

SEVERE FLOODING HITS PAULDING COUNTY

By: Sue Knapp
Northwest Ohio & Northeast Indiana has been hit again with rain. It was said that the amount of water we received was comparable to the 1913 flood. The Maumee River has extended itself almost double in some places.

Parts of the Paulding School was flooded and was closed for several days. Wa-

ter stood almost to the bottom of bridges and a section on Rd. 111 had a lot of water in yards. One property owner had water up to his foundation and had to pump water into the field to keep it from entering his house.

Pictures of Oakwood, Paulding and Antwerp area were taken. You may get on the newspaper's website to see them all.

(Continued on Page 2)



Flooding wasn't limited to just a small area. Paulding, shown here, had large stretches of streets blocked by water. Jay Watson was appreciative of SP Miller Excavating for helping place sandbags around his home. Photo by Jay. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

WOODBURN LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWS AND HONOR ROLL



Pictured above, left to right, are the four coaches, R.J. Warnock, Joyce Nahrwold, Roger Meyer and Dean Gerbers, and their respective teams after the last session of the Woodburn Youth Basketball League, held at Woodburn Lutheran School. The teams met on Wednesdays for five sessions before Thanksgiving and five sessions January 2-30, giving 6-8 year old children the opportunity to learn basketball basics for ½ hour each session, with the other ½ hour spent play-

ing a game. Each participant received a t-shirt and a new basketball.

With the Chapel offerings collected in December and January, WLS was able to send \$275.00 to Lutheran World Relief. The February and March Chapel offerings are designated for Camp Lutherhaven. A representative from Camp Lutherhaven will lead the March 5 Chapel service during National Lutheran Schools Week.

Grade cards were sent
(Continued on Page 3)

PC SPELLING BEE WINNERS



The Paulding County Spelling Bee took place Feb. 11 at Oakwood Elementary. The top children from around the county came together to compete for the championship. 1st place (left) was Blair Baumble of W.T. Payne Elementary; Runner-up was Austin Scheiner of W.T. Jr. High. The winning word was "quiche". Congratulations to all the kids, they did a great job! The awards were sponsored by Antwerp Exchange Bank. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

Happy Valentine's

VALENTINE'S DAY ADVICE FOR YOUNG COUPLES

By: Sue Knapp

When you read the different newspapers you will notice that some of them record the news from the courthouse. You will also notice that there seems to be more divorces than marriages. Why is that? What happened to loyalty and commitment? Is it that the 'grass looks greener on the other side of the fence'? The bad thing about that is the 'grass' is usually the same on the both sides of the fence.

I don't think you should put up with abuse or adultery

or anything that might put your child in danger, but there are times when none of that exists.

I can't imagine looking for anyone else. For one thing it's taken me over 40 years to break Steve in and he's still trying to break me in. The dating thing was horrible. I like it now when you can put your nightgown on at 6:00 and just

(Continued on Page 6)

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OBITUARIES

Rosella Jean Bice, 70, of Hicksville died on Saturday, February 9 at Hickory Creek of Hicksville.

She was born on September 27, 1937 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana the daughter of Glenn and Myrtle (Beam) Dunlap.

She was a graduate of Central High School in Ft. Wayne.

She married Joseph Bice who preceded her in death and Whitey Schooley who preceded her in death.

She worked at Fountain Manor Nursing Home (Hickory Creek) in housekeeping for many years and was a janitor at First Church of Christ - Hicksville where she also was a member.

She enjoyed camping, crocheting, quilting and canning.

She is survived by five daughters: Paula (Larry) Damron of Defiance; Kerry (Rick) Sailer and Pam (Jeff) Greenwalt both of Hicksville; Melody "Poochie" (Greg) Randal of Lagrange, IN; Kathy (Cary) Mallett of Sherwood; three sons: Melvin (Twyla) Bice of Bluffton, IN; Glen (Kelly) Bice of Hicksville; Jake (Trisha) Schooley of Hicksville; a brother, Loren of Ft. Wayne, IN; 28 grandchildren; and 23 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two sisters: Doris Guy and "Mike" Paulas; a brother, Bud; and a granddaughter, Haley Greenwalt.

Funeral services will be on Thursday, February 14 at 11:00 a.m. at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville with Ken Wellman officiating. Visitation will be on Wednesday from 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home.

Burial will be at Six Corners Cemetery, Hicksville.

Memorials may be made to The First Church of Christ.

Ellen R. Sailer, 69, of Hicksville died February 8, 2008 at Hickory Creek of Hicksville.

Ellen was born September 29, 1938 the daughter of Rollie

and Valene (Caryer) Sailer.

She was a 1954 graduate of Mark Center High School and a member of Mark Center United Methodist Church.

She is survived by three brothers: Bud (Joan) Sailer of Sherwood and Kenny (Margaret) and Bob (Mary) of Hicksville; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister-in-law Dorothy.

The funeral service will be at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville on Wednesday, February 13 at 10:00 a.m. with Rev. Tom Graves officiating.

Burial will be in Rochester Cemetery, Cecil.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mark Center United Methodist Church.

Leota Brandenburg, 92, of Antwerp, passed away Wednesday, February 6, 2008 at Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Hicksville, Ohio.

Leota was born in Knox, Ohio on October 12, 1915, the daughter of the late Hary and Edythe (Ewing) Miller.

She was a homemaker, a member of the Antwerp United Methodist Church and the Royal Neighbors of America.

On December 14, 1933 she married Vadis Brandenburg. He died August 9, 1970.

She will be sadly missed by her son and daughter-in-law, Clair and Carol of Antwerp; nine grandchildren; 19 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death are her daughter and son-in-law, Daisy and Herman Stout; sisters: Ellen Fillmore and Lucretia Noll; and brothers: Lavon, Leon and Carey Miller.

Graveside services were held February 9 at Maumee Cemetery, County Road 43, Antwerp.

Arrangements by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp & Payne, Ohio.

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

Anna L. Green, 73, of

Hicksville died Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at Community Memorial Hospital in Hicksville.

Anna was born December 17, 1934 at Irvine, Kentucky. She was the daughter of Charles Edward and Tinnie (Goosey) Dugan.

On October 6, 1954 she was united in marriage to Rondal Green. He preceded her in death in 2004.

She was employed at Dietrich Industries - Hicksville for (27) years until her retirement in 1996.

She enjoyed camping and her family.

Anna is survived by two sons: Gary (Vicki) and Charles (Jeannie) both of Hicksville; two daughters: Darlene Kittle of Hicksville and Rhonda Boggs of Van Wert; eight grandchildren: Katie, Janice, Wesley, Zachary and Taylor Green, Beth Henderson, Amanda Bherns and Jamie Bond; seven great-grandchildren: Bryceton, Jordan, Gracie and Gabby Henderson, Kierstyn and Dominique Bherns and Trista Bond.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband; an infant son; and three sisters.

The funeral service was at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville on Saturday, February 9.

Burial was at Forest Home Cemetery, Hicksville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association.

THANK YOU

It is with grateful hearts that we say, "Thank you."

We were blessed by so many of you: remembering us in prayers, with cards, visits and food. While our family was our main physical support, prayer was our emotional support. While Harold was at Parkview Hospital in Fort Wayne from December 23 to January 18 and still recuperation at home. We have received over 90 cards and there is no way to count the sustaining prayers on our behalf. There is not enough paper on which to write the proper Thank You.

Special "Thanks" go to my cardiologist Dr. Presti, to my surgeons Dr. Sowden and Desmon and to our pastor Rev. Ben Lowell for his many visits.

It is times such as these that cause us to really know that everything we have comes from God; every breath, every heart beat, and each bit of rest.

We rest in this scripture, "And Jesus put forth His hand, and touched him." Matthew 8:3 KJV, for we truly believe this is so.

—Harold and Sandra Wann p

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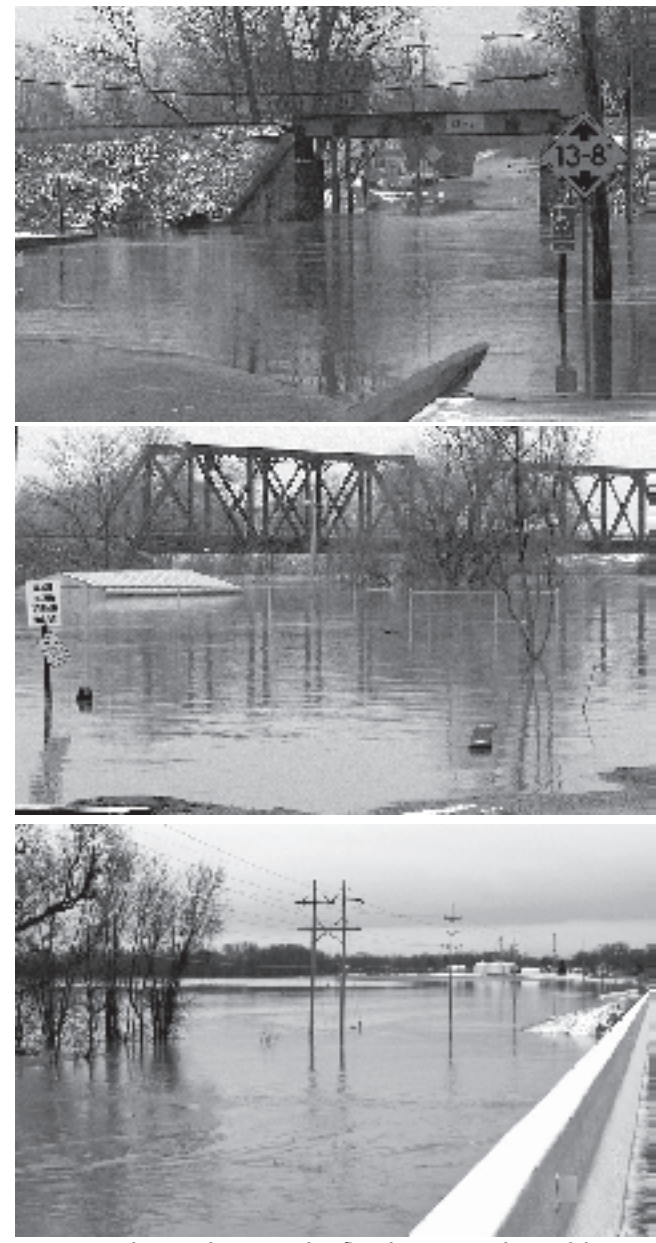
It seems that we are getting more rain than snow in the winters. I remember snow piled up when I would go Trick or Treating as a little girl. What's going on? I guess global warming. This winter has brought extreme weather all over the world causing chaos, inconvenience and damage. No one knows anymore what the weather will bring. Even forecasters with all their up to date equipment don't really know. I guess we just have to say we are not in charge and we just deal with

what comes.

