the capital budget, SB 221 could provide a tremendous boost to our economy, and I will continue to closely monitor its progress.

I have also introduced several bills that I hope to see move forward in the coming weeks. Senate Bill 184 would make needed reforms to Ohio's self-defense law to give Ohioans greater tools to pro-tect themselves, their homes and their families against the threat of violent perpetrators. It is modeled after the "Castle Doctrine" which has been passed in several other states. In addition, I introduced Sen-ate Bill 174 which would ban the unethical practice of hu-man cloning in Ohio.

In an effort to protect the honor and reputation of Ohio's military men and women, in December, I intro-duced Senate Bill 263, legisla-tion that would prohibit the unauthorized use of a fallen soldier's persona for a com-mercial purpose. The bill was inspired by similar efforts in a handful of other states, fol-lowing pleas from military families upset that their loved ones' names and photos were being used to make a profit on T-shirts, phone cards and other products.

These are just some of the many things the General As-sembly could tackle over the next year. And, good or bad, we are bound to see a number of new issues pop-up along the way. However, whatever hap-pens, I look forward to repre-senting the 1<sup>st</sup> Senate District for another year and will con-tinue to work to improve our economy, reduce the financial burden on Ohio families and uphold the strong principles of our region.

I encourage all residents of the 1<sup>st</sup> Senate District to con-tact me with any questions, thoughts or concerns, or if you need assistance working with a state government agen-cy. You can write me, Senator Steve Buehrer, Ohio Senate, Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio, 43215, or contact me by phone at (614) 466-8150.

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 • Bowl four games across eight lanes  
 • 9 pins counts as a strike  
 • Bowlers may participate as many times as he/she likes but may only cash once

## GEOGRAPHY BEE COMES TO PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS



The winners of the 2007-08 Geography Bee: Devon Stahl, runner up and Austin Miller, winner.

Students from Oakwood Elementary, Paulding Elementary, and Paulding Middle School competed in the National Geographic Bee finals on January 8, 2008. Austin Miller, the first place winner, will advance to the next level of competition, a written examination. Devon Stahl was the first runner-up. Fourth graders competing in

the finals were Kasandra Cogswell and Drayson Wenzlick. Fifth graders were Kathryn Clapsaddle and Jacob Dingus. Representing sixth grade were Justin Carnahan and Sierra McCullough. Austin Miller was the winner from seventh grade. Eighth graders were Eric Adams, Jessica Farr, Jessica Harpel, and Devon Stahl, runner-up.

## ANTWERP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HOLDS SPELLING BEE

The Antwerp Spelling Bee for fifth and sixth graders was held on January 8 in the school auditoria.

The winning speller was sixth grader Nathan Hawley, the son of Doris and Robert Hawley.

The runner up for the competition was sixth grader Derek Smalley, the son of Kathy and Joe Smalley.

The winning word was "juggernaut".

These young men will proceed onto the County wide spelling bee.

## SPELLING BEE WINNERS FROM PAULDING MIDDLE SCHOOL

Paulding Middle Schoolers recently took part in their school Spelling Bee.

Coming on top of the bunch with the winning word of "macadamia", was eighth grader Audra Phlipot, the daughter of Lisa and James Phlipot. The runner up, who missed the word "elixir" was sixth grader Sierra McCullough. She is the daughter of Julie and James Mc-

## PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sheriff Dave Harrow informed Commissioners of damage to one of the county cruisers due to a deer accident. The cost for the damage was below the county insurance deductible and would be repaired soon. The new additional sex offender notification required by the State will cause resources committed elsewhere to be used to meet this mandate. When asked if the State will reimburse the County for this additional expense, the Sheriff indicated that no funds would be coming from the State. The Commissioner and the Sheriff agree the public needs to be informed about this issue. If the State wishes to expand any existing program, then money should be made available to finance the expansion.

