

Happy Valentine's Day

MILLER - WOODCOX



Bruce Miller of Louisville and Jackie Miller of Alliance, have announced the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Brittani to Matthew Woodcox, son of Kevin and Laura

Woodcox of Antwerp.

The bride-elect is a 2005 graduate of Marlinton High School. She received an Associate's degree in Nursing from Hocking College in December 2008. She is currently

employed as an RN at Canterbury Villa in Alliance, Ohio.

Her fiancé is a 2006 graduate of Antwerp High School and Vantage Career Center. He graduated in May 2008 from Hocking College with an Associate's degree in Environmental Restoration. He is employed as an electrician at Air Enterprises in Akron, Ohio.

The couple is planning an outside wedding in the spring of 2010.

GMC QUIZ BOWL SCORES FROM 2/5

These are the scores from last week's GMC Quiz bowl competitions held on 2/5

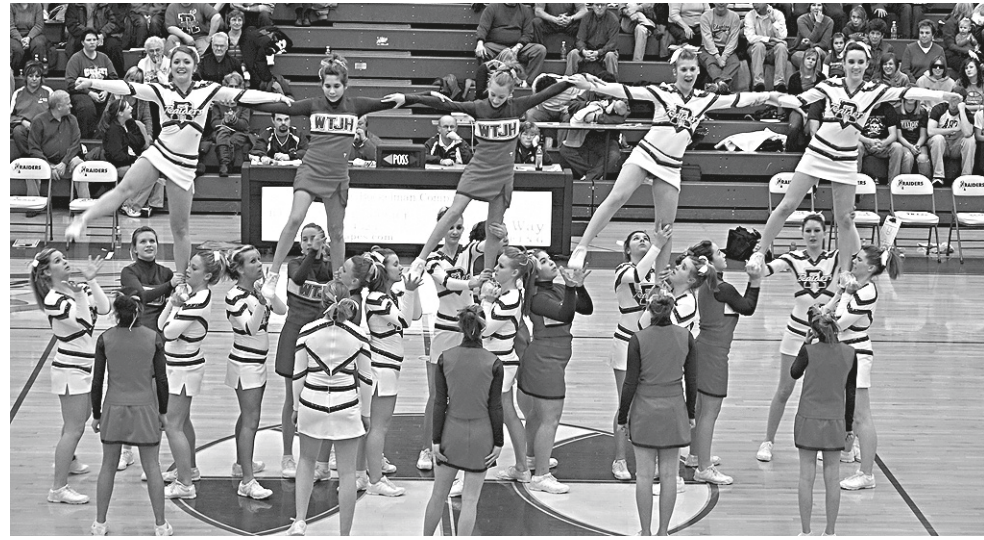
At Wayne Trace - WT 25, Edgerton 7; WT 29, Edgerton 15

At Ayersville - Ayersville 19, Antwerp 32; Ayersville 29 Antwerp 30

At Holgate - Fairview 19, Holgate 5; Fairview 25, Holgate 16

At Hicksville - Hicksville 21, Tinora 39; Hicksville 10, Tinora 31

BIG NIGHT FOR WAYNE TRACE CHEERLEADERS



Wayne Trace recently had their annual Cheerleading Routine which the girls pulled off beautifully on both February 6th & 7th. Several of the local schools are preparing for the GMC cheerleading championships on March 7th. The cheer routines that you see at cheerleading competitions come from hard work and lots of practice. More pictures at www.westbend-news.net

VANTAGE BOARD DISCUSSES LEVY VOTE

Special guest and newly appointed state school board member Tracey Smith, was introduced at the regular February monthly board meeting of the Vantage Board of Education on February 5. The minutes from the January 8, 2009 meeting were approved along with financial statements for the month of December, 2008. The board passed resolutions to amend appropriations and revenues for FY09 and transfer \$10,000 from the general fund to the cafeteria fund. They also passed resolutions to transfer all transactions from the Uniform School Supply fund to the general fund and to define purchases and activities of the Rotary Fund.

Superintendent Staci Kaufman provided the board with a final levy update and discussed the February 19 filing deadline for the May, 2009 ballot. She recommended that the bond issue not be placed on the May 2009 ballot. The board will hold further discussion to consider placing

the bond issue on the August or November 2009 ballot. She also reported on the interstate gas agreement, student fees and uniforms. Director Bob Vennekotter provided information on the progress of the Carpentry and Building and Grounds projects, skill contests, blue chippers, the Honeywell Instant Alert messaging system and the Paulding Ag teacher position. Principal Keith Rydell updated the board on the SkillsUSA contests, OGT scores from the fall test date, February attendance marathon and an educational seminar provided to the staff by the Van Wert Police Department. He also reported on his meetings with the academic department regarding final exams and the work of the attendance committee. Adult Education Director Jim Grant reported that adult classes show an increase of 78 students from last fall and that winter enrollment is going well. He and Pete Prichard are meeting with other area colleges and career centers to determine how ABLE and certificate courses will fit in the new Board of Regents system.

In new business, the board:

—Approved Brian Merce as the Paulding Ag instructor as needed, as scheduled for the 2008-2009 school year;

—Approved the following list of contract services for "Step Into Your Future" workshop: Dan Myers, Michael Meska, Mark Price and Joe Smith;

—Employed the following

as Adult Education instructors, as needed, as scheduled: David Ricker, Computers; Brian Stahl, Fire Protection; Stephen Richardson, Edward Klausung and James Loughrie, all Police Academy;

—Approved the NEOLA new, revised or replacement policies;

—Accepted with thanks a \$37,500 grant from the Van Wert County Foundation through the Rothaker/Lampe bequest for use in the electronic department;

—Accepted with thanks two donations to the Haiti Project - a \$250 donation from First Presbyterian Church and \$3218.74 from the Van Wert Rotary Foundation;

—Approved a resolution retaining construction counsel for Ohio School Facilities Commission Vocational Facilities Assistance Program

(Continued on Page 2)

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OBITUARIES

James H. Van Horn, Sr., 83, of Payne, passed away Thursday, February 5, 2009 at Dallas Lamb Foundation Home.

James was born in Monroeville, Indiana on May 1, 1925, the son of the late James and Mildred (Davis) VanHorn.

He served in the U.S. Navy, worked at Dana in Fort Wayne, was a lifetime member of Antwerp VFW, he loved western movies and playing cards. On July 6, 1948 he married Dorothy Owens, who passed away June 18, 2008.

James will be sadly missed by his daughter, Patricia (Jon) Friend of Cecil; sons: James (Sharon) of Fort Wayne, Kenneth (Rose) of Payne, John (Leighann) and Clifford both of Hicksville; sisters: Rose Mullen and Donna Rose Linder both of Van Wert, Mary Jane Brunner and Mary Ellen Linder both of Decatur, IN, and Gloria Linder; brothers: Clyde, Donald and Paul Linder all of Decatur and Dennis Linder; nine grandchildren; and 18 great grandchildren.

Services were February 9, 2009 at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp. Rev. Jim Edwards officiated. He was laid to rest at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp.

Memorials are to the donors choice. Condolences and fond memories may be shared at www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

Grace M. Gillett, 72, of Defiance died Sunday, February 1, 2009 at her residence.