Joshua Steiner, our resident forecaster, reports on the storm damage and flooding: Tuesday night a long line of strong to severe thunderstorms hit the southern midwest very hard with forty tornadoes, in which the strongest of these was an EF-4 tornado. This tornado hit Jackson, Tennessee. After the storm they couldn't tell what was on the concrete slabs. There was a reported 59 deaths in this line of supercell thunderstorms. Most of these tornadoes have not been rated yet by the National Weather Service. This line of thunderstorms was formed by a large slow-moving upper air trough which allowed at least two days for warm moist air to head north off the Gulf of Mexico. That allowed instability to reach all the way to the northern Ohio Valley and the southern Great Lakes region.

Usually in February, there is a shorter duration of this return flow before thunderstorms are triggered, confining tornadoes to the Dixie Alley—the row of states along the Gulf coast. Finally, on Tuesday evening, a smaller disturbance within the trough charged east and triggered the tornado outbreak which continued until Wednesday morning. Up in Antwerp, OH, very early Tuesday morning, there was a very heavy thunderstorm in progress, in which we had two to three inches of rain which lead to widespread flooding in the area. As Tuesday progressed, bands of heavy rain and thunderstorms formed to the west of us. Around 5:00 p.m. the rain started and continued on until Wednesday morning. A slight break happened for a half hour and then continued again until it changed over to snow. The rivers were already high and this new precipitation caused major floods to be forecasted along with ice jams.

There you have it folks, the winter of 2007-2008 is almost gone, soon we'll be planting flowers, the farmers will be in the fields and our air conditioners will be turned on. Life goes on.



Top two photos showing the flooding in Oakwood by Sue Brown. That's twice in 6 months! The bottom photo shows Snook's Bottom north of Antwerp when it becomes a lake. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

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According to one study published in the Journal of Pain Management, up to 86% of those treated with this technology had significant improvement. Studies have shown excellent long-term effectiveness from this treatment.

For information call 419-232-3322. Hughes Chiropractic offers a no charge, no obligation consultation and MRI review, to find out if you qualify for treatment.

Advertorial

IT WILL BE DIFFERENT FOR ME

By: Pastor Joel DeSelm, Woodburn Missionary Church

In *A View From the Zoo*, Gary Richmond, a former zoo keeper, tells about an experience a friend had with a raccoon. He explains that raccoons go through a glandular change at about 24 months. After that, they no longer are cute and cuddly but become vicious and mean. They often attack their owners.

A 30-pound raccoon can be equal to a 100-pound dog in a fight. Richmond felt compelled to warn his young friend, Julie, of the change coming to her pet raccoon.

She listened politely as he explained the coming danger. She responded by saying what people usually say, "It will be different for me..." She smiled as she added, "Bandit wouldn't hurt me. He just wouldn't."

Three months later Julie underwent plastic surgery for facial lacerations sustained when Bandit attacked her for no apparent reason.

"It will be different for me..." That statement echoed through my soul as I read that story. Those six

words seem to be the hallmark of people today. "It may happen to others, but I will be the exception."

Does any young person who begins drinking ever expect to be an alcoholic? Does any individual who begins experimenting with drugs ever expect to get hooked? Does any married person who becomes involved in an extra-marital affair ever look down the road to see the destruction he or she is bringing to other people involved?

"It will be different with me..." But it never is. The Bible says the wages of sin is death. When we violate a biblical command, death will occur. Death to our integrity. Death to our reputation. Death in our relationships. Death in our capacity to commune with God.

"It will be different for me..." Really? The scripture tells us in Galatians 6 that God is not mocked. As a man sows, so will he reap.

All of us at points in our life think we can beat the system. We think that we can dabble in questionable areas or allow questionable patterns to develop in our lives without fallout taking place.

"It will be different for

me..." Uh huh. I wonder how many pet raccoons we enjoy in our own lives that seem so innocent and harmless—with little thought given to their destructive powers and long term consequences?

And yet, how hard it is for us to really believe these "raccoons" will hurt us. WE think we know best. We think we're in control. We think that we can handle it. But we're wrong.

May we take a lesson from the zoo keeper and heed his advice. There's a young lady named Julie who is carrying the pain and scars who wished she had.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS AND DISMISSALS

Admissions:

2/4 - Ernest Gonzalez, Paulding; George Bright, Defiance

2/7 - Laurenda Gibson, Antwerp; Linda Reinhart, Paulding

2/8 - Ricardo Lucio, Paulding; Helen Hunter, Paulding

2/9 - Elizabeth Hedrick, Antwerp

2/10 - Kameron Apple, Paulding

Dismissals:

2/4 - Ruth Rekeweg, Antwerp

2/7 - George Bright, Defiance

2/8 - Bernice Carnahan, Paulding

2/9 - Linda Reinhart, Paulding

BLESS YOUR BODY AT MELROSE UMC

"Bless Your Body", exercise for fun, is being offered by the Melrose United Methodist Church for ladies of all ages.

This free event will start on Tuesday, February 19, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and continue every Tuesday and Thursday thereafter until further notice.

With winter winding down and spring on the horizon, many people are itching to get out and go do something. Well, ladies, this is your opportunity!

Body movement will be required but participants are encouraged to exercise at their own pace and have fun and fellowship as well. Those who attend should wear comfortable clothes.

Ladies are asked to enter the church at the south, or side door and go downstairs to the exercise room.

Geraldine Salyer, 419-

594-2425, and Darleen Parker, 419-594-2208, will be leading these fun exercise classes. For those having questions or needing more information, don't hesitate to contact either one of these two ladies.

(Continued from Page 1)

home with K-8 students on January 22, following the end of the third quarter on January 17. The following students achieved High Honors, Honor Roll, and Improved Grade Point Average (over the first quarter) for the 2007-2008 school year:

High Honors:

Grade 5 - Evan Gustin and Shawn Kitzmiller

Grade 6 - Morgan Gerig

Grade 8 - Elizabeth Burke, Logan Buuck, Caleb Hathaway, Lily Keller, Jonathan Lindberg, and Joshua Maroney

Honor Roll:

Grade 5 - Dylan Gerig, Caroline Hoepfner, and Madison Swanson

Grade 6 - Tara Gerig and Samuel Hathaway

Improved GPA:

Grade 5 - Elliott Gunderman, Evan Gustin, Caroline Hoepfner, Shawn Kitzmiller, Tyler Knapp, Allison McConnell, and Madison Swanson

Grade 7 - Allison Messmann, Spencer Osborn, and Charles Douglas

Grade 8 - Elizabeth Burke, Logan Buuck, Caleb Hathaway, Lily Keller, and Jonathan Lindberg

All of these students received pins and ribbons commemorating their achievements.

The boys' basketball season ended in January. Our 4th and 5th grade team and the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade team fought hard, but did not have too much success in winning games. Coaches were Mark Gustin and Dexter Hoyer. Wrestling season has now begun, with 13 grade 4-8 boys participating; Brian Kitzmiller is the coach. Their first meet is on February 21 and they will conclude the season with the LSAA (Lutheran Schools Athletic Association) Championship on March 15.

Several Field Trips were scheduled to be taken by the following students: Grade K, 1, and 2 all visited McMillen Health Center for educational programs and all three Preschool classes enjoyed their trips to Petland.

Special activities in Janu-

ANTWERP BIDS SENIOR ARCHERS FAREWELL



Antwerp has three seniors who will be missed after this year. Jen Womack, Amanda Riebersal and Bryn Schlatter played their last home game February 7th. Jen's injury from the previous game prevented her from playing much, but she was able to start the game. Photo by Peg Savage.



Antwerp's Senior Amanda Riebersal scored the first shot of the game against Holgate. Antwerp ended their regular season with a win 47-43. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

ary, February, and early March include: the 100th Day of School celebration by K-2 students on January 31; collecting canned goods for the Woodlan High School "Canstruction" Project; we will "Jump Rope for Heart Health" on February 15, along with everyone wearing red that day; the Fort Wayne Fire Department will bring their "Learn Not to Burn" program to WLS for PS-5 students on March 10 and 11; and the following "National Lutheran Schools Week" activities March 2-8 — the children will sing at Christ and Zion Churches on March 2; the WLS PTL will serve breakfast to students and their guests on March 3; we will have a special speaker from Camp Lutherhaven for our March 5 Chapel Service; and the week will conclude with the all-school musical, "King of the Jungle" on Friday, March 8, with 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. performances.

FROM THE DOG WARDEN'S DESK

The Paulding County Dog Shelter recently received a pick up load of donations from Columbus Dog Con-

nection.

Included in the donations were several bags of dog food, canned food, treats, and toys. All the shelter dogs give a big bark thanks for the goodies.

The Columbus Dog Connection is a not for profit group that helps Ohio County shelters receive much needed donations. Larger cities sometimes have a surplus of donated pet items and they are happy to share.

If anyone in Paulding County would like to donate items please log on to our website on Petfinder.com and see our items needed list. We can always use towels, food, collars and leashes. The office is open for visitors on Fridays from 2:00-6:00 p.m.

Please remember that even though the weather is cold it is still very important for your dogs to always have access to fresh water. Water can freeze rapidly in dog bowls so be sure to check them often. Also be aware that dogs outside use more calories to stay warm in the winter and they may need extra food over the cold months.

Save a dogs life—opt to adopt.

—Mandy Lichty, Paulding County Dog Warden

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We are looking for anyone interested in joining 4-H this year

IF INTERESTED OUR NEXT MEETING IS FEBRUARY 17TH, 2008 1 PM AT 714 N. WILLIAMS ST PAULDING, OHIO 45879

If you have any questions about 4-H or joining feel free to call any of the following advisors

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The bus will depart/return from Paulding County Hospital parking lot and drop off point is one (1) block from the Water Tower on Michigan Avenue in downtown Chicago. You choose what you want to do for the day, shopping ~ sightseeing ~ dining.