If you are a registered voter, you should have received a postcard informing you of I.D. being required to vote, election dates, and some other miscellaneous items. What you may not know is that this was a mandate from the Federal Help America Vote Act. This one mailing cost the County (you) over \$3,800.00 in postage alone. The Election Board is required to send another one out this fall for the General Election for a total cost of over \$7,600.00 just in postage. This cost doesn't include the employee time or the postage required for a second notice for the large stack of those that came back from the post office because of address changes, etc. This cost is not reimbursed for this mandate. While Congressman Bob Latta was in Paulding County, Commissioners asked him to review the mandate. The information on the postcard is readily assessable at a number of locations. If you need to know an election is coming up, all you need to do is play your answering machine, it will have all the candidates' messages asking for you to vote for them.

County Auditor Susan Simpson informed Commissioners that the new Homestead Property Tax Exemption for senior citizens and permanently disabled has been well received. There are currently 1525 households taking advantage of this tax reduction. The saving to this population as a result of this benefit totals \$275,883.00. The loss to the county, school districts, villages, and townships is to be reimbursed by the State of Ohio. Susan said that if you think you may

qualify and have not signed up, please contact the Auditor's office for help.

Corey Walker, Director of the County Department of Job and Family Services, updated Commissioners on current operations. The portion of Workforce Investment Act that is contracted with Vantage Vocational School is moving to Dooley Drive. They were previously located in the old Dr. Pritchard office along with the Ace Academy. This will make more needed space available in the Dr. Pritchard building for the Ace Academy. Vantage works with the local unemployed in the county to fill job openings. They also provide training and education to make those currently unemployed more marketable for the job market.

Tony Langham from the Economic Development office informed the Commissioner that the Revolving Loan Fund account for Ed's Car Care is complete. Ed's Car Care is located next to the Car Wash on the north side of the Village of Paulding. Tony updated the Commissioners about the Dana Weatherhead building in Antwerp. The building has been purchased by Kirk Hopkins and he is currently working on the structure in preparation of tenets. Dana had previously intended to demolish the building to eliminate expenses. Commissioners wanted to thank Mr. Hopkins for investing in the area and saving the building from the wrecking ball.

The Ohio Department of Transportation sent a letter to the Commissioners stating that it is their intention to abandon the old US 24 to the County when the new US 24 is completed. The term abandonment in this case means that the state route or US 24 designation will be removed and the maintenance responsibilities of the roadway will become the responsibility of the local jurisdiction. In short, it will become a county road.

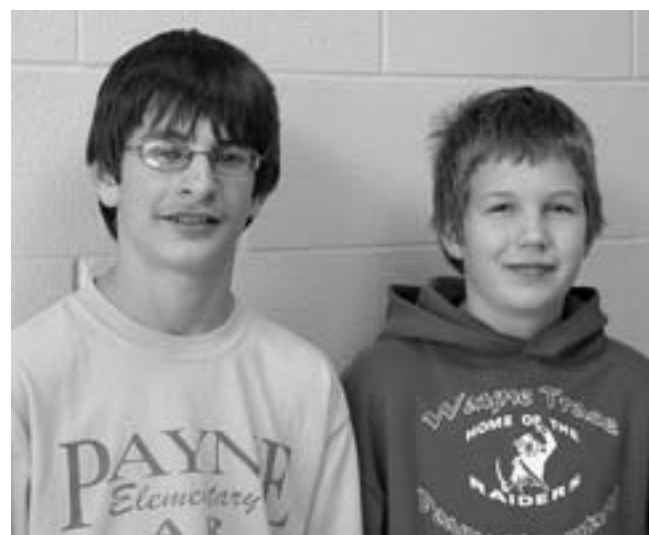
## BUEHRER ECHOES FULTON COUNTY OFFICIALS IN OPPOSING CHANGES TO THE STATE'S VOTING SYSTEM

COLUMBUS—Local officials from Fulton County announced that they will not comply with Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner's proposed changes to Ohio's current voting system. Shortly thereafter, State Senator Steve Buehrer (R-Delta) voiced his support for the decision, expressing his own concerns with the Secretary of State's report. All of the following can be attributed to Sen. Buehrer:

"I continue to hear from election professionals in my district that Secretary Brunner's proposed changes to our voting system pose more risks than benefits. In Fulton County alone, the cost of this last minute policy whipsaw by the Secretary of State could cost more than \$100,000 in taxpayer money. Any change that may be necessary to improve the voting systems of our state must be done in a more deliberative manner with an eye toward the tax dollars that have just been spent across Ohio to meet this goal.