She was born January 13, 1937 in Paulding County the daughter of Charles W. and Dorothy Mae (Turner) Fellers. She was employed by the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094 for 14 years.

She is survived by one

son, Mark (Gail) Gillett of Grover Hill; one daughter, Brooke (Terry) Lantz of Cherokee, NC; two sisters: Barbara (Henry) McCarty of Defiance and Darlene (Jim) Proxmire of Cecil; and nine grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one infant daughter, Sheila Gillett; and two sisters: Dolores Landers and Rowena Coon.

Funeral services were February 7, 2009 at the Den Herder Funeral Home with Rev. Ben Lowell officiating. Burial will be in Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding at a later date.

The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Defiance Area Visiting Nurses.



Peggy J. Smith, 84, of Harlan, IN died Monday, February 2, 2009 at Parkview Hospital, Fort Wayne, IN.

She was born in Angola, IN. She was a member of #6572 VFW Auxiliary, Waterloo and the Harlan United Methodist Church. Peggy enjoyed childcare, embroidering, cooking, fishing and gardening.

She is survived by her daughter, Sheila J. (Rick) Lothamer of Antwerp; a son, Dale L. (Cindy) Smith of New Haven, IN; grandchildren: Tracey (Jared) Mull, Dustin (Brenda) Smith, Roland (Tiffany) Lothamer; great-grandchildren: Madelyn, Alaine, Sophia, and Alexis; a brother, Jack (Gwen) Chorpenning; and a sister, Patricia Caper-

ton. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dale R. Smith; a daughter, Dian; and a sister, Delores Lewis.

Services were held on February 6, 2009 at the Harlan United Methodist Church, Harlan, IN. Burial was in Highland Park Cemetery, Fort Wayne, IN.

Preferred memorials to Cancer Service of Northeast Indiana or Harlan United Methodist Church. Arrangements were handled by Hockemeyer Funeral Home, Harlan, IN.

**EILEEN DONAT
10-15-21/02-10-07**

Dear Mom,
Do you hear me when I talk to you?
It's been two long long lonely years
With pain and loneliness in my heart
Do you see my many flowing tears?

God chose you for His angel
To watch over me from above
To guide me and advise me
And know that I'm still loved.

Even though you left this earth
And had to take your flight
I know that you are with me
Each morning, noon and night

So when another year starts
without you
I'll try to understand
An angel came and called your name
And took you by the hand

But as my years and loneliness
continue
And there's emptiness in my heart
Remember it's you I'm missing
As has been from the start.

I thank you, Mom
For all you did for me,
Your daughter,

—Joyce P

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL PRESENTS COMMUNITY EDUCATION ON DIABETES

Have you heard all the talk about the new test for diabetes, Hemoglobin A1c? Actually it is not a new test at all but it has recently gained popularity with physicians to diagnose and monitor diabetes. Information about this test will be a topic at a community education session held in the Education Room at Paulding County Hospital on February 17 at 4:00 p.m. Presenting education on Hgb A1c and nutrition for diabetics will be Joyce Svoboda, Registered Dietician at Paulding County Hospital. As a diabetic herself, this topic is close to her heart. Joyce will also be discussing pre-diabetes. Some people with certain criteria are more apt to develop diabetes than

others. With proper diet and exercise, developing diabetes may be avoided altogether or at least it can be lessened in severity. If you have a family history of diabetes, it would be helpful for you to know what to do to avoid developing the disease. In all four major types of diabetes, the body doesn't either produce enough insulin or no longer uses it efficiently. Treatment of each type may vary.

Natalie Koester, Physical Therapist at Paulding County Hospital will discuss exercise and the role it plays in controlling diabetes. Regular exercise can actually lower blood glucose levels along with triglycerides and raise the good cholesterol, HDL.

There will also be a question and answer session after the educational information is given. Healthy diabetic friendly snacks will be served. You do not need to register, but you can by calling 419-399-1129.

VANTAGE VOCATIONAL SCHOOL VOTING RESULTS

By: Sue Knapp

Vantage Vocational School lost the bid for an increase in monies in a special election held on February 3, 2009. According to information from the Van Wert BOE the results of the four counties involved were: Auglaize – for 0, against 0; Mercer – for 70, against 249; Paulding – for 417, against 917; Putnam – for 885, against 1330 and Van Wert – for 1264, against 1083. This made a total of 6,215 votes with a difference of 943.

HICKSVILLE'S RELAY FOR LIFE KICK-OFF

The Hicksville Relay for Life Kick-Off will take place at the Hicksville boys JV/Varsity basketball game on Friday, February 20, 6:30 p.m.

There will be a silent auction on team items and free gifts to all cancer survivors.

After the game you are invited to head out to the Hickory Hills Golf Course for food, fun, and entertainment, which will involve Crazy Purple Relay drinks and brats. M&M Sound by Bob Hathaway will be providing music from 9:00 p.m. to midnight.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMISSIONS AND DISMISSALS

Admissions:
2/4 – Thomas Coy, Paulding
2/5 – Debra Conley, Cecil
2/7 – June Temple, Antwerp
2/8 – Thomas Rash, Antwerp; Siera Octaviano, Antwerp
Dismissals:
2/4 – Phyllis Hayner, Oakwood
2/8 – Debra Conley, Cecil; Sandra Pessfall, Oakwood, transferred to Lutheran Hospital; Thomas Rash, Antwerp

(Continued from Page 1) and related locally funded initiatives;

—Approved a resolution to amend the contract for Lori Davis, Vantage treasurer, commencing January 1, 2009.

The Superintendent requested an executive session for the purpose of discussion of employment of personnel.

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Vantage Cup & Saucer.

ROLLING OUT THE RED CARPET AT COOPER COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The wheels are turning and the brainstorming has begun in preparation of the fourth Chocolate Extravaganza in Oakwood. What began as a fund raising event for the campaign to build a new Oakwood branch of the Paulding County Carnegie Library has become a much anticipated annual event. Each year the seating capacity has increased to accommodate those requesting tickets. The first two Extravaganzas were served in an elegant buffet setting at a local church. Last year the event was held in the new Community Room at the library and was expanded to two nights where guests were served at their tables. The event planners committee of the Cooper Community Library had noticed that many people were getting into the themed dinners held Labor Day weekend so they decided on a Mardi Gras theme for the Extravaganza last year and this year they will be rolling out the red carpet to a Hollywood theme.

The event is Thursday and Friday, March 5 and 6 at 7:00 p.m. Guests will again be sampling 25-30 different chocolate treats along with receiving a favor and chances at door prizes. While elegant dress is definitely not required it is welcome. It's the chance to wear that glam outfit hanging in the closet that was only worn once, Grandma's fur stole, a feather boa, or lots of jewelry. Walking the red carpet in blue jeans is just as welcome. It's all held in good fun for a good cause. Tickets can be purchased at the library during business hours or call 419-594-3337. Due to the demand, all tickets must be paid for before the event and are non-refundable.

AREA STUDENT, ALISHA RILEY, ATTENDS INAUGURATION

By: Sue Knapp
Alisha Riley, granddaughter of Nylice and Bill Thomas of Paulding, attended the Presidential Inauguration in Washington D.C. along with five other students and their advisors from the Newspaper and TV Production staff from their school.