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Opinions, 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, content and worthiness.

email: westbend@verizon.net

fax: 419-258-1313

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PO Box 1008

Antwerp, OH 45813

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The West Bend News receives letters to the editor on a regular basis and we have always published them. Opinions are just that, opinions. And just because they are printed does not mean they are correct or that you should believe them. There have been times that certain letters have been edited for content when calling people names, but we try not to edit much in order to convey the original meaning.

We have a method of allowing people to have freedom of the press and most everybody would say that is one of the foundation stones of the US Constitution and a right. Of course, we believe in freedom of speech too. We, here at West Bend, remain neutral on nearly every subject in print in order to present different ideas and opinions.

Last week a letter was written concerning the Antwerp EMS Squad 41 accident. The letter touched many raw nerves in Paulding and Defiance counties. I have heard from many people who have been quite disturbed by this letter and I will not remain silent on this issue.

Interestingly enough, the writer did not have his facts straight. He believed Paulding County paid for the funerals and what not for the EMS Squad 41, but showed no regard for the Wells family. And also that the people who serve with the EMS understand the risk ahead of time.

It is not the job of an editor to correct or reply to every letter to the editor, but this is a very special case. After doing some research I have found out, Antwerp and Paulding County governments paid nothing, it was the insurance, workman's comp, the family and donations.

Yes, the EMS people who serve you do understand the risks involved and work to give their lives every time there is a run. There is also a risk just in driving on US 24. I would bet that every person from Woodburn to Cecil can name someone who they know that has been killed on this dangerous highway even if not serving on the EMS. Does getting killed while in the line of duty mean there shouldn't be special memorials for them? No. Quite the contrary.

I think Paulding County did a wonderful job of helping the families and I can say that everyone is proud to have an EMS that serves like Antwerp's. I wish Paulding County could do even more.

What about the Wells family? Yes, they were special too. They were somebody's family: parents, friends, and grandparents. They are missed, I am sure, as much as the Squad 41.

Instead of bickering and fighting, why not do what Jesus would: love them and do what you can to help. This is to everyone who may feel they have been wronged in some way or another, not just for this loss, but any. Complaining about what you think somebody did wrong won't bring our loved ones back, it will just harbor more bad feelings inside of you.

Each person who died had family. Each family is still healing from the physical and emotional scars. These scars

will always remain, but if we work together to help one another, we can show all of these families just how much they are loved and how much the people meant to all of us.

—WBN Editor-in-Chief,
Bryce Steiner

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Boyd, in response to your letter to the editor, I can only imagine the grief of the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Wells, by their family; friends and by their community. So many were lost that day. I think it would be a wonderful idea for the family and friends to also do something in their memory. A fund raiser for a scholarship in their honor, or the local community members of Defiance County doing something as we here in Paulding County did. Speaking for myself, I believe here in Paulding County we have dealt with our grief over the loss of our volunteers who were our family, friends and neighbors in the best way we can. I'm curious Mr. Boyd, when there's an emergency in the middle of the night do you get up and answer the call? Does your family stay behind when there is a fire or severe weather and hope you will return safe? Or will you response be SO WHAT, let someone else do it, they know the risks and it's a volunteer job anyway, right? I hope when you are in need of help, you will be so fortunate to have the response anyone in need receives from our volunteers. Maybe you didn't mean to offend me, but I take great offense to the SO WHAT remark. Offense to the fact you think so little of what volunteers in every small community across this country do every day. I cannot even begin to tell you how important county volunteers are! How many interrupted family gatherings, how much loss of sleep, and the worry when you are married to someone who gives so selflessly every time his pager goes off. My husband is just one of many who puts others first. I could go on and on about the many sacrifices I witness our volunteers make every day. I wanted to share the following dedication from a 16 year old to his father.

Heroes

Where have all the heroes gone? They may be just down the block or outside of town. They may be a neighbor or a stranger you meet on the street. When you have a problem who can you call? Not Superman or Batman or any other comic book hero. You call the real-life heroes of today. You call the volunteers of the Fire Department and Life Squads of America. How many people do you know who would get up in the middle of the night or from the supper table to go save someone they have never met or to save someone else's property from burning up? Not many. I am the son of a Volunteer Firefighter and First Responder so I know that when his tones drop he may have to go on that run and he may not come back but that is a chance our family has to take. So when you see that blue light coming up behind you please remember that one day it might be you they are coming to save so please give them the respect of letting them pass. REMEMBER, ONE DAY IT MIGHT BE YOU. —David

Gray (age 16)"

Respectfully,

—Ann Shuherk

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I have a question for Ron Boyd who wrote about the Squad 41 accident. What counties is he talking about? How can you write, "Let's all remember those who, in the line of their work, lost their lives," and in the very next line say "so what"? Was this man in the county during the days following the accident to see that this didn't just affect the EMS personnel? Did he not see how it impacted the whole community and not only certain "counties". Everyone in the accident was family to someone. If he is simply stating that the Wells family deserves a tribute as well as Squad 41, I agree wholeheartedly. If he is upset because the county paid for certain funerals and not others, he needs to realize that EMS personnel are insured and considered local government employees, volunteer or not, and were killed in the line of duty, doing their job.

—Bonnie Baldwin

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Boyd,

I would like to first introduce myself to you. My name is Marcia Griffith. I read your letter in the paper and felt compelled to send a reply. It sickens me to the core of my very being that you would even dare to try and down play the memories of our fallen heroes. Yes, I said heroes. These people were not paid employees; they were volunteers with the heart and courage it takes to go out and save the life of a stranger. You may wonder why your letter hit so hard with me. Please allow me to explain.

There are two reasons, the first being that my brother is also on the EMS. He was one decision away from being in that tragic event. He was out there to help people in need, not to collect a paycheck. I thank God every night that he was spared and pray for healing of the families involved, including the Wells family.

The second reason is that I lost a very dear friend that day. She too was not out for a paycheck, she was out there because her heart was with helping people however she could. She was also well on her way to becoming a nurse so that she could help more people.

The memorial that was set in place was to honor the self-

lessness of these people. There have been many memorials put into place for emergency workers that have lost their lives in the line of duty. This memorial is not meant to take away from the Wells family. It is meant to honor those who answered the call to save lives.

Let me leave you with one last thought. If you ever are in need of emergency medical services, do you really want these people to stop and go over the list of risks of the job they are volunteering for and weigh that against saving your life?

—Marcia Griffith
Paulding, Ohio

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mr. Ron Boyd, I would be happy to respond to your letter to the editor in the February 6 paper regarding Squad 41.

First, I was deeply offended when you made the comment that "...those who, in the line of their work, lost their lives. But, so what,..." So what??? Yes, that accident took two individuals, grandparents who were caring for their grandchildren the night of the accident. However, that accident took the lives of two young women who left their husbands the responsibility of raising 7 YOUNG children collectively, and a good man who took care of his ailing wife. That's so what!!

Yes, EMTs are well aware of the danger they are in. But aren't we all faced with the danger that today could be our last day on this earth, whether we are firefighters, EMTs or going to the mall to buy a gift. Does that make an accident any less tragic? Are you suggesting the we should not mourn and honor our service men/women who die in the line of duty because they had to expect it???

The couple killed in the accident were not from Paulding County, nor did they work for the Village of Antwerp, who is putting up a plaque/memorial for the EMTs. Correct me if I'm wrong but I'm under the impression that the memorial is for fallen EMTs. So in the future, names can be added if the situation arises.

I am deeply disturbed by the fact that you think you "know" who paid for the funerals of these three individuals. I cannot speak for two of them, but I KNOW the county did not pay ANYTHING for one of them and I'm pretty confident that the county did not pay anything for the other two.

I personally would like to end this by saying that you can keep your name on any memorial you would like. I would love to have my sister-in-law at home with her 5 children tonight just so her name WOULD NOT be on it!!!

Sincerely,

—Linda Reineck

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This is a response to Mr. Boyd's article in the West Bend News paper concerning Squad 41. Mr. Boyd, I am an 8th grader at Wayne Trace High School, I have read your article thoroughly and tried to understand your point of view. I am very disappointed with your "so what" remark. My dad is a volunteer fire fighter, and EMS. Every time he has to go on a run I sit at home hoping that everything is okay, for both him and the victims of the accident. Yes, it is his choice to be a volunteer, but he is a volunteer who saves lives, is an every day hero, my hero. We all know that the Squad 41 accident was a great tragedy, for the innocent bystanders, and the squad. I understand what you are saying about how nothing was done for the Wells family. But you have to put into consideration that the Squad members are not just people that died at work, they are family members and parents too. Also, yes it is sad that innocent bystanders had been killed, but all we are doing is remembering our family members, neighbors, and friends that have died saving others. Mr. Boyd, I hope you put this into consideration, and think about who saves you when you have an emergency, the every day heroes.

Thank you,

—Emily Shuherk

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

All we have been hearing in this paper for three years or so is jail or flood zone. After this week's flood people over here in Antwerp are wondering how many prisoners we had to air lift or hand mops to?

—Kirk Hopkins

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I believe you have the right to read, write, and believe what you want. So, I'm not one to normally get into a back and forth discourse with those that I may disagree with. However, when the topic

(Continued on Page 5)

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Senior Aaron Hockenberry shoots a tough basket against Vanlue. Halftime saw Wayne Trace down by 3, but the third and fourth quarters proved quite fruitful. The Raiders came back with a 75-53 win. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

RAIDERS SAY GOODBYE TO AL WELCH WITH A CLOSING VICTORY

Saturday, February 9 Wayne Trace and Van Lue battled for a victory in boys basketball. The final score came out with a Raider victory, 75-53.

Records - Wayne Trace 15-4, Vanlue 14-5

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Fish Fry

Fri, Feb 15
Feb. 29 & Mar. 14
St. Michael's Church
Hicksville
4:30-7:00 p.m.
Dine-In or Carry-out available
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OHSSA GIRLS CHAMPIONSHIP FIRST ROUND PAIRINGS

- Division IV - Van Wert District
 - 2/12 - Van Wert Lincolnview vs. Hicksville, 7:00 p.m. at Wayne Trace H.S.
 - 2/13 - Ottoville vs. Antwerp, 6:15 p.m. at Wayne Trace H.S.
- Division III - Napoleon District
 - 2/12 - Spencerville vs. Paulding, 8:00 p.m. at Van Wert H.S.
 - 2/16 - Wayne Trace vs. winner of Rockford Parkway & Coldwater, 6:15 p.m. at Van Wert H.S.

WAYNE TRACE JR. HIGH WRESTLING NEWS

The Wayne Trace Jr. High Wrestling team ended their dual meet season at Wayne Trace on Tuesday, February 5.