"Having witnessed over the last few years all the effort, research and thought that went into developing our current voting system after the election problems in 2000, I see

## WAYNE TRACE GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNERS

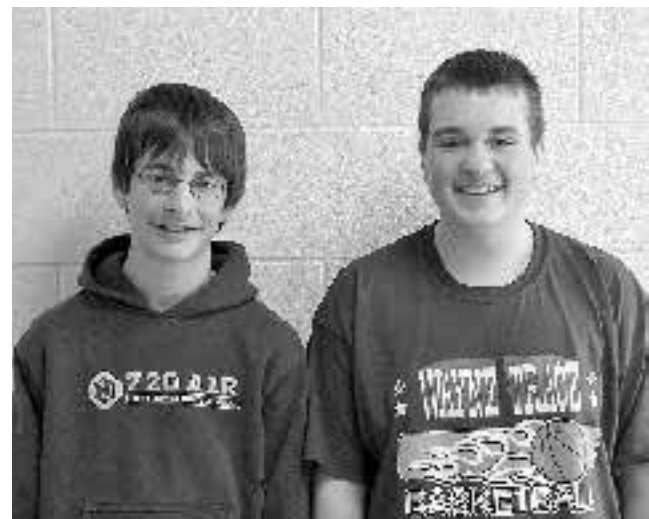


Pictured (l-r) are Zach Moore, winner, and Systa Akkerman, runner-up

Prior to Christmas Break the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader students participated in the National Geographic Geography Bee. Students were asked questions about states, geography of the states, U.S. cities, continents and cultural geography. The winner of this year's

competition was Zach Moore. Zack is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student and the son of William and Shandonn Moore. This year's runner up was another 7<sup>th</sup> grade student, Systa Akkerman. Systa is the son of Douwe and Antje Akkermann.

## SPELLING BEE WINNERS FROM WAYNE TRACE JR. HIGH



Pictured (l-r) are Zach Moore, runner-up, and Austin Scheiner, winner.

On Thursday, December 20th the Wayne Trace Jr. High School students participated in the Journal Gazette Spelling Bee. This year's winner is Austin Scheiner, the son

of George and Beth Scheiner. Runner-up this year goes to Zach Moore, son of William and Shandonn Moore. Congratulations to both young men.

this directive as an expensive and rushed governmental flip flop. I question the feasibility of the Secretary of State's desire to see this system working by the primaries, which are just weeks away. However,

I am dedicated to working with her and with local officials to ensure the right of a secure vote and to maintain the integrity of our voting system."

Cullough.

These two outstanding students will proceed to the county bee which will take place at a later date.

## GMC QUIZ BOWL SCORE - JANUARY 10, 2008

These are the results from the area GMC Quiz Bowl Meets that took place on Thursday, January 10.

At Ayersville - Tinora 29, Ayersville 22; Tinora 27, Ayersville 22

At Wayne Trace - Antwerp 40, Wayne Trace 16; Antwerp 34, Wayne Trace 11

At Hicksville - Hicksville 37, Holgate 15; Hicksville 33, Holgate 22

At Edgerton - Fairview 26, Edgerton 13; Fairview 28, Edgerton 22

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**VILLAGE OF PAULDING  
DECEMBER COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Paulding Village Council met in Regular Session on December 17, 2007, 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: Randy Daeger, Roger Sierer, Ronnie Breedlove, Barb Rife, Sam Jeffery, and Kim Sutton. Administrator Wiebe and Solicitor Jones were also present.