Alicia attends school in Findlay and is very interested in Photo Journalism. She commented that the inauguration was 'pretty amazing'. Her group was between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. The atmosphere was very comfortable with the crowd being there for one common purpose. Alisha appreciated the opportunity to have witnessed this historical event.

Alisha is the daughter of Bill and Joni Riley of Findlay.

*In Memory of
Nancy
1942-2008
34th Anniversary (Feb. 14)*

It's been over two months since you left to be with God. I miss you more everyday. It doesn't seem fair that we did not get to celebrate our 34th anniversary together. I know you are in a better place. You will always be in my heart. Happy Anniversary & Sadley Missed.

—Love Rudie

**Paulding Co. Hospital presents a: Community Education Opportunity
Diabetes Education**

Have been told you are pre-diabetic?
Do you have a family history of diabetes?
Do you have:

- High Blood Pressure
- High Cholesterol
- High Triglycerides

Then YOU might want to attend this informational free meeting.

**Tuesday, February 17, 2009
4:00 pm
PCH Education Room
Please RSVP @419-399-1129**

(Diabetic friendly snacks will be served)

Joyce Svoboda, Dietitian, will be talking about HgbA1C, pre diabetes and food ideas for the diabetic.

Natalie Koester, Physical Therapist, will be providing fitness recommendations.

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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. To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 1000 words. You can respond or submit a new letter by email, USPS or fax.

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

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fax: 419-258-1313
USPS: West Bend News
PO Box 1008
Antwerp, OH 45813*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This original letter was sent to Senator Steve Buehrer in response to Sandra Wann's about opening day of the new US 24

Dear Senator Buehrer,
I am a former resident of Paulding County Ohio and a past, active member of the "Fort to Port" Improvement Committee which championed the efforts to 'bring about' the many safety improvements to this busy highway that traverses northwest Ohio and Paulding County.

The efforts to promote safety improvements to this heavily travelled routes by one person in particular from Antwerp, Ohio in the late 1980's and throughout the 1990's surpassed the collective efforts of the rest of our group. That person was Louise Miller, first female Mayor of Antwerp, serving three terms from 1988-2000. There wasn't a Fort to Port Committee person from Paulding County that was more interested in and worked tirelessly for the safety improvements to this highway that will soon be very evident to the motorizing public. Despite her physical limitations, she was 'there'

...as Mayor and private citizen talking up and cheering on everybody associated with improving US Highway 24.

As opening day of the new highway approaches, would you consider championing an effort to recognize former Antwerp Mayor D. Louise Miller for her contributions in bringing about this new, improved and safer highway? Such recognition could include naming a section of the highway near Antwerp in her memory and honor.

Thank you for your time, Senator.

Sincerely,

—Jim Hooker

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Cold hard facts are, at times, harder to accept than the word of different individuals or voters, but the one real fact is, under Ohio laws, that each county must have a Sheriff as the chief law enforcement officer. Their primary duties are to provide common pleas court services and corrections on a countywide basis, and full police protection to the unincorporated areas of the county. By statute they must provide the following: Line Law Enforcement, Court Security and Service of Papers, Jail Operations, Extradition Process, and Transportation of Prisoners. Interesting enough the Sheriff holds a great number of powers that even I didn't think possible such as: they can dismiss court when the judge fails to appear; are invoked with full responsibility of the courthouse; the Sheriff's powers supersedes that of any city law enforcement officer and the list goes on. The Sheriff, in deed, is an essential part of law enforcement and the community.

I guess the question for me is how much? And what if the community is so small that the very existence of such a force would lend to a financial burden too great for them to sustain; then what? In my own mind I had to understand why the Sheriff's existence was so

important, which I did, but along with that I now have to weigh what I believe to be my needs (community) and sustainability.

A couple weeks back there was an article in the newspaper that compared Paulding to Defiance. I would like to address what I believe to be the falsies to that argument. First, the assumption that the number of people in a particular county is greater than that of another county serves as a reason for more protection is not necessarily true. Defiance County is twice as big as Paulding is but what are their dynamics? How are they developed structurally in terms of population, ethnically and diversely, area businesses, schools, and setting? All of which plays a significant role in planning and meeting the communities needs.

Paulding and Defiance have many similarities in that they both serve city and county communities but then again so do their differences. I'll explain. It was suggested that Paulding had 19,182 citizens to serve but if you were to read the article you are to assume a vast majority were concentrated or amassed in a small or tight area, which is hardly the case. The Village of Paulding comprises of 3,367 citizens. Therefore the vast majority of Paulding is largely represented by its rural constituents, making it 17% Urban and 83% Rural. On the other hand, Defiance with a population of 38,543, with 15,998 citizens living directly in the city makes 47% Urban and 53% Rural; a huge contrast! Under federal guidelines Defiance qualifies as a "Micro-politan" city of 10,000 or greater whereas Paulding does not; that's why Paulding is the "Village of..." and not "City of..."

Defiance not only has a greater number of concentrated body of people but there are the issues of diversity in comparison to the type of industry, manufacturing, retail, colleges, and what that brings in terms of the public well-being and meeting their expectations and needs. Defiance hosts two of the Top 100 manufactures in Ohio. In 2007 there were 62 new startup companies in comparison to Paulding's 22. From 1998-2007 their Private Investment in New and Expanding Facilities grew by 4.7% whereas Paulding grew by only 1.8%. With Defiance's growth came more people, more multiplicity, more social and political issues, and above all more funds and facilities to deal with all of them.

So, to answer the question about sustainability; it's my belief based off real facts and figures that Paulding will require much more infrastructure instead of elaborate ideas, build upon viable and producing industry instead of iron wills or walls, re-evaluate ourselves and our community in order to expand successfully.

But until then, maybe the city and county of Paulding could be concentrating on more important issues, solutions and programs for:

Infant mortality rate in Paulding is the same as the State 7.8%

Teen pregnancy rate in Paulding is 60.8, State 75.1, Ages 10-17 (one of the

youngest on record) Suicide in Paulding is 10%, State 10.1%

Mortality rate of Coronary Heart Disease in Paulding 219.3, State 210.2

Mortality rate of Cancer in Paulding 208.4, State 212.7

Ohio Unemployment Rate as of January 2009 is 9.4%. December 2008 7.8%. One year earlier, December 2007, the unemployment rate was 4.9%.

14.6% of Paulding residents are enrolled into the Medicaid program.

30% of children in Paulding are enrolled into the Medicaid program.

45.3% of all births in Paulding were paid by Medicaid.

56.3% of mothers receiving Medicaid in Paulding had two or more risk factors for poor birth outcomes.