The young Raiders went undefeated during the wrestling dual meets and recorded a perfect 8-0.

During their final dual match of the year, Wayne Trace defeated the Paulding Panthers 30-12 and the Edgerton Bulldogs 24-9.

Individual results for the tri-meet were Joe Stahl, 1-1; Zach Cotterman, 2-0; Tim West, 0-2; Myranda Stahl, 2-0; Tyler Arnett, 2-0; Aaron Harris, 2-0.

(Continued from Page 4) is something that I have some knowledge and interest in and find what I believe to be inaccuracies, distortions, and misrepresentations of fact I feel it important to offer some comment. And so it was when I recently shared my thoughts concerning the National Instant Check System (NICS) Improvement Act that was



Lady Raider's Senior Becky Hicks goes for a shot and is knocked off balance by a player from Ayersville in Wayne Trace's last home game. She then scored at the foul line. Wayne Trace honored their senior girls that night also. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

GIRLS BASKETBALL: AYERSVILLE VS. WAYNE TRACE

Wayne Trace Lady Raiders played host to the Ayersville Lady Pilots on Thursday, February 7 in high school girls basketball.

The final score was a run-away for the Raiders - WT 70, Ayersville 24.

Records - Wayne Trace (15-4 overall, 7-0 Green Meadows Conference); Ayers-

signed into law by President Bush on January 8, 2008. I noted that the NICS Improvement Act had the backing of the National Rifle Association (NRA) Institute for Legislative Action and the NRA's Military Affairs Committee chaired by Lt. Col. Oliver North (USMC, Retired). Thanks to the NRA and those who supported the Act many citizens who were previously denied the right to purchase and own a firearm now have the ability to do so. However, the NRA and Lt.Col. North's endorsement of the Act apparently raised the ire of one reader. He questioned the significance of that endorsement by alluding to "REX 84" and the "Oliver North Internment Camps". You may wonder as did I what this referred to. To find out I went to source with all the answers... the Internet!

REX 84 is an abbreviation for "Readiness Exercise 1984". Federal, state, and local agencies regularly stage exercises to test their capacity to fulfill assigned tasks. These types of readiness exercises take place all the time. In 1984 President Reagan considered a contingency plan (REX 1984) to receive, feed, house, and care for the needs of approximately 450,000 displaced Nicaraguan refugees. Lt. Col. North discussed this during the Iran-Contra hearings in 1987 and this was reported on by the Miami Herald on July 5, 1987.

However, a number of websites and alternative publications that span the political spectrum have since hypothesized upon the basic material about REX 84, and in many cases hyperbolized it into a form of urban legend or conspiracy theory. The locations where the Nicaraguan refugees would be housed became the "Oliver North In-

ville (5-15 overall, 2-5 GMC)

This is Wayne Trace's first Green Meadows Conference in school history (33 years)! This also sets a new record for victories in a season for Wayne Trace.

Top players:

Wayne Trace - Kacey Hockenberry, 13 points, 4 steals; Sara Priest, 12 points, 7 steals; Renee Bidlack, 10 points

Ayersville - Kim Comden, 12 points, 7 rebounds

ternment Camps" where, in time of a national emergency and after all civil liberties were suspended, the government would send you and I.

Like I said earlier, you have the right to read, write, and believe what you want. But, keep in mind there are also websites and alternative publications about alien abductions, shadow people, and how the CIA had explosives inside the Twin Towers. If it's on the Internet it must be true.

-Duane Bailey Cecil, OH

RAIDER REPORT



Valentine's day is coming up, and the word on everyone's mind is love. In high school, this word seems to be thrown around a lot. This is surprising to me because relationships seem to change often in high school. The irony between love and relationships changing all the time is that love does not come easy. There are certain components that come into play when it comes to love, and reasons why love takes time to achieve.

In love, you must have compassion, understanding, and communication. Compassion is kind of a given, you have to have true feelings for the person involved in the relationship. You have to understand how that person feels and their point of view on varied subjects. Also, in any kind of relationship you have to have communication because if you can not communicate, then the relationship will deteriorate.

"It is with true love as it is with ghosts; everyone talks about it, but few have seen it," by Francis de La Rochefoucauld.

He is trying to get across the point of how precious and wonderful love is. Yes, love takes work and it is not always happy, but it is worth it in the end. If love was easy, then they would sell it in a convenient store. Not everyone experiences love in the same way or at the same time, and this makes love unique. So, next time you go to use that four letter word, think, do you really mean it because if you do not you are just diminishing its value.

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(Continued from Page 1)
 'veg' together. We're comfortable. In some things comfortable is nice.

We've had bad times, we raised four children and we said, like so many others, that when they all get out of school that we would separate. We did not do that and now our marriage is better, we have drawn closer and rely on each other more.

A lot of women think that once their married that the husband will conform and change. Yeah, right, boy I learned fast that that doesn't happen. I realized, finally, after eons that a person doesn't change unless he or she wants to and that's only after he or she is aware that a change is needed.

With both of us being 60, or almost, years old, I can speak for both of us when I say that this is a good time in our lives. I can see us heading for the stage where we look out for each other, depend on each other, in the words of my friend's mother, "he breathes out and I breath in."

These are some quotes I got from different couples around Paulding County and surrounding area:

Doctor David and Bonnie Hughes from Country Chiropractic from Paulding, married 44 years. Their secret is communication, marrying into their faith and keeping their marriage God-centered.

Misti Miller says her husband, Brian, of 17 years, makes her laugh when she's angry and that they're a team. Misti and Brian reside in Paulding.

Kelly Ankney and her husband, Toad, from Paulding have been married 14 years. They were high school sweethearts and have the same values. Kelly also commented on what a great dad Toad is.

Bob's Restaurant owners Tiara & Steve Bremer have been married 30 years. She says, "Just deal with it, don't try to change it."

Harold Wann says it was his job as a truck driver (he wasn't home) and Sandy said finding another was not an option. They agreed that when raising children that the couple should agree on the discipline.

Terry and Cindy Bowers believes that sharing common interests and Cindy expressed that having good role models for parents helps a lot.

Stan and Pauline Jordan had this to say, "You have to have give and take," from Pauline. Stan credits that, "the husband is always right."

You have all kinds of advice here. When you see an older couple and think, "I'll never get like that when I'm old," remember, that older couple was once where you are now. Have a great Valentine Day!!

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT FRANCIS STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Dr. Rolf Daniel, Provost of the University of Saint Francis has announced students named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester of 2007. These students have maintained a 3.5 grade point average on a four-point scale and have carried at least 12 credit hours.

The following students from this area have been named to the Dean's List:

Kelsey Cottrell, of Antwerp, major - Special Education; and Jason Gaisford, of Antwerp, major - Pre Physician Assistant.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL IS LOW COST PROVIDER IN AREA

At Paulding County Hospital's recent board of trustees meeting members were informed that the hospital is a low cost provider in the area. According to a study performed by the Ohio Hospital Association, the hospital is well below the average for various diagnoses for a hospital inpatient. Gary Adkins, CEO, informed the board of the importance of keeping the cost low. He stated, "Our goal is to provide our customers with the highest quality health care at the most affordable price. We recognize health care customers are shopping for health care based on the higher deductibles and co-pays that their health plans are moving to," he continued, "This is the

reason that we strive to make PCH the most affordable hospital in the area."

Adkins updated members on physician relations. He is working to bring urology services back to Paulding County Hospital. "Urology has traditionally been a very busy outpatient specialty clinic and we are looking forward to bringing those services back to the community," Adkins stated. "We are hopefully looking to start this clinic as early as the beginning of March."

The board approved an outpatient renovation project in the main registration area. Once completed this will allow for more privacy for patients registering and as an added bonus, the cashier will be located very close to the hospital's entrance. This change came about by patient suggestion's after they made a visit to the hospital and filled out and returned the Press Ganey survey sent to them for feedback. This project will begin soon and all efforts will be made to make this as convenient to the registering patient as possible.

Adkin's report included that Paulding County Hospital will be purchasing the sleep lab business from Sleep-Care Inc. and it will be our operation 100% moving forward. There will be no changes or interruption in services to the community. Adkins is also meeting with architects to discuss master facility plans to determine the optimum utilization of space at Paulding County Hospital.

Chief Operating Officer, Randy Ruge reported that the lab has acquired hand held coagulation instruments. These will be used in the Home Health care setting. The advantages to this new technology are that the results are immediate and patients do not have to come to the hospital to get their blood drawn. Ruge also noted that the hospital is receiving many compliments concerning the renovations on the inpatient area. Surgery and the medical inpatient areas have been very busy with surgery nearing an all time record high for the month of December.



By: Chelsea Vail

Sing, sing a song, sing out loud, sing out strong! If you are like me, you may find it in everyone's best interest to reserve singing for the shower. Such is not the case for Antwerp's choir this week, however. Along with the high school band, the choir will travel to St. Mary's this Saturday to perform at the OMEA solo and ensemble event. With any luck I will be able to report success and sing their praises next week... But only in a figurative sense - no worries!

Now, a slightly sour note: contrary to past precedence, school will be in session next Monday, February 18. Though we normally have the day off due to Presidents' Day, it has been added to the schedule as a make up day. Don't go singing the blues on me just yet, though. We will be operating on a two-hour delay February 20, the following Wednesday. Rock on!

Freshman Boys Basketball: February 16, TBA, @ Tinora (GMC Tournament)

Varsity Boys Basketball: February 15, 6:30, Montpelier

Word of the Week:
 Evince /i-vins/ verb
 1. To constitute outward evidence of
 2. To show in a clear manner; manifest; make evident
 Try this one on for size; I think you'll like it. Until next week, it's just the same old song and dance.

Last Week's answers to "The Peanuts' Gang"

JAMES WEGMANN EARNS DEAN'S LIST STATUS AT HILLSDALE COLLEGE

James Wegmann, sophomore, a Political Science major at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, MI, was named to the Dean's List for the 2007 fall semester.

James Wegmann is the son of Lynn and Elizabeth Wegmann of Woodburn, IN and is a 2006 graduate of John Young Preparatory High School.

Hillsdale College, a private four-year liberal arts institution, was founded in 1844.

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VALENTINE'S DAY ACCORDING TO STAN

By: Stan Jordan

This Thursday is St. Valentine's Day. Today we are going to talk about St. Valentine's Day, but maybe not the way most people do. I know we have had that gentleman, a guy named Beau Brummell and Dan Cupid and a number of other love-making go betweens, with a lot of little hearts and bows and arrows.