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

Ordinance 1368-07 re: An Ordinance Amending and Increasing Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village

of Paulding, Ohio, during the Year Ending December 31, 2007, was read for the third time. Breedlove motioned to approve the legislation, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Ordinance 1369-07 re: An Ordinance to make Permanent Appropriations for Current Expenses and Other Expenditures of the Village of Paulding, State of Ohio, during the Year Ending December 31, 2008, was read for the third time. Rife motioned to approve the legislation, seconded by Jeffery. Vote: all yea.

Resolution 1209-07 re: Authorizing the Purchase of Supplies for the Year 2008, was read for the third time. Rife motioned to approve the legislation, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Jeff Hunt of The Stake Company was present to dis-

(Continued to Page 12)

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**FOR SALE:** Nice 3 Br. home on large lot. Slider door to wood deck. C/A and 1 car detached garage. Washer/dryer included. Call 419-258-2261. 2-3p

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

**WHISPERING PINES APT. Complex in Paulding. Now available, 2 bedroom apt. Includes: stove, refrigerator, w/d hook up, cable TV & trash pick up. Call 419-399-2419, 8am-4pm, Mon-Fri. After 4pm, call 419-576-8117 or 419-399-3441. 2-3**

**WANTING TO BUY STRAW.** 419-258-4441. p

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

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

**SHIH-TZU PUPPIES FOR sale.** 4 female and 1 male. \$250.00. Call 419-622-3540 or leave message. Multi-colored. p

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**FOR SALE: 1998 FORD TAURUS.** 69,600 miles, power, air, V6. \$3000. Call 419-258-2022. 2-3p

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**DEADLINES FOR CLASSIFIEDS IN THE WEST BEND NEWS IS MONDAYS @12 NOON!**

about one of these issues. They come in and tells us what they do. Every month it is a different person.

I have only been in it since the first Sunday of December 2007. I enjoy it a lot even though I have not been in it very long.

It is open for kids in Paulding County ages 12-19. Contact the Sheriff's office if you are interested. If you join, trust me, you won't regret it.



**EXPLORERS**

**By: Tommi Stahl**

What is Explorers, you may ask? Explorers is a program held at the Paulding County Sheriff's office. Kids have a meeting once a month, and we talk about drugs, alcohol, and jail. When we talk about these things we explain why they are all bad for you.

Each month we have a speaker come in and talk

**Hickory Creek at Hicksville, a Charitable Non-Profit Nursing Home, is currently seeking candidates for Director of Nursing. Qualified candidates must possess a current RN license in the state of Ohio. Interested candidates please submit resume to Laura Albright, Administrator**

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**GARY E. SMIDDY RUNNING FOR DEFIANCE COUNTY SHERIFF**



Gary Smiddy plans to run against the current Defiance County Sheriff who has held the position for nearly 25 years. He feels that it is his duty and calling and it would be a great privilege and honor to represent you as the new voice of democracy.

He declares that if he is elected he will abide by the principles he emancipated by the Democratic Party as he plans to operate the Defiance County Sheriff's Office fairly and justly for all through the facilitation of leadership by organizing and coordinating resources as he is committed with a guiding vision and purpose through the influence of inspiration by encouraging all others to do the same, which is opposite of intimidation and is absent of manipulation.

Gary was born and raised in Defiance, Ohio. His wife, Kristen, of 10½ years, is a kindergarten teacher at Slocum Elementary for Defiance City Schools. They have three daughters: Elyse 9, Katie, 7 and Audrey, 3, and a son, Garyson, 11 months.