The jail? You decide. The proof is in the figures. It's not reasonable to compare a city/county that is far more diverse with greater needs and reasonably expect a fair conclusion! It's not explaining the full complexities or the truth. In terms of the Sheriff, under Ohio law it states:

Ohio Revised Code 311.06 Location of sheriff's office:

Ohio Revised Code 311.29 Contracts for police services: (B)

Ohio Revised Code 737.04 Mutual aid contracts for police protection:

(content edited for space; if you wish to read the Ohio revised code on these issues, go to <http://codes.ohio.gov/>)

In a nutshell, Paulding County must maintain a Sheriff and provide him/her an office. If Paulding can not afford a jail, outsource it. By the time we pay salaries, retirement, insurance, liability, bonds, facility, meals, insurance (some inmates have their own insurance and must use it), etc it would pay for itself to just pass it on. But for those who want to continue this issue it is disrespecting the will of the people. You ask not once but several times and each time the voters of Paulding turned you down; let the dead dog lie. My mother would say that you have champagne taste on a beer bottle wallet - with all due respect, it don't work!

Most Humbly,
—C.L. West,
Oakwood, OH

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Guidance Counselor Week is February 9th through February 13th and we would like to remind you to take an extra minute in your day to say thank you to your child's Guidance Counselor. Everyday a Guidance Counselor touches the life of a student. A Guidance Counselor advises students on personal and academic problems, career choices and so much more. We would like to recognize all Guidance Counselors for their dedication to every child that enters their office.

A Guidance Counselor, everyday inspires children to learn and grow in so many ways. We would also like to recognize the dedication that a Guidance Counselor shows their students who are planning their futures, whether it is planning for college or looking at the work force. Guidance Counselors create the

groundwork for our future. Here at Sylvan Learning Center, we all notice what Guidance Counselors do for the students of our community, but rarely are you recognized for it. So, please take the time to THANK Guidance Counselors for making a difference in a student's life.

—Jami Sullivan
Defiance, OH
Sylvan Learning Center

AUGLAIZE COMPUTER SERVICES

By: Sue Knapp

Auglaize Computer Services will help you with your computer woes. Tom has 17 years experience with computers and has decided to branch out on his own. He offers computer services for businesses and private owners. He not only does consulting for new businesses but also will fix your computer on location or if you bring it to him your rate will be reduced. Some other services provided are business network installing, PC repair and virus removal. You may call Auglaize Computer Services at 419-393-2774 or 419-784-6228.

UPTOWN DESIGNS COMING TO DOWNTOWN OAKWOOD

The Community Room at the Cooper Community Library continues to be the scene of monthly classes that appeal to different interests. This month interior decorating enthusiasts won't be disappointed when the ladies from the Kalida business Uptown Designs will be on hand to share lots of ideas and techniques in home decorating. Questions are welcome and encouraged as they demonstrate new ideas with color, rugs, window treatments, accessories and offer the Do's and Don'ts of decorating. They will also bring along some of their gift line of jewelry, watches, and inspirational books when they visit on Thursday, February 19 at 7:00 p.m. No registration is required.

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL SURVEYED BY THE JOINT COMMISSION

"Astounding"; "One of the best, if not the best critical access hospitals I've ever surveyed". These are quotes made by The Joint Commission surveyor after an intense three-day accreditation survey at Community Memorial Hospital.

The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public. The Joint Commission accredits and certifies more than 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. Joint Commission accreditation and certification is recognized nationwide as a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to meeting certain performance standards.

"We could not be more proud of the commitment and hard work of our team members," states Melvin Fahs, Hospital CEO. "Their dedication to providing safe, quality care in a warm and friendly environment cannot be beat. We are blessed to have such an exceptional hospital in our community."

"Kudos to everyone," states Jane Zachrich, VP of Patient Care, "It takes all of us to be successful. These compliments were not based on a one-time event, but on the way we do business day-in and day-out."

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THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

By: Pastor Joe DeSelm, Woodburn Missionary Church

Memories of the 1929 Rose Bowl game between Georgia Tech and the University of California would have faded into oblivion by now if there had not occurred one unforgettable play. The opponents in the game were well-matched and every yard gained was hard-earned. But just before half-time, the ball popped loose after a jarring tackle by one of California's players. Team-mate Roy Riegals scooped up the ball, scampered 65 yards, and would have scored a touchdown if he hadn't been tackled - by one of his own players! For Riegals had been running the wrong way!

When his coach, Nibs Price, came into the locker room at halftime, Riegals was sitting with a towel over his head, sobbing like a baby. None of his teammates could coax him back onto the field. But the coach did... with these words: "Roy, get up and go out. The game is only half over." Roy Riegals returned to the field and played the best football game of his life.

As I recalled that story, I had to marvel at the power of affirmation. Who can measure its impact? Laborers work long and hard hours to gain the approval of their superiors. Ball players sweat and strain, urged on by the nodding approval of their coach and the applause of their fans. Students commit themselves to ambitious academic goals for the affirmation received at graduation.

No question about it, affirmation spurs us on. Author Mark Twain said it well: "I can live for a month on a good compliment." Affirmation fuels our inner fire. It deepens our determination. It buttresses our sense of significance and feelings of personal worth. As film star Celeste Holm once put it, "We live by encouragement and we die without it... slowly, sadly angrily."

Our Father created us with a need to be needed. Knowing us to be creatures who long for affirmation, He filled His Book with words of encouragement. Realizing that we occasionally run full speed in the wrong direction, He lovingly admonishes, forgives and affirms. Again and again He assures us of His love and our significance.

But may I make an honest admission? Even though God affirms me from His Word, it certainly is heart-warming to hear words from other people, too. And I suspect I'm no different from you.

Why not take some time this week to write a note of encouragement? To that mate of yours whose faithful partnership you so often take for granted... to that friend who is always there and always cares... to an individual who has believed in you and supported you through thick and thin.

It's thoughtful affirmations that help keep us keeping on. And it does the same for others. Who knows? Perhaps your well-written note or well-timed word will be just the spur to help someone keep on playing the second half.



FROM THE DOG WARDEN'S DESK

By: Mandy Lichty, Paulding County Dog Warden

Tiki is this week's featured pet. Tiki is a tiny little female dashund mix. She is tan with white feet and a white chest. Tiki is an adult probably around five or six years old. Little dogs live long lives and Tiki has plenty of love and affection for someone out there.

Also at the shelter we have Luke, a five month old Dutch Shepherd mix; his mom, Coral; Georgie, a male

blond Corgi mix; and Sasha, a female Rottweiler/Lab mix. New dogs come in everyday so check the website at www.petfinder.org/shelters/OH709.html

There is an adoption fee for all dogs and it includes a vaccination, worming, flea treatment, a license, and a coupon for a free micro-chip or a discounted spay/neuter from the Animal Clinic of Paulding.

We do allow out of state and out of county adoptions so anyone is welcome to come out and see the dogs on Fridays from 2:00-5:00 p.m. or call to make an appointment at 419-399-9728. The shelter is located at 13387 US 127 Paulding, OH.

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN WACHTMANN NAMED TO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

State Representative Lynn Wachtmann (R-Napoleon) was today appointed ranking member of the House Health Committee for the 128th General Assembly. Committee assignments were announced today by Ohio House Speaker Armond Budish (D-Beachwood) and House Minority Leader William G. Batchelder (R-Medina).

"It is an honor for me to continue to represent the conservative ideals of Northwest Ohio," Rep. Wachtmann said. "I am looking forward to facing and resolving the challenges these particular assignments provide."

In addition, Rep. Wachtmann was also named to the House Insurance; Commerce and Labor; and Aging and Disability Services Committees.