We are going to look at this "holiday" like Andy Rooney would. He generally sees things from another perspective.

My old friend, Ben Franklin, he wasn't a cowboy, but he swung a wide loop. He said for every action there is a reverse action, and that is pretty much true. Old Ben, he knew quite a bit about electricity and I think he was wired for 240. 2 - 40's

I think this Valentine's Day hoopla is a little over-rated and I will tell you why. I know that a man down in Waxahachie, Texas raised some long-stemmed roses and they weren't selling very fast. At the same time a guy in Pennsylvania had a chocolate shop and things weren't moving too good. Well, those guys got together and ran a big advertising campaign and pushed roses and chocolates on that day.

Here are some quips from some boys who never spent a dime on long-stemmed roses or chocolates.

"When I'm with you, I'm lonesome!"

"If your phone is not ringing, that's me calling."

"If you don't leave, how can I miss you?"

Here is a little English humor:

Two Englishman were standing on the street cor-

ground on the top of Mount Ararat in Turkey, and Noah's wife was at the tiller.

Here in Paulding County we're known for a clay area. In the summer the rain goes on north to the Michigan line or down south to Van Wert County. In the summer here in this area to get some rain you have to wish, pray and any other means to get a shower. Well, it is so dry here that back in Noah's time when it rained for 40 days Paulding County got three tenths!

There has always been a rumor around in the romantic circles that two could live as cheaply as one. I talked to Harold Wann about that and he says the only way that two people can live as cheap as one is if one of them don't eat.

I know one guy who had in his will, he wanted to be buried in the parking lot at Wal-Mart. That way his wife would see his grave, about three times a week.

A proud father said to his daughters escort, "Say something nice about my daughter." The boy said, "For a fat gal, she don't sweat much."

There are three rings to marriage, the engagement ring, the wedding ring and the suffering!

A fellow asked another fellow, "Do you know where Engagement, Ohio is?" The fellow says, "Engagement, Ohio is between Dayton and Marion."

One fellow says to the other, "You have a nice looking wife." The guy replies, "Compared to what?"

Two guys were sitting in a boat fishing. One says, "I'm going to get a divorce from my wife." The other guy said, "Why?" He replies, "Why, she hasn't spoken to me in six months!" The other fellow says, "You had better think that over a little, women like that are hard to find."

This woman said to her husband, "You remind me of the ocean." He says, "You mean I'm wild and free?" She says, "No, you make me sick."

This portly maiden was attending a formal dance and she hadn't danced at all yet and she was getting desperate. There was a nice looking young man sitting across the room and he was by himself. So she cupped her hands together like she was holding something inside. She told the young man, "If you can guess what is in my hands, I will let you have a dance with me. He wanted to play it safe so he guessed, "A horse?" she peeked into her hands to see if he was right, and she looked up and said, "Close enough!"

A couple dizzy blonds

from Chicago went down to Orlando to visit Disney World. They saw a sign that said, Disney World-Left. So they went back to Chicago.

Another blond was sitting at the red light and the truck on her left, the bed was raised a little, so she rolled the window down and said, "Your bed is up in the air!" They went on down to the next red light and she told him, "Your truck bed is raised!" He nodded and they went on to the next red light. Again she called his attention to the fact that his truck bed was raised. He said, "Yes, I know, I'm spreading salt."

In the world of computers it has brought on a lot of new words such as yahoo, a burner, eBay, on line, modem, E-mail, .com and a host of other new words. The teacher asked little Johnny to use the word 'modem' in a sentence. Well, little Johnny hadn't paid to much attention, so he replied, "Those two empty lots at the end of our street were grown up with grass and weeds, so I modem."

One girl singer in the song says, "If you're leaving, please take me along."

Another gal with doubtful intentions sings, "You make a left and then a right, go two blocks, look for the light. If it's on, come on in, if it's off, he's home again."

Leonard and Jean Buck live in Leslie, Michigan, but I spent many nice days with them in Mossy Cove Fish Camp on Lake Istokpoga in Florida. They sent me this joke: A fellow was at the pizza place picking up his pizza. The counterman asked, "Do you want this cut in four pieces or six?" The fellow replied, "Oh my goodness, cut it in four pieces, I couldn't eat six."

Well, friends and readers, I hope you accept this column in the form of light humor, that I wrote it. I had most of this stuff stored up in my head and this so-called satire on St. Valentine's Day gave me a sort of a chance to tell it to you. Now here's one last blast!! I'm not one bit sure of the validity of this story!

At the northeast part of Ft. Wayne, at that big shopping mall there is a Golden Corral restaurant. Interstate 469 goes right by there and it is plain to

see from the interstate. You do have to go through red lights and a number of turns. Well, my friend, Buck, was sitting by the wall at a table for two but he was alone. This overweight girl, she was the type the old timers called, 'a huggin' and a chalkin'." She asked Buck if he could help her. He said, "Sure, how can I help you?" She said, "How can I get down to 469?" and Buck said, "Why don't you call Weight Watchers."

See, Ya!

STAN & SUE ON THE ROAD

By: Stan Jordan & Sue Knapp

We interviewed Leo and Caroline Davis, who have been Payne residents all their lives, but now dwell at the Country Inn Enhanced Living Center, affiliated with the Apostolic Church on U.S. 127, south of Latty.

Leo was born in 1915 at

ma Glass for awhile, then at Weatherhead for a few years, then at G.E. in Ft. Wayne for 13 years.

Leo was Postmaster at Payne from 1955 to 1976. He remembers that there was lots of parcel post then, lots of Christmas Cards and first class mail was 4 cents.

They had two boys and two girls.

Barbara Roe is retired now and lives around Kansas City, MO. They have two children. James lived in Ft. Wayne and was with the Ft. Wayne Community Schools and retired there. They have three children. Roger is retired now and lives in Woodstock, GA and has one child. Phyliss lives in Madison, Wisconsin.

Leo and Carolyn have been married 70 years. That is a real St. Valentine's Day story and it was an honor to interview them.

But we talked with Leo about some of Payne's His-



a little place called Smiley, just a little east of Edgerton, IN. That is about where the Coomer boys big granary is located. He attended school in Payne and graduated from there in 1934. He is the only male left from that class.

Carolline Schaefer was born in Paulding Twp. There was two boys and two girls in the family. She attended St. John's School for eight years. Then she graduated from Payne High School in 1934.

Caroline worked at Per-

tory and we will bring that to you in two weeks.

We traveled over to south of Latty to the Country Inn Enhanced Living Center, the Apostolic Church Complex.

We interviewed Mr. & Mrs. Bice Mosier. Bice was born in Grover Hill in 1928 on August 15. He had four brothers and three sisters. He attended school there and graduated in 1946.

Nancy, his wife, was born in Oak Hill, Ohio on January

(Continued on Page 8)



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(Continued from Page 7)

13, 1927. There was four boys and six girls in the family. She had eight years of school there and then attended Oak Hill High School.

They married January 10, 1948 and moved to the Hicksville and Mark Center area and lived there until around 1968. They had three daughters and two sons.

They lived in Antwerp area for years down around the 'Dead Man's Curve.' They attended the United Methodist Church in Antwerp.

Bice retired from B. F. Godrich on February 1, 1994 after 32 years. He says he is pretty good for a man his age.

His wife, Nancy, is not very good, that is why they moved here at The Country Inn Enhanced Living Center about two years ago. He likes it here, but would rather be in his own home in Payne. He realizes that his wife is not well enough for that.

They are very proud of their granddaughters, Pam and Tam Racey. They both played basketball for AHS and went to the State Tournament and got beat in the final game. Both of these girls received scholarships to Dayton University. They played basketball there and then graduated.

Tammy is in the Cincinnati area and Pam lives in Canada, she travels a lot.

Bice and Nancy, just passed their 60th wedding anniversary.

You've just read interviews from people that have been married a good long time. The one thing in all these letters is devotion. All these couples are devoted to each other through thick and thin.

Helen and Roy Stoller
Helen and Roy were married on Valentine's Day in 1942—that's 66 years ago.

They grew up neighbors, so they have always known each other.

Roy informed me that

Helen has always looked cute to him and she still does, as he giggled.

They have lived all their lives in the area with Roy farming and Helen working at home. They have two boys, one girl, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

They moved into the Country Inn Enhancement Center in 2005. They really appreciate it there.

Some of the things they said about their marriage was: never go to bed angry, always make up before going to bed and always think of the other person. He has always appreciated the fact that they have always been together. He also said to never hold a grudge. Communication is important, talk it over and get it settled. They have always went to church together and have never lied to each other. She giggled as she expressed that he could be 'ornery' at times (and you can see it coming out of his eyes). They have had a lot of good times and have always done things together.

As they celebrate their 66th anniversary on this Valentine's Day, their daughter will be in from Virginia and the family from the area will go out for supper.

Helen and Roy would like everyone to have a long happy marriage like their's has been and continues to be.

Everett and Gertha Ames
Everett and Gertha have been married for 71 years. They met in Cincinnati while roller skating and for him it was love at first sight. They were married about two years later.

They lived in Michigan, he worked at GM and she worked at Montgomery Ward's. They had two children, one boy and one girl. They have five grandchildren.

They were originally from this area so they moved back and are now residents of Country Inn Enhancement

Center where Everett, with the staff's help, takes care of his wife.

In their day they never heard of separation or divorce. It wasn't an option. They think young people are too busy, they need to depend more on each other and keep their relationship strong.

People are so busy that they don't have time to concentrate on each other. There is too much temptation out there with not enough commitment or loyalty. (no picture)

DHS ENDS ORAL DECLARATIONS AT BORDERS, MORE

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) reminds travelers that beginning January 31, 2008, border crossers will be asked to present documents denoting citizenship and identity when entering the United States through land and sea ports of entry. This change primarily affects United States and Canadian citizens, who have previously been permitted entry by oral declaration alone, and marks the transition toward standard and consistent documents for all travelers entering the country. It is also the start of a more robust and concerted public education campaign, intended to inform travelers of document requirements which will be implemented next year.

"For the safety of the American people, the United States cannot have an honor system at the border," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "Requiring secure and reliable documentation at our borders will drastically reduce security vulnerabilities posed by permitting entry based on oral declarations alone. As travelers become accustomed to carrying documents to cross the border, and as we move to more stringent documentation requirements, our border officers will be able to more quickly and confidently identify cross-border travelers."