He is a 1990 graduate of Defiance High School. He then went on to Bluffton College and graduated in 1994 with a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Criminal Justice. He is a 1996 graduate of (CJTEC) Criminal Justice

Training and Education Center, Toledo and received his Ohio Police Officer's Training Academy Certification. In 2000 he went back to school and enrolled in the teaching program at Bowling Green State University. He successfully completed his Student Teaching at Napoleon Middle School as well as his student teaching block core courses for the certification as an instructor for Integrated Social Studies (grades 7-12) in 2002. Multiple certifications through OPOTA with continuing and ongoing updated training that is updated accordingly.

Gary's criminal justice career began in 1994 as a college Intern with the U.S. Secret Service in Toledo.

In the Spring of 1995 he began employment with the Defiance County Juvenile Probation Department as service work crew supervisor and was eventually promoted to the position of Juvenile Probation officer where he remained until the Fall of 1996. He then worked from 1996-2000 for the Defiance County Sheriff's Office and then again from 2002 - 2007 as Road Deputy, Dive Team Member and School Training Safety Belt Instructor. He coached football at the Defiance High School for seasons 2000-2001. He has also been a substitute teacher for Defiance City/County Schools as well as other county schools in all grade levels and subjects. He recently received his certification from the Ohio Attorney General's Office as a special subject instructor for the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy.

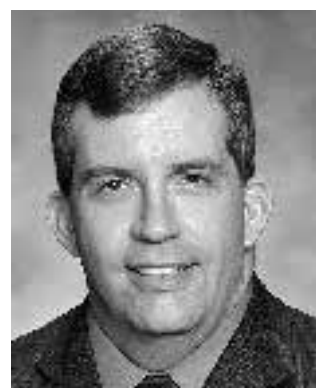
He has volunteered with Defiance County Schools and Youth Sports, Red Cross, FEMA, Neighborhood Block Watch Programs and church functions.

He is currently working part-time as a patrolman for the Antwerp Police Depart-

ment and is a full-time home-maker (Mr. Mom) as he is ready to run an exciting campaign for Defiance County Sheriff.

If you have any questions you may call him at 419-576-9182 or you may visit him on his website at smiddyforsheriff.com, which should be up and running within the next three weeks.

**ZARTMAN ANNOUNCES CANDIDACY**



Tony Zartman has filed his petition to run for the County Commissioner seat that will be left vacant by Commissioner Marty Harman. He will be running on the Republican ticket in the March 4th Primary Election.

Tony is a life long resident of Paulding County. He is a graduate of Wayne Trace High School and earned his American Farmer Degree shortly thereafter. He has been in business for himself for over 22 years. He farmed for 20 years and has been in construction for the past seven years, with five of those years overlapping. He currently owns TAZ Construction Services LLC. His company currently has two employees with customers all over Paulding and Van Wert counties.

Community service has been an important part of Tony's life. He served two years on the Friends of the Payne Branch Library Board before joining the Paulding County Senior Fair Board. He has served on the Fair Board for five years, the last two as President and Vice President before that.

A priority of his is his service to Jesus Christ. He is an elder and Sunday School teacher at the Payne Church of Christ where he and his family are members. His wife of 22 years, Angie, is an RN at the Paulding County Hospital. They have four children: Christopher, Travis, Jeremy and Kelly. Christopher is currently serving our country in the U.S. Navy studying to be a Nuclear Engineer. The other three are students at Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High.

When asked what he could do for our County he said, "I understand the crisis our County is in and I believe that communication is key. Communication between all parts of local government and the public are vital if we want to overcome this. With my extensive business background and conservative values, I feel I would be able to make the decisions this County needs. With my experience on the Fair Board, I know of the limits the State Government puts on Local Governments. I've worked first hand with the Commissioners to resolve issues concerning the Fair. I also learned that I truly like to work with the public. I am very proud to say that I am a Paulding County Native and I want the next generation to be able to say the same!