"Each of the committees to which I am assigned will oversee issues that are critical in our everyday lives," Wachtmann said. "My committee assignments reflect my personal commitments to the lives of the unborn, fiscal responsibility and growing our economy."

Rep. Wachtmann has returned to the Ohio House of Representative to serve his second term, having previously served as both a state representative and a state senator. During his tenure in the majority, Wachtmann served as chairman of both the House and Senate Health Committees.

He has been honored with the Watchdog of the Treasury Award for each term he has served in the Legislature. In addition he has received many other honors such as the Outstanding Freshman Legislator of the Year Award,

Paulding County's Students of the Month

JANUARY 2009

Paulding County has great students and we want to recognize them and their achievements. Paulding-Putnam Electric Cooperative, Inc. has teamed up with the West Bend News to bring you this information. We will be delivering different schools' students each month from OUR county. Congratulations to these young people!



Kiana Recker is Divine Mercy Catholic School's Student of the Month. Kiana is a fifth grade student in Mrs. Harp's class. She is the daughter of Lisa and Dennis Recker of Antwerp. Kiana is an outstanding student that displays leadership qualities both in the classroom and also outside the classroom.

She recently achieved the honor of representing Divine Mercy in the Paulding County Spelling Bee. Kiana's favorite subjects in school are social studies and math. Kiana is a hard-working, creative, and a dependable student. Divine Mercy School is proud of her! Keep up the good work Kiana!

Emily Beech, the daughter of Mark Beech and Becky Beech is a 6th grader at Wayne Trace Grover Hill Elementary. Emily will be representing WTGH at the county spelling bee on February 9th. She is a hard working student and enjoys social studies the most.

When outside of school, Emily likes to spend time on the computer or watching TV. When Emily grows up she would like to be a physical therapist. When Emily won the spelling bee her language arts teacher, Mrs. Casey Schlatter, laughed and said, "And to think she didn't think she could do this." Everyone at WTGH thinks Emily Beech will be able to do anything she sets her mind to.



Addison Bauble is a sixth grader at Wayne Trace Payne Elementary. She is the daughter of Jack and Annette Bauble of Payne. Her teachers are Mrs. April Krouse and Mrs. Tina Mead. Addison's favorite subjects are math and social studies. The sport she likes to play best is softball. She also plays volleyball and basketball. Her favorite NFL team is the Green Bay Packers. She is also a server at church and is in 4-H.

In her spare time she likes to hang out with friends, play games with her family, and read good books. When she grows up she wants to be an audiologist. Her brother inspired her to choose this profession because he had trouble hearing as an infant. She would like to thank her teachers at Payne Elementary for selecting her as student of the month.

The Paulding High School Student of the Month is Eric Ross. Eric is the son of Brian and Pat Ross. He is a senior at Paulding. He is a member of the basketball and track teams. He is also a member of the Science Olympiad Team, the Engineering Team, and the National Honor Society.

Eric has taken several Advanced Placement classes while in high school. He took AP Chemistry last school year and is currently taking AP Calculus and AP American History this year. After high school, Eric plans to attend the University of Notre Dame to major in Chemical Engineering. Congratulations Eric!



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Ohio Right to Life Defender of Life Award, Thomas Van Meter Outstanding Conservative Leadership Award and the American Legislative Exchange Council Legislator of the Year Award.

In addition to his work with the Ohio House, Rep. Wachtmann is president of Maumee Valley Bottling, Inc. and a partner in Culligan Water Conditioning.

FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE PAULDING COUNTY CARNEGIE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The February meeting of the Paulding County Carnegie Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, February 26 at 6:00 p.m. at the main Carnegie library in Paulding. Board members are appointed by the judge of Common Pleas Court. Current board members are: Sue Derck (President), Terry Wehrkamp (Vice-President), Michelle Stahl (Secretary), Geoff Hyman, Sue Thrasher, and Corey Walker. The Fiscal Officer for the Board is Wilma Mullins. Director of the Library is Susan Pieper. The public is welcome to attend board meetings.

Happy Valentine's Day from your Friends at Country Times Market. Bring in your Sweetheart for Breakfast or Lunch and **Get \$1.00 Off on Second Meal.** 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM February 14. 625 S. Erie St. Antwerp, OH 45813 (419) 258-2600 

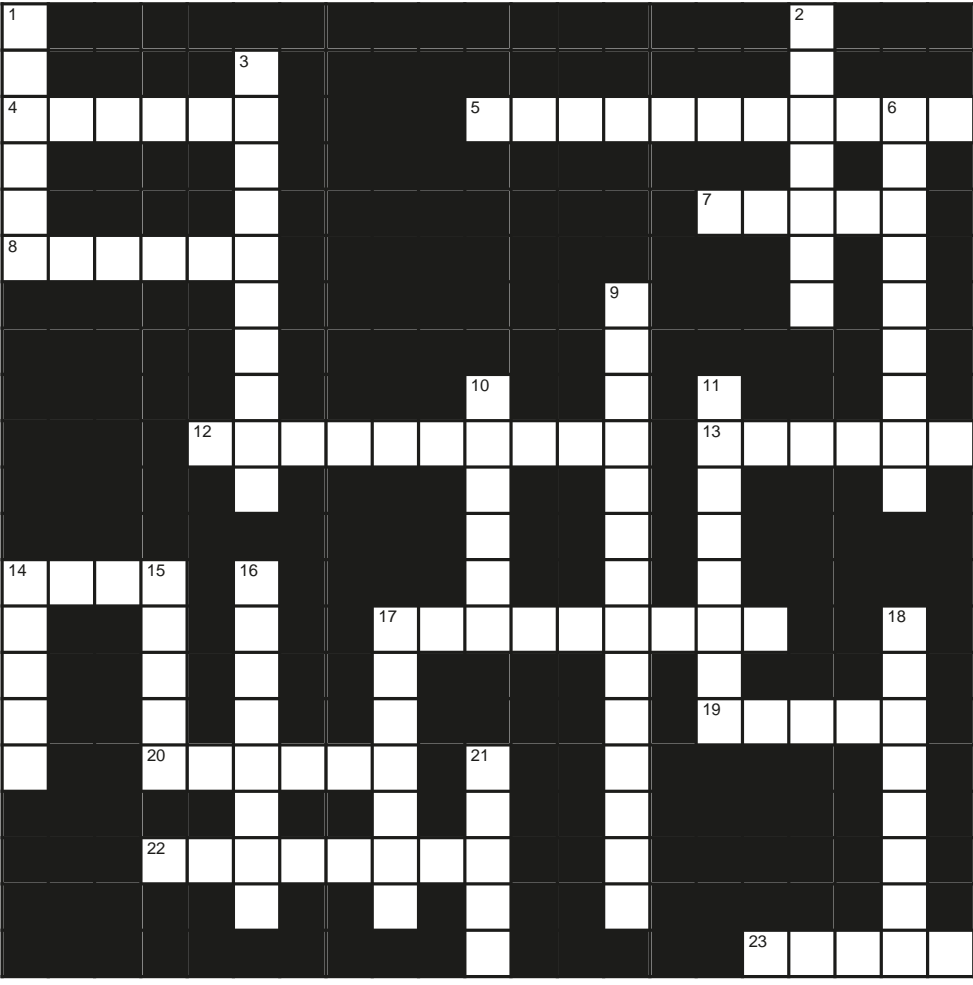
Divine Mercy Catholic Parish Mass
Schedule:
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 6:00 p.m. - Paulding
 Sunday - 8:30 a.m. - Antwerp
 Sunday - 10:30 a.m. - Paulding