Beginning January 31 of this year, U.S. and Canadian citizens ages 19 and older should no longer expect that an oral declaration alone will be sufficient to prove identity and citizenship for entry into the country. Instead, travelers will be asked to present documentation from a specified list of acceptable documents when entering the U.S. at land and sea ports of entry. Examples include birth certificates and driver's licenses. A complete list of acceptable documents is available to travelers at ports of entry and is also available at www.cbp.gov. Travelers who do not present one of these documents may be delayed while U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers attempt to verify their identity and citizenship. Children ages 18 and under will only need to present a birth certificate.

In order to further secure our borders against illegal entry, the U.S. will no longer be able to admit travelers based on nothing more than a person's oral assertion of citizenship. During October to December 2007 alone, CBP officers reported 1,517 cases of individuals falsely claiming to be U.S. citizens. Last month, CBP officials determined that an individual falsely claiming to be a U.S. citizen was wanted for homi-

cide in California. This individual was paroled for entry into the U.S. and transported into the custody of the San Diego Sheriff's Department. Separately, multiple Government Accountability Office and Inspector General reports have highlighted weaknesses associated with oral declarations and substandard documentation.

Standard and consistent documentation is critical for border officials to accurately determine admissibility into the United States. The January 31 change is a step forward from the largely subjective standard that allowed travelers to present an almost limitless array of documents, such as baptismal certificates, to satisfy CBP officers of their citizenship. This change will allow frontline officers to standardize inspections against a narrower class of documents, and CBP has protocols in place to verify the authenticity of suspicious driver licenses and guard against the use of counterfeit or altered licenses.

DHS has maintained a consistent public awareness and information campaign to ensure that the traveling public is aware of the new travel documentation requirements under the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI). The transition beginning January 31 will allow travelers to become accustomed to the need to present appropriate documents. Travelers who apply for a passport card, passport, Trusted Traveler Program cards, or other secure documentation denoting both citizenship and identity in response to the January 31 change will not need to take additional steps to meet the final WHTI requirements upon full implementation in June 2009.

U.S. citizens may begin applying in advance for the new U.S. Passport Cards on February 1, 2008 in anticipation of land border travel document requirements. The U.S. Department of State expects that cards will be available and mailed to applicants in spring 2008.

Although DHS was on schedule to begin implementation of the new requirements as early as summer 2008, the fiscal year 2008 Appropriation Bill passed by Congress last month restricts the department from implementing these new requirements until June 2009.

For more information, visit www.dhs.gov or www.travel.state.gov.

Effective 2/1/08 there will be new application forms available for the new passport cards. There are also new fees for these. A change in age requirements will also take effect this day. These new passport cards may only be used for land and sea travel between the U.S. and Mexico, Canada, Bermuda and the Caribbean. These new cards are less expensive, smaller and more convenient. Children under the age of 16 must have both parents consent to apply for a passport.

U.S. citizens may apply now for the new passport card, but the U.S. Dept. of State expects that the cards will not be available and mailed until spring of 2008. The U.S. Dept of State. website is travel.state.org

—Ann Waldman, Paulding County Clerk of Courts



Archer Tim Ryan breaks through Hilltop to score on a lay up. He is fouled and gets a shot from the free-throw line. Antwerp won 84-35. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

ARCHER VARSITY BASKETBALL CLAIM VICTORY OVER HOLGATE AND HILLTOP

The Antwerp varsity broke through with victories against Holgate and Hilltop recently.

Scores: vs. Holgate 44-21; vs. Hilltop 84-35

Their record is now 15-3 and 5-2 in the GMC

Scoring vs. Holgate - Boston Hormann-17; Bob Bragg-4; Tim Ryan-4; Adam Taylor-11; Nate Ganger-4; Anthony Smith-4

Scoring Vs Hilltop - Boston Hormann-10 (Boston had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds); Bob Bragg-9; Tim Ryan-16;

TJ Short-9; Adam Taylor-17; Anthony Smith-12; Nate Ganger-3; Travis Woodard-2; John Rindahl-6

The Archers have a make up game at Stryker on February 14 and will finish up their regular season with Montpelier (Senior Night) On Friday, February 15.

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Vantage preschoolers concentrate as they try to follow the course during the Trike-A-Thon.

"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT:" VANTAGE TRIKE-A-THON

Members of the Vantage senior Early Childhood Education program, Emily Erhart (Kalida), Paige Fischbach (Delphos Jefferson) and Michelle Miller (Paulding), recently organized a special fun event for preschoolers and their parents. The girls worked together as a team to plan and design the Vantage Trike-A-Thon.

On Thursday, January 31, the preschoolers participated in a Trike-A-Thon event to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. These funds will help St. Jude in its ongoing fight against childhood catastrophic disease.

The children received pledge forms to take to family, friends and neighbors to see if they wanted to be sponsors for the Trike-A-Thon. Donations are still being counted. The event is designed to expose preschoolers to using riding toys safely through a week-long fun activity. It also provides a parent awareness program that involves safe behavior practices for parent to help insure their child's well-being.

This event was also held as part of an FCCLA (Family, Consumer and Community Leaders of America) state project, Focus on Children.

VANTAGE BOARD TOURS FACILITIES

The regular monthly meeting of the Vantage Board of Education was held on Thursday, February 7, 2008 in the Science classroom. The treasurer's report included the approval of the January 23, 2008 regular board meeting minutes and the financial statements for the month of December, 2007.

In new business, the board:

on satellite programs, the Delphos contract status and Tools for Schools. The board toured the school as part of the Ohio Schools Facility Commission (OSFC) update. Ms. Kaufman announced that the All Boards Dinner will be held on Monday, April 7, 2008 at 5:30 p.m. with the board meeting after the dinner.

Director Bob Vennekotter updated the board on local and regional skills competitions, progress on the Carpentry house project and the High Schools That Work (HSTW) assessment. Community Relations Coordinator MaryJo Wilhelm reported on the recent visits to 10th graders at all home schools and the successful results of the recent "Step Into Your Future" workshop held on January 26. Principal Keith Rydell extended an invitation to the board and the public to attend the Vantage Open House and Scholarship Dinner, which will be held on Monday February 11 from 5 - 7:30 p.m. He also provided the board with an academic update and discussed Praxis III assessors evaluating new staff members. He also reported on the Progress Book training for staff members. Adult Education Director Jim Grant informed the board that the move of the Paulding One Stop to 250 Dooley Drive, Suite B, is completed and a new office manager has been hired. He added that adult winter classes are underway and that new CEU classes for Police Officers and Child Care Workers will be added. Adult Workforce Education was able to secure a grant for a new scanner to run the Work Keys and GED tests. Peter Prichard, new ABLE coordinator, explained some changes in the Adult Basic Literacy Education program.

In new business, the board:

**Approved supplemental contracts for Jean Minnig,

Laura Stocksdale, Theresa Mengerink, Duane Sheets, Pat Winicker, Beth Evans and Tillman Karl as Virtual Learning graders; Jean Minnig, Kent Taylor and Amy Grothouse for LPDC committee members; and Lisa Hatcher, Step Into Your Future worker;

**Approved contract services for Miranda Brinkman Leatherman for Step Into Your Future;

**Employed the following Adult Education instructors as needed, as scheduled: James Loughrie, Police Academy and Sonya Herber, Paulding One-Stop Office Manager;

**Approved the Vantage Interact Club trip to Haiti. The tentative dates are sometime between March 29 - April 8. This trip will involve limited participation of staff members and students;

**Approved moving the April All Boards Meeting/Dinner to Monday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m. with the regular April meeting following the dinner;

**Accepted with thanks a \$2,000 donation from the Van Wert Rotary Club for the Vantage Haiti Interact Club;

**Accepted the resignation of Grace Gonzales, WIA Representative-Paulding office, effective January 4, 2008;

**Accepted the resignation of Dennis Koester, Welding Instructor, effective after the completion of 22 work days of the 2008-2009 school year for the purpose of retirement;

**Accepted the resignation of John Keuneker, Auto Body Instructor, effective May 31, 2008 for the purpose of retirement;

**Approved Staci Kaufman as Vantage Career Center's representative on the Putnam County Tax Incentive Review Council;

**Approved the agreement between West Central Ohio Tech Prep Consortium Articulation and Vantage Career Center

The next Vantage Board of Education meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vantage Career Center Cup & Saucer.

CELEBRATE CHINESE NEW YEAR AT THE JOHNSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

HICKSVILLE—Celebrate Chinese New Year with dancing dragons and chopsticks during story time at the Johnson Memorial Library on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:30 p.m. and on Wednesday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m.

The Chinese New Year's Story Times are free and are open to everyone, both the young and the young at heart.

"For Chinese New Year,

we'll be reading stories about China, Chinese customs, dancing dragons, and of course the year of the rat," explained Branch Manager Amy Murphy. "We'll also be listening to Chinese music, making a New Year's craft, and trying out chopsticks."

If you have any questions about or would like additional information on the Chinese New Year Story Times, please call the Johnson Memorial Library at (419) 542-6200.

LOCAL PHS STUDENT COMPETES IN DIVISION I SOFTBALL AT WRIGHT STATE

The Wright State softball team put together quite a finish in 2007 despite being the seventh seed at the Horizon League Tournament, the Raiders won four straight games to claim the title and advanced to the NCAA Regionals in Evanston, Illinois. Fourth-year head coach Mike Larabee looks to build off of that finish in 2008 with nine letterwinners returning, all of which started at least 36 games last season. Of those nine, an amazing seven earned some type of postseason honor from the Horizon League.

Infielder Malerie Klingler earned All-Tournament Team recognition as she hit .417 in the tournament. For the season, Klingler drove in eight runs and stole four bases. Malerie was a 2006 graduate of Paulding High School. She will be starting for the team this season in left field.

The Raiders will compete in four tournaments to start the 2008 campaign, beginning with the Bulldog Round Robin in Starkville, Mississippi February 15-17, taking on Fordham, Southern Illinois and host Mississippi State. Wright State will also take part in tournaments hosted by South Florida, Chattanooga and New Mexico before opening the home portion of its schedule with a doubleheader against Findlay on March 20. After traveling to four states for the opening four tournaments, WSU will play in just three states over its final 38 games, 31 of those in Ohio. The schedule features eight teams that are ranked or receiving votes in the pre-season USA Today/National Fastpitch Coaches Association poll (Georgia Tech, Ohio State, South Carolina, Mississippi State, Southern Illinois, Hofstra, South Florida, Fordham).