(Continued from Page 11)

discuss the noise ordinance. He noted he had yet to receive results of the Village's decibel study as referenced in the minutes of the October 1st and 15th's minutes. Mayor White informed Mr. Hunt that Council had no comment regarding the issue at the present time since the matter has been sent to County Court. Mr. Hunt proceeded to question why his landlord had received a summons to County Court when he, as the business owner, has received all previous correspondence. He also informed Council of President Daeger's inappropriate conduct at his shop in September. He noted he has contacted the Ohio Ethics Commission regarding the issue. Mr. Hunt then relayed his disappointment that the issue has escalated to this point.

Wiebe presented the Administrator's Agenda to Council requesting authorization to assess a residence owned by Allen R. Richards (12658 Dennis St.) for water, sewer, and refuse. Rife motioned to approve the Administrator's Agenda, seconded by Daeger. Vote: all yea.

Mike Winners, Water Plant Superintendent, was present to discuss the Raw Water Valve project that began today. Winners noted the raw water valve allows water from the reservoir to enter into the water plant. He informed Council the water plant operators began filling the water towers around 4:00 a.m. this morning to ensure a noon start time. Winners anticipated the project to be completed by 8:00 a.m. on December 18th. He also relayed they have experienced electrical problems with the wiring of the chemical flow feed control panel, but have contacted Schweller Electric for their assistance.

Breedlove and the Mayor both reminded the public that motorized vehicles are prohibited on Village property and streets. Breedlove noted a four-wheeler(s) has vandalized the ball fields at Reservoir Park causing considerable damage, and Mayor White indicated the Ohio Revised Code prohibits snowmobiles from Village roadways.

Sierer inquired of the water levels in the towers from Winners. Winners noted he is confident that when the altitude valve is set properly the problem will disappear. He also informed Council that the lift-station project is expected to be completed mid-April.

Daeger motioned for Council to move into Executive Session for legal and personnel matters, seconded by Breedlove. Vote: all yea. Council returned to Regular Session.

Rife motioned to approve entering into a 2-year depository agreement with First Financial Bank, seconded by Breedlove. Vote: all yea.

The following Committee meetings were scheduled: Ordinance Committee - Thursday, December 27th at 5:00 p.m.

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

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

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

**SANDY BURKLEY RETIRES FROM PCH**



Sandy Burkley, R.N. recently retired from Paulding County Hospital after 30 years of service. Hospital administration presented her with a gift certificate in appreciation for her service.

Pictured are: (l-r) Gary Adkins, Chief Operating Officer; Sandy Burkley; Rob Goshia, Chief Financial Officer; and Randy Ruge, Chief Operating Officer.

**GLEANER'S OAKWOOD ARBOR #759 NEWS**



Ruth Benien honoring Bill and Phylis Bidlack for their outstanding volunteer work.

The January meeting was held at the Twin Oaks Church with 15 present. Kevin Hornish, vice president opened with the pledge and Bill Bidlack had the prayer. Minutes were read by Bonnie Pier, assistant secretary-treasurer. Our group donated to the Brown Betty and Buster Brown 4-H club and the Jr. Leaders 4-H club. They were represented by Jerolyn, Justin, Cole, and Madison Paret and Cody Bradford, Krisi Williams and Audry Nice. Each advisor told about their club and their activities.

Ruth Benien our office representative honored Bill and Phylis Bidlack for the their many hours of volunteer work by giving them pins and certificates. A donation was made for the Gleaner scholarship fund.

New projects is to work with the Friends of the Felines

Rescue Center to be chaired by Kevin. We want to work with the Auglaize Food Bank. We have chosen the Charloe Park for 2008 Samaritan Beneficiary. John Pier gave us a report of the progress of the legal matters on this project. We would like to see a new shelter house put up there.

Ruth Benien gave us an update from the home office and upcoming Sno-bird picnic to be held on March 2 in Florida. Our next meeting will be February 7 at the Hawthorn Court nursing home to play bingo. The Jr. Leaders will help and Mary Lou Lloyd will get the prizes. A short meeting will follow. The time is 6:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned. Bonnie had the refreshments. Good fellowship.

—submitted by Bonnie Pier, Assistant secretary-treasurer

**DQ**  
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