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Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 4. Downhill skiing is called this.
- 5. Icy snow conditions is known as an eastern WHAT?
- 7. The act of digging the ski/snowboard edge into packed snow in order to turn.
- 8. Mounds of snow.
- 12. The position of your skis in a 'V' shape. (2 words)
- 13. Snow boarding term for a boarder descending a mountain.
- 14. The average depth of snow on a mountain.
- 17. These skis are skinnier in the waist, with the ends being considerably thicker.
- 19. A skier who pauses to take in the scenery.
- 20. To ski down the slope without turning.
- 22. The straightest and steepest line down any slope. (2 words)
- 23. Picabo Street had this animal painted on her helmet.

Down

- 1. An alpine skiing discipline.
- 2. The first run of the day. (2 words)
- 3. Off-trail skiing reached by helicopter. (hyphenated word)
- 6. Cold weather and good food is known as this
- 9. Wet, heavy snow. (2 words)
- 10. Light, ungroomed snow.
- 11. Making a long run at less than break neck speed is called this.
- 14. The name of a slope that teaches beginners.
- 15. Metal sides to the skis or board that provides grip or breaking power.
- 16. This ski event has only red gates.
- 17. Most ski boots are made of this material.
- 18. A fall in which skis, poles, hats, etc. end up strewn along the mountain side. (2 words)
- 21. A beginner skier is called this.

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) is pleased to announce that Small Business Administration (SBA) federal economic injury disaster loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives and most private, non-profit organizations located in Ohio. The loans are for such entities that were affected by excessive rain and high winds associated with Hurricane Ike on September 14 through 16, 2008. Congressman Latta issued the following statement following the SBA's notification of the loan availability:

"These loans will assist many farm and non-farm-related small business concerns in the counties of Northwest Ohio that have suffered financial losses as a direct result of this disaster. The counties of Ashland, Crawford, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Wood, and Wyandot are eligible under the program."

Under the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, qualified small businesses and non-profit organizations may meet the criteria for loans up to \$2 million. The loans are available at a 4 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. The SBA determines eligibility based on the size of the applicant, type of activity and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition. Under this disaster declaration, the SBA cannot provide loans to agricultural producers.

Disaster victims should contact the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired) Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The SBA can also be contacted via email at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Victims may also apply for disaster loans at SBA's website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

9	7	1	8	2	5	4	6	3
8	6	4	7	1	3	9	5	2
5	3	2	6	4	9	7	1	8
6	2	5	3	9	7	8	4	1
7	1	3	4	8	2	5	9	6
4	8	9	1	5	6	2	3	7
1	5	7	2	3	4	6	8	9
3	9	6	5	7	8	1	2	4
2	4	8	9	6	1	3	7	5

BUEHRER NAMED CHAIR OF SENATE INSURANCE, COMMERCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

Ohio Senate President Bill Harris (R-Ashland) today appointed State Senator Steve Buehrer (R-Delta) to serve as Chair of the Senate Insurance, Commerce & Labor Committee during the 128th General Assembly. As leader of this important panel, Sen. Buehrer will have a major impact on legislative efforts in a number of key policy areas, including business regulations, health, property and casualty insurance, consumer protection and worker's compensation issues.

"The issues of business regulatory insurance and worker's compensation are critical to the economic climate of our state. So often these issues are central to Ohio's ability to attract development, create and retain jobs and grow our economy," said Buehrer. "I am honored to have been chosen to lead such an important committee, and I look forward to working with my colleagues to craft good public policy for all Ohioans."

Sen. Buehrer will also continue to have an influential voice in the future direction of Ohio's transportation system as Vice Chair of the Senate Highways & Transportation Committee.

He was appointed as Chair of the Senate Highways Committee during the 127th General Assembly and also served as a member of the 21st Century Transportation Priorities Task Force, as well as Chair of the Ohio Fuel Production Task Force.

"At a time when state, local and national leaders are working to overcome historic challenges in our economy, a well-maintained, easily-accessible transportation system is not only important to Ohio's recovery but a critical part of our state's future economic success," explained Buehrer. "I will continue to work in the coming months to ensure that transportation is a major part of the discussion about Ohio's economic future."

Sen. Buehrer will also serve as a member of the Energy & Public Utilities Committee, the Health, Human Services & Aging Committee and the Judiciary Committee on Civil Justice.

"Steve has proven himself to be a valuable member of our caucus, who has an extensive knowledge of many issues and a passion for improving Ohio's business and regulatory climate, creating jobs and growing our economy," said Harris. "His leadership and dedication will continue to be a tremendous asset in the months ahead."

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WILSON BIOGRAPHY REFERENCE

By: Ellen Williams, Paulding Schools

Biography Reference Bank is offered through INFOhio and contains articles about more than a half-million people, most in full text, from around the world. Biography Reference Bank is a product of H.W. Wilson and includes licensed profiles from other leading publishers, color photos, and articles selected for accuracy, completeness, and reference reputation.

A variety of search options makes this product invaluable for women's studies, multi-cultural studies, and other areas beyond simple name look-ups. You can even search "Speeches of the American Presidents" for a specific president's speech.

To learn more about what's available on INFOhio go to www.infohio.org or check out the Paulding Schools Web page www.PauldingSchools.org and go to INFOhio through the Media Center page. Contact your school Media Center for a username and password. It is the same password as INFOhio.org

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INCREDIBLE COMEBACK FOR LADY PANTHERS



Paulding played Ada Thursday, Feb. 5 at the home court. The Panthers were down 13-20 at half time. The team made a fantastic run on the Bulldogs the whole second half and ended up winning 45-38 scoring 32 points in the second half! Pictured is Senior Morgan Hammon sneaking past the competition adding to the score. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

The Ada/Paulding varsity girls basketball game on February 5th was a close one.

Paulding pulled out the win in the last half: 45-38.

Paulding now stands at 6-9, 4-2 NWC and Ada now stands at 6-8, 1-4 NWC

Score by the quarter:
Ada - 10 10 7 11=38

Paulding - 9 4 16 16=45
Individual stats:
Ada - Fell 2-2-7, Wilson 1-0-2, Jolliff 1-2-4, Ma. Dumbaugh 6-0-14, Mo. Dumbaugh 3-3-11

Paulding - Carr 2-1-6, Hatcher 4-0-8, Hammon 0-2-2, Erford 2-9-14, Myers 0-2-2, Farr 1-0-2, Kauser 4-3-11



Paulding invited the Van Wert Cougars for a varsity game Sat, Feb. 7. Another exciting game ending with the Panthers on top 59-55. Shown here Senior Bryant Troyer scoring a basket from just inside the 3 point line. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

PAM OECHSLE TO SPEAK AT NEXT NAMI MEETING

The monthly meeting of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, February 16. Meetings, which are open to the public, are held at the Drop-In Center located at 407 N. Franklin, Van Wert.