Story provided by the Wright State office of Sports Information

3RD ANNUAL ANTIQUE SHOW SPONSORED BY DEFIANCE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



The Defiance County Humane Society will hold its 3rd Annual Antique Show and sale on Saturday, March 1, 2008. It will be held at the Local 211 UAW Hall located at 2120 Baltimore Street in Defiance.

They will host over 26 dealers offering a wide range of quality antiques. Lawrence Mavis will demonstrate the lost art of chair cane weaving. The show has been very successful the last two years, with returning dealers from Michigan and Indiana, as well as Ohio.

All proceeds from this event will help cover the operating costs of the Defiance County Humane Society that serves Defiance County and the surrounding counties.

This is a fun-filled day for antique lovers and the perfect time to get out of the house after the long winter. Food and beverages will also be available.

The doors will open at 11:00 a.m. and the show will run until 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Cerda at 419-393-4270.

LATTA VOTES FOR FINAL PASSAGE OF ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE

WASHINGTON—Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) voted this evening in support of the bipartisan economic stimulus package (H.R. 5140), which in its final provisions will provide a \$151 billion boost to the economy through a tax rebate expected in May or June of this year. The package now includes Senate provisions that provide tax rebates for senior citizens, disabled veterans, and veter-

ans' widows. The Senate provisions also include language to further prevent illegal immigrants from receiving rebates.

"With final passage of the economic stimulus package, American taxpayers are one step closer to having their hard earned tax dollars returned to their wallets, where it belongs. I commend the Senate for their bipartisan and swift effort to include important provisions to ensure senior citizens and veterans receive these rebates," Latta said.

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"Famous for Results"



The Lady Warriors won their first round of the sectionals against Adams Central 47-38. Advancing they played Bishop Luers Saturday night and lost 78-40. Congratulations on a great season ladies!

US 24 TRAFFIC TO BE DIVERTED DURING DEMOLITION

LIMA—Traffic on US 24 will be diverted up and over the ramps at the Ohio 15/18 interchange in Defiance for three nights beginning Tuesday to allow for demolition work.

Beginning at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, eastbound and westbound traffic on US 24 will be diverted up and over the ramps at the interchange to allow for the demolition of the east half of the original Ohio 15/18 bridge, said Tim Burkepile, Ohio Department of Transportation District One deputy director. Demolition work will take place from 8:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. each day weather permitting, he said.

Traffic on US 24 and on Ohio 15/18 will be maintained by flaggers at all times during the demolition. Traffic on Ohio 15/18 and on US 24 will be stopped occasionally for short periods. Law enforcement will be stationed at the top of the ramps and also on US 24 during the demolition.

Emergency vehicles will be escorted through the work zone by law enforcement. "The Defiance Hospital, law enforcement and project personnel will be in radio contact

throughout the demolition work to assure that there is no delay in emergency vehicles accessing the hospital," said Burkepile.

The Ohio 15/18 bridge and interchange is being upgraded as part of the expansion of US 24 from Ohio 424 to Ohio 15 west of Defiance. Construction on the bridge began in 2006 and is expected to be completed this fall.

The west half of the original bridge was demolished and the new half reconstructed while traffic was maintained on the east side. "We're now to the point in the project where we can begin work on the other half of the bridge now that traffic is running on the new western portion," said Burkepile.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: WAYNE TRACE VS. EDON

Edon Lady Bulldogs traveled to Raider country on Tuesday, February 5 for some high school girls basketball.

The final score was a Raider win - Wayne Trace 78, Edon 41

Top Players:

Wayne Trace - Renee Bidlack, 17 points, 5 rebounds; Kacey Hockenberry, 10 points, 3 steals; Sara Priest, 10 points, 4 assists, 3 steals; Becky Ruble 10 points

Edon - Makayla Graves, 11 points, 3 rebounds; Madison Muehlfeld, 10 points, 5 rebounds. Records - Wayne Trace 14-4, Edon 6-13

AREA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL RESULTS

February 5, 2008:

Girls - Defiance vs. Paulding, Defiance victory, 47-44; Stryker vs. Antwerp, Stryker won, 44-19

February 7, 2008:

Girls - Antwerp vs. Holgate, Antwerp won, 47-43; Paulding vs. Allen East, Paulding victory, 52-47

February 8, 2008:

Boys - Fairview vs. Hicksville, Fairview victory, 57-51; Paulding vs. Allen East, Paulding won, 60-53

February 9, 2008:

Boys - Paulding vs. Bryan, Paulding victory, 69-53

Girls - (sectionals round 1) Woodlan vs. Bishop Luers, Luers won, 78-40.

WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING GOES FOR GMC CHAMPIONSHIP

Wayne Trace wrestlers Myranda Stahl, Tyler Arnett, and Aaron Harris were all crowned GMC champions at the GMC Conference meet held at Edgerton on February 2.

Lindsay Matthews, Joe Stahl, and Zach Cotterman placed second. Tim West finished 3rd.

Raider Tyler Arnett finished his wrestling season with a 27-1 record. Wayne Trace wrestler Kameron Clemens was not able to participate due to a knee injury he suffered earlier this season.

The Wayne Trace Jr. High team placed 3rd out of six teams that make up the GMC Conference.

Team placings were: Hicksville, Edgerton, Wayne Trace, Fairview, Ayersville and Tinora.



WAYNE TRACE GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY 2ND NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL

All A's:

1A - Bryan Hofmann, Noah Kline, Austin Reed, Ayana Rowe, Trae Sinn, Ellie Stoller, Adia Welch, Emily Williams

1B - Kaitlyn Doster, Noah Hasch, Jacob Keysor, Keagann Parrish, Sadie Sinn

2A - Madison Chastain, Jacque LeMieux, Leah Maassel, Megan Moore, Kylee Varner, Austin Young

2B - Aden Baker, Gracie Gudakunst, Eli Sinn, Lily Sinn, Sara Sinn

3B - Korene Shelton, Daniel Sinn, Jon Sinn, Emil Stoller

4A - Kasey Girod, Jayson Nowak

4B - Luke Miller, Brianna Sinn, Sydney Critten, Christopher Davis

5B - Jehane Hoagland, Erin Jewell

6B - Logan Fast, Mackenzie Haney, Madi Poling

All A's & B's:

1A - Haley Pastor, Madalynn Varner

1B - Sara Edwards, Olivia Egnor, Derek Myers, Justin Roberts, Prestyn Thomas, John Leisure

2A - Celia Baker, Alisa Elliott, Alex Fast, Bailey Maroney, Haley Schaffer, Kylar Sherry, Hunter Showalter, Gilly Wiseman

2B - Taylor Akom, Autumn Banks, Taylor Carnahan, Owen Denny, Savannah Gile, Kaitlyn Harris, Jordan Offerle, Kim Puckett, Brooke Sinn, Chelsea Sinn, Gabe Sinn, Weston Sinn, Adam Stoller

3B - Chance Elliott, Kennadi Foy

4A - Austin Fast, Kelsey Fleagle, Shad Ream, Luke Sinn, Zach Sinn

4B - Jessica Offerle, Clint Sinn, Corey Davis, Sydney Hofmann

5A - Emily Beech, Lizzy Brown, Chucky Chastain

5B - Kierstan Baldwin, Carl Elliott, Breylin Lautzenheiser, Kelsee Rittenhouse, Leah Sinn

6A - Saxon Fisher, Maddie McClure, Kendall Germann

6B - Janey Janka, Andrew Ludwig, Danielle Miles, Arlen Stoller

All B's:

3B - Tyrone Cowdrick, Gabby Gudakunst, Hanna Hill, Danae Myers

6A - Rachael Kreischer



Senior Jacob Perl blocks the Bryan opposition so Junior Bryant Troyer can take a jump shot. The Panthers took on Bryan Saturday night and won 69 to 53. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

NAMI MONTHLY MEETING

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) which is a support group for family members dealing with the challenges of mental illness will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 18, at the Drop-In Center which is located at 407 N. Franklin, Van Wert. This is several blocks south of Vantage Career Center.

This month Deborah Ford owner of the Good Earth Health Food Shoppe in Van Wert will speak about the 'Value of Good Nutrition for Both Physical and Mental Health.' Deborah has been the owner of the Shoppe since 1976. In addition, she maintains a private nutrition practice utilizing complementary medicine and specializing in "jumpstarting" clients into

healthier lifestyles.

Deborah holds a Masters of Science Degree in Human Nutrition and was one of the first Certified Clinical Nutritionists in Ohio. Currently she is pursuing a degree in naturopathic medicine.

The local NAMI affiliate meets the third Monday of each month at the center and all meetings are open to the public. It is a self-help, support, education and advocacy organization dedicated to improving lives of people with serious brain disorders and to support their families.

The affiliate which covers Paulding, Mercer and Van Wert Counties may be reached by calling 800-541-NAMI (6264) or 419-238-2413 or by e-mail at namivw@msn.com.

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JV WIN AGAINST HOLGATE AND HILLTOP

Recently the Antwerp JV Archers played Holgate and Hilltop in boys High School basketball.

Scores: vs. Holgate 28-25; vs. Hilltop 30-24. Their record is now 7-11 and 2-5 in the GMC

Scoring For JV vs. Holgate - Isaac Yenser-7; Travis Woodard-2; John Rindahl-2; Beau Kobee-4; Mike Stewart-2; Hayden Krick-6; Bryson North-3; Justin Johnson-2

Scoring for JV vs. Hilltop - John Rindahl-10; Travis Woodard-7; Bryson North-2; Beau Kobee-2; Mike Stewart-3; Isaac Yenser-2; Hayden Krick-4

RAIDERS COME CLOSE AGAINST PILOTS IN BOYS HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Friday, February 8, saw a close match up between Wayne Trace and Ayersville. The final score was Ayersville 58, Wayne Trace 55.

Records - Ayersville (16-2 overall, 7-0 GMC); Wayne Trace (14-4 overall, 5-2 GMC)

Ayersville wins the Green Meadows Conference with the victory.