Speaker will be local resident, Pam Oechsle, who obtained a B. A. Degree in Bible Theology, Psychology and Sociology and is a graduate of Huntington College. Ms. Oechsle currently serves as director of the Challenged Higher Drop-In Center as well as housing co-ordinator for Mercer County Residential Services.

Topic of the evening will be 'Psychiatric Advance Directives' which allows a person, when healthy, to state his or her treatment preferences and name a proxy so that his or her wishes will be known and followed in case of a crisis. Developing a psychiatric advance directive give people the opportunity to discuss signs and symptoms of mental illness and treatment preferences. When properly planned and implemented, a psychiatric advance directive is a natural fit with recovery and resiliency.

The local NAMI affiliate is currently accepting renewal of the annual dues and also accepting new members. Contact the membership chairman at 419-965-2758 for additional information. The NAMI affiliate is available by sending e-mail to namivw@roadrunner.com or calling 800-541-NAMI (6264) or 419-238-2413.

IHSAA GIRL'S BASKETBALL SECTIONAL PAIRINGS

Class 2A - South Adams Sectional:

Tuesday, February 10, Woodlan vs Adams Central, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 13, Bluffton vs South Adams, 6:00 p.m.

Bishop Luers vs Adams Central/Woodlan winner 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 14, Championship, 7:30 p.m.

WARRIORS CRUSHED BY HAWKS

By: Jeff Abbott

Harding quickly pulled away from Woodlan and led the Warriors 20-6 at the end of the first quarter and continued to build their lead by the half, taking a 39-12 advantage to the locker room. The Hawks finished with a 68-29 win over the Warriors in boys' basketball. LaMon-dre Warren finished the game as high scorer, getting 22 points to lead the Hawks. Corbin Bell and Cameron Evans each had 8 points for Woodlan.

Score by the quarter:
Woodlan - 6 6 12 5=29
Harding - 20 19 22 7=68
Team scorers:

Woodlan - Bell 8, Evans 8, Romines 5, Rydell 4, Hines 2, Mumma 2

Harding - Warren 22, Smith 11, Carr 9, Stevenson 8, Milligan 6, Lymon 5, Fields 4, Williams 3

WOODLAN GOES DOWN AGAINST LEO IN ACAC BASKETBALL PLAY

By: Jeff Abbott

Leo took an early lead and then gradually pulled away from Woodlan for a 67-48 win over the Warriors in boys' ACAC basketball at the Warriors' gym. The Lions led 16-10 after the first quarter and extend the lead to 30-21 at the half. Ryan Bollier led the way for Leo with 19 points and Jordan Bowerman, still recovering from a wrist injury on his non-shooting arm, scored 14 points. Corbin Bell and Jerrid Rydell each scored 11 points for the Warriors. Rydell hit for 3 three-pointers in the game.

Score by the quarter:
Leo - 16 14 22 15=67
Woodlan - 10 11 18 9=48
Team scorers:

Leo - Bollier 19, Bowerman 14, Suciu 13, Oyer 8, Pepple 4, Moreau 4, Brumm 3, Kumle 2

Woodlan - Bell 11, Rydell 11, Hines 10, Gorrell 5, Evans 4, Mumma 3, Lortie 2, Romines 2

Taylor Horn shot for 19 points as the Lions won the reserve game over Woodlan 45-37. Cameron Kinsey came off the bench to put in 16 points for Woodlan.

WOODLAN WRESTLERS FINISH 3RD AT NEW HAVEN WRESTLING SECTIONAL

By: Jeff Abbott

New Haven topped the ten team field at the New Haven wrestling sectional with NHC member Homestead finishing second and ACAC members Woodlan and Heritage third and fourth. The top 4 advance to the wrestling regional with the Warriors moving 8 wrestlers forward

Team results: New Haven 264, Homestead 213, Woodlan 182, Heritage 151.5, South Side 134, Snider 121, Wayne 93, Bishop Luers 80, Harding 67, Elmhurst 42

Individual results:
103 Logan Buick (W), 4th
130 Cody Zink (W), 1st
135 Jordan Buick (W), 2nd
140 Mike Whitcombe (W), 2nd
145 Alex Brenneke (W), 2nd
152 Jayme Schwartz (W), 3rd
160 Ben Sowles (W), 2nd
285 Joe Grueb (W), 2nd

SOUTHERN WELLS GIRLS BESTED WOODLAN IN ACAC FINALE

By: Jeff Abbott

Southern Wells outscored Woodlan 20-6 in the second period to down the Warriors 57-41 in the girls' ACAC regular season finale at Poneto. With the win over Woodlan, Southern Wells wrapped up the regular season conference title. Megan Prible led the Lady Raiders with 17 points and sister Katie had 16 points. Bethany Hogue and Grace Keller each had 8 points for Woodlan

Score by the quarter:
Woodlan - 10 6 4 21=41
Southern Wells - 16 20 10 11=57

Individual scorers:
Woodlan - Hogue 8, Keller 8, Koeneman 7, Carver 6, Knoblauch 5, Kirkwood 3, Bontrager 2, Emehiser 2

Southern Wells - M Prible 17, K Prible 16, Carter 6, Penrod 6, Killingbeck 6, Perry 4, Preston 2

LADY WARRIORS PICK UP WIN AGAINST NORTHSIDE



Woodlan varsity girls played Northside Wednesday night at home. The game was very close until the 4th quarter when the Warriors pulled ahead and won 59-49. Shown here is Sophomore Taylor Carver scoring from just outside the key. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



The JV Warrior girls also played Northside Wednesday night but they didn't fare as well. After half-time the team made a great comeback, closing the point gap within 3. The fourth quarter got away from the ladies and Northside won 19-32. Shown here is Sophomore Stephanie Oberlin taking a shot with a Northside girl trying to block. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

By: Jeff Abbott

Woodlan played four consistent quarters of basketball and the Warriors picked up a 59-49 win over North Side in girls' basketball at the Woodlan gym.

Woodlan had 9 players hit the scoring column, the Warriors got double digit scoring in each quarter of the game, and they hit their free throws, canning 19 of 23 in the game. Woodlan down just 4 after the first quarter 18-14 came back to lead at the half 28-25 over the Redskins. Woodlan and North Side stayed close throughout the game before foul trouble on North Side's leading scorer, Imani Freeman, and 8 fourth quarter points by Bethany Hogue propelled

Woodlan into the lead for good in the fourth quarter. Taylor Carver finished with 22 points for Woodlan and Hogue had 13 points.

Score by the quarter:
North Side - 18 7 16 8=49

Woodlan - 14 14 15 16=59

Team scorers:
North Side - Freeman 28, Collins 15, Birchfield 4, Johnson 2

Woodlan - Carver 22, Hogue 13, Yoder 8, Kayser 7, Kirkwood 3, Keller 2, Knoblauch 2, Emehiser 1, Bontrager 1

North Side won the reserve game 32-19 over Woodlan. Jamie Zehr was high scorer for the Warriors with 7 points.