Top Players: Ayersville - Logan Wolfrum 23 points, 4 rebounds, 9/9 free throws; Anthony King 11 points, 5 rebounds; Mathew Martin 11 points, 7 rebounds

Wayne Trace - Aaron Hockenberry 23 points, 5 rebounds; Riley Linder 11 points, 5 rebounds, 6 steals; Dane Treece 10 points, 4 rebounds

Legal Notice

"The Council of the Village of Cecil, Paulding County, Ohio meets in regular session on the (3rd) Third Monday of each month at 7 pm in the community room of the Cecil/Crane Township Fire Department. If you wish to be notified of any special meetings, please send your request to Carlene A. Turner, Clerk-Treasurer at P.O. Box 164, Cecil, OH 45821

The residents of Cecil and general public are invited to attend.

—Carlene A. Turner, Treasurer"

Legal Notice

The Village of Cecil has completed their un-audited 2007 Annual Financial Reports. These reports may be viewed by contacting the Village Clerk-Treasurer, Carlene A. Turner at 419-399-3166 to schedule an appointment.

—Carlene A. Turner, Treasurer

CLASSIFIED ADS

Sell it in the Classifieds!

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

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P.O. Box 1008, Antwerp, OH 45813

A&W ROOTBEER STAND now accepting applications for car hops and kitchen help. To apply please call, 258-9341. 7-9

DO YOU NEED YOUR house cleaned because you are a busy woman? Let me do the work! Call anytime 419-899-2815 or 419-769-0387. 6-9

HANDYMAN FOR HIRE: 20+ yrs. experience; residential maintenance, woodworking, plumbing, electrical, painting, carpentry. Can handle those honey-do lists that have grown too big for honey to do. Call Robert Huss, 419-258-2510. tf

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WEST BEND PRINTING & Publishing can take care of all your printing needs! Wedding invitations, graduation announcements—let us take care of it for you! Call us today at 419-258-2000.

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

THE TRACKER—they used to call me "the Streaker". Now I am known as the "Tracker". Specialties - foot prints in the snow. Boone & Crockett have nothing over me. Local office ph. BR 549. p

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

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

FOR RENT IN ANTWERP: 3 bedroom, 2 bath Mobile Home, exc. cond. located in Riverbend M.H.P. Deposit required, \$395 per month. 260-705-1896. 7-8p

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

NEEDING ANY AVON? Call Angel at 419-258-1809. Same week delivery! tf

BAD CREDIT/NO CREDIT. Own your own home today. Owner financing. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. \$495 a month including lot rent in Brentwood Community at St. Rt. 127 and 24. Call 419-399-3322. 5-8

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

10FT. JOHN BOAT, LEISURE Life with trolling motor, battery. 419-796-9285. 7-8

FOR SALE: ZEBRA FINCHES, \$5 pc; Society finches, \$10 pc; European goldfinche, female \$75; Young canaries, unsexed \$40 pc. Cage available. 419-258-4441. p

SEASONED MIXED SPLIT firewood 4-Sale. \$50.00 per load. Pine logs \$40.00 per load. 419-506-0667 or 260-479-0841. p

BULLDOG/LAB MIX: Adorable farm-raised American Bulldog/Lab mix puppies. Very friendly and loving. Blacks/brindles/black w/white markings. Parents on site. \$200.00. 260-704-2800. Grabill, IN. B6-7

FOR SALE: CUTTING TORCH gauges, tanks, hoses. Tanks can be filled at NAPA. \$300.00, 419-506-0123. p

ADORABLE AKC Miniature Schnauzer puppies. Just in time for your valentine. Born Dec. 16th. 2 male (salt & pepper), 5 female (2 rare all white, 2 salt & pepper, 1 black w/ white). \$400 - \$450. Must See!! Call 260-632-2028. tf

FOR SALE: KENMORE electric range with Radiant (glass) surface elements. 2 years old in very good condition. \$400. Call 399-2268. Will include microwave for free. 6-7p

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

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

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

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


The **VILLAGE OF PAULDING** is accepting applications for Head lifeguard, lifeguards and pool concession workers for the 2008 season.

Applications are available at Paulding High School, Antwerp High School, Wayne Trace High School or at the VILLAGE Office 116 S. Main St.

For information Call: 419-399-4011.

Applications will be accepted until February 15, 2008

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COOPER COMMUNITY LIBRARY CHOCOLATE EXTRAVAGANZA III

Activities at the Paulding County Carnegie Library branch in Oakwood are getting underway again following the holidays. Volunteers are feverishly working to complete the Community Room for the much anticipated, popular chocolate affair. Three years ago the Oakwood organizers were brainstorming to come up with some unique fund raising events. Little did they know that some of the events would become so popular they would turn into an annual sell out! The Oakwood United Methodist church graciously donated the use of their fellowship hall and committee members turned the room into an elegant sea of chocolate. Tickets sold quickly in 2006 so more tables were added last year. And still some were turned away. The new Community Room cannot seat as many as the church hall, so organizers are biting the bullet and offering two nights for your chocolate enjoyment this year! The event will be held Thursday, March 27 and Friday, March 28 at 7:00. A Mardi Gras theme is in the works with lots of new ideas adding to the excitement. A list has been accumulating for

months with fans calling in to request tickets. All inquiries can be directed to the library at 594-3337 until tickets are actually available in late February.

In other library news, there will be a board meeting February 19 at 7:00 p.m. The first winners for the annual 300 Club will be drawn that night and announced both on the board in front of the library and in the newspapers. If you have not gotten your ticket yet, there may be just a few left at the library. Every name goes into each drawing so there are 25 chances to win with each twenty five-dollar ticket purchase. At the February meeting there will be two winners each of \$100 and two of \$50. The following ten drawings will occur either at board meetings or fund raising events, culminating with a \$500 winner over Labor Day weekend.

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IMMEDIATE OPENING - LIBRARY PAGE

A Best-Selling book: \$25.00. The latest DVD: \$20.00. Being able to find both on the shelf for FREE at the Public Library: PRICELESS. The LIBRARY PAGE helps make this happen! Calling all retirees, teenagers and everyone in between! Do you want to get out of the house for a few hours a week? Does the idea of working in a public library sound like fun?

The Paulding County Carnegie Library has an immediate opening for a 17-hour per week LIBRARY PAGE. Holding one of the most important jobs in the library, the Page is responsible for making sure returned material finds it's way back to its proper place on the shelf. Pages also assist library clerks in checking out books, helping with story time and other activities. The library has usually reserved the Page job as a first job for teenagers, but now we are broadening our horizons.

If you are retired, looking for your very first job, or simply looking for a few extra spending dollars, come on in and apply. (Minimum age requirement: 16 years old. No maximum age requirement.) Applications are available at the main library in Paulding, 205 S. Main St. Completed applications must be submitted by Thursday, February 21st at 5:00pm. No phone calls please.

For Sale By Owner
listings in the West Bend News



ROOMY RANCH! 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath Remodeled with new kitchen, bath, flooring, siding, windows and more. 2 car attached garage, large covered deck with pond. 32x24 detached Garage with concrete floor, on a corner lot Antwerp area, Co. Rd. 69. Asking \$85,900.00 419-399-5673. 7



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

GRANDMA'S 'LIL VALENTINES



Christen Marie Goudy dances and teaches dance. Christen is a sophomore at AHS. She lives and works in Antwerp. She is a cheerleader,



Rebecca Diane Goudy graduated from AHS last year. She was Valedictorian and won full scholarship to college at West Com-



Jessica Noelle Goudy Grandma, I just want to write you and let you know how much you mean to me. Never once have you stopped being there and supporting. You truly are my special angel and God wanted you to guide me.

When my week is going rough and my heart feels so heavy your words make it all go away. You show me to put my fears and energy where it is better needed. So to you, my Guardian Angel, I send my love, my thoughts, my smiles and open arms each day you need a hug.

I just want you to know how much you mean to me and always will. No matter where our lives take us we will always be connected. God has given us that gift and believe me... I feel when things are not right in your mind.

My dearest, Marie... always you shall be... near, or may it be far... you are my star... one who lights the way and keeps me from steering astray. Precious woman,

woman of wisdom, love and peace.

I pray for your happiness and strength each day.

Thank you, my grandma, for all you are and all that you do. I love you so dearly...

Your Angel, Jessica Noelle Goudy

SPEND A SWEET VALENTINE'S DAY AT THE LIBRARY MAKING (WHAT ELSE?)...CANDY!

HICKSVILLE—Come spend a sweet Valentine's Day at the Johnson Memorial Library with an extra special Teen Candy Making Night on Thursday, February 14 at 6:30 p.m. The program is free and is open to all preteens and teenagers.

The candy making will include chocolates, truffles, chocolate covered cherries and pretzels, gummy treats, and much, much more. All candy making supplies will be provided by the Friends of the Hicksville Library.

"Guys, did you forget to buy your sweet some sweets? Well, making her some homemade chocolates just might get you out of the doghouse. Girls, if he forgot about you, forget about him and come on out and make your own chocolates and candies at the library," with Youth Services' Librarian Dustin Harris.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about the Teen Candy Making Night, please call Youth Services' Librarian Dustin Harris at the Johnson Memorial Library at (419) 542-6200.

HAWTHORN COURT SCORES WELL ABOVE STATEWIDE AVERAGE IN CUSTOMER SATISFACTION

Great things are happening at Hawthorn Court skilled nursing and rehabilitation center. In a recent customer satisfaction survey, The Ohio Department of Aging ranked the facility well above the average score among nursing homes in the state. The survey was conducted by Vital Research LLC and consisted of in-person interviews with residents in all of the state's nearly 1,000 nursing facilities and 550 licensed residential care facilities (a.k.a. assisted living).

The questionnaire covered topics such as activities, administration, admissions, choice, environment and general satisfaction. Survey results will now join family satisfaction ratings and Ohio Department of Health inspection data which is part of the Department of Aging's Long-term Care Consumer Guide.

Hawthorn Court scored a 92.4 as compared to the statewide average score of 86.3. The center scored well within the 90s on several key

questions including whether residents were satisfied with their care (95.6) and whether they would recommend this facility to others (97.8).

"We are very proud of these results," said John Parsons, administrator for Hawthorn Court. "Of course, we're always trying to make sure our residents are satisfied with the care we provide and we think we're doing a good job, but it's nice to know the residents themselves are truly happy with how we are serving their needs and exceeding their expectations."

The Long-term Care Consumer Guide is published online at www.ltco-hio.org and is managed by the state's long-term care Ombudsman. It provides information to help consumers, family members and professionals research and find appropriate facilities to meet an individual's needs.

Hawthorn Court is a Peregrine Health Systems facility. It has been serving the community of Paulding since 1972 and will open a brand new skilled nursing and assisted living facility in the area this spring.

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