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ONE WIN, ONE LOSS FOR LADY RAIDERS



Wayne Trace had a fantastic afternoon Feb. 7 against Miller City. The first quarter had 42 points between both teams and the second quarter had the Raiders at 40 points. The final score was 56-49 with the Raiders on top. In the picture above is Sophomore Kacey Hockenberry attempting a basket. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



Wayne Trace JV struggled against Miller City Saturday. The girls couldn't get past the questionable calls being made by one of the referees. Shown here is Freshman Ashley Saylor having her shot blocked by Brittany Drummelsmith. The Raiders ended up losing 24-39. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 21ST MEETING SUMMARY

This 21st day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present:

Tony Burkley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk
Absent: Edward Straley

Allowance Of Claims:

Warrants docketed as 154862 through 154931 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted: January 21, 2009

In The Matter Of Amending The 2009 Annual Appropriation (Fund 078):

Be it resolved, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby amend the 2009 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the County Auditor to appropriate unappropriated funds in Fund 078, to-wit:

Fund 078 - Infrastructure Projects: 078-001-00001/Infrastructure Projects, \$226,752.32; Adopted: January 21, 2009

In The Matter Of Mileage Reimbursement For County Employees Using Their Personal Car For County Business:

Whereas, various Paulding County elected officials and employees are occasionally required to use their own vehicles for business travel; and

Whereas, it has been the policy of the Paulding County Commissioners to reimburse individuals who have obtained prior approval for such travel; and

Whereas, Section 1104 Travel Allowance of the Personnel Policy Manual was amended on October 5, 2005, to read "The reimbursement rate shall be the amount established by the Internal Revenue Service for business miles deduction.", and

Whereas, on November 24, 2008, the Internal Revenue Service announced that beginning on January 1, 2009, the standard mileage rate will be fifty-five cents (\$0.55) per mile for business miles driven; now, therefore

Be it resolved, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby establish the calendar year 2009 County employee reimbursement mileage rate at fifty-five cents (\$0.55) per mile for prior approved business miles traveled. Adopted: January 21, 2009.

Meeting Notes of Appointment:

Sheriff David Harrow, Judge J David Webb (Common Pleas Court), and Judge John DeMuth (Probate/Juvenile Court) - Sheriff Harrow presented a quote from SecureTech Systems, Inc. for an update on the Court-house security system. Judge Webb stated the system was purchased in 1994, utilizing a grant the courts received from the Ohio Supreme Court. Judge Webb spoke with Mr. Tom Brown, Ohio Supreme Court, and was informed there no grant dollars available. Sheriff Harrow suggested there might be funds available through a Homeland Security grant. He will complete the necessary paperwork.

Ann Waldman, Clerk of Courts - Ms. Waldman met briefly with the Commissioners to review two reports. One report tracked the cases

the Clerk of Court's office processed over the five-year period, 2004-2008. Total filings for 2008 were 1,113. The second report, also for a five-year period ending 2008, tracked the revenue generated by the Title Office.

Amanda Lichty, Dog Warden - Ms. Lichty presented the Paulding County Dog Warden report for 2008. She reported a total of 397 dogs handled through the kennel in 2008. Intake breakdown is as follows: Stray 183, Surrender 198, and Abandoned 16. Of the 397 total dogs processed in 2008, 179 were adopted, 92 were owned claimed, and 126 had to be euthanized. Ms. Lichty stated the number of adoptions had greatly increased from previous years. She attributes this to having Friday 'adoption hours' at the kennel. Ms. Lichty also reported \$2,300.00 more revenue generated than in 2007. She is also interested in attending a class to become a certified Humane Agent, which would give her the authority to prosecute neglect and abuse cases.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the proceedings of the Board under the date of January 21, 2009.

WOODBURN: SMALLEST INCORPORATED CITY IN INDIANA

Written by: Gaylen Goth Stetler and Juanita Becker

Jeff Neuenschwander and his brother purchased the hardware store from Levi Klopfenstein and Gideon Ehresman, which was located at the present site of the L and L Department store. Later Jeff Neuenschwander bought his brother's interest in the store and continued in business at this location for many years. He sold furniture, buggies and supplies, stoves and ranges and at a later date, John Deere Implements. His daughter, Mrs. Fred Rosener, still resides in our town.

Ralph Portman opened a small shop in the back room of the present Gompf's Hardware. It was appropriately called Gasoline Alley. This was a step forward from the blacksmith shop of the horse and buggy days, to the modern machine shop that was necessary for the maintenance of the modern farm machinery that was being used by the farmers. Two years later, the shop was moved to the old post office building where the fire station is now located. In 1936 the shop was moved into a new brick building on Union Street where it is presently located.

August Brenneke came here from Germany in 1884. He invested in land and became a prominent farmer of that time. He will be remembered as the president of the Woodburn State Bank from 1917 to 1951 when he retired at the age of 95 because of poor health. Mr. Brenneke was an active political figure and served several years as trustee of the township. He was honored by his political party for completing 50 years of active service. He died at the age of 97. His son, Herman Brenneke still resides in this area.

Taken from: *Bringing Back the Good Old Days: Woodburn Centennial - 1865-1965*



Wayne Trace invited Edgerton for play on Feb 6. The Raider JV team fell 35-48 to the Bulldogs. Shown here is Sophomore Cole Rossworm attempting a basket from inside the key. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net



JV may have lost to the Bulldogs, but the Varsity didn't let that stop them from doing their best. The Raiders won 64-55 in a good game. The Raiders took the lead in the 2nd quarter and didn't give it up. Shown here is Senior Justin Davis getting fouled while attempting a shot. More pictures at www.westbendnews.net

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PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 26TH MEETING SUMMARY

This 26th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present:

Tony Burkley, Edward Straley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk

Allowance Of Claims:

Warrants docketed as 154862 through 154931 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted on January 26, 2009.

Travel Request:

Judge Tiffany Reighter-Beckman - Association of Municipal/County Judges of Ohio 2009 Winter Conference, Dublin, Ohio - February 4, 5, & 6, 2009.

In The Matter Of Approving 'Then And Now' Purchase Orders And Payments:

Mr. Tony Zartman moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claims on January 20, 2009, to-wit:

Office Partners, \$300.00; Glenn Troth, Brian Gorrell, Joe Burkard, \$850.00; John Hatcher, \$112.00; Erwin Bandy, \$155.00; Suzanne Rister, \$196.00; Office Equipment Finance, \$183.76; Lucas Co. Coroner, \$1,000.00; Antwerp Insurance Agency, \$266.00; Danny Hill, \$140.20; John Hatcher, \$394.00; Gregory Hermiller, \$618.00; Windstream, \$2,887.97; R&C Fence, \$325.00; Van Wert County, \$21,040.40; Integrity Ford, \$273.20; Paulding County Hospital, \$150.11; Xerox Corp., \$100.17; Ohio Recorder Assoc., \$1,646.60; Treasurer State of Ohio, \$2,632.17; C&Y Oil, \$267.44; Chief Supermarket, \$1,690.12; Quill, \$123.62; Juan Rodriguez, \$100.00; Richard Dunderman, \$100.00; Stahl Stoller Meyer Ins. Center, \$1,542.00; Paulding Co. Fire Marshal Fund, \$500.00; Maumee Valley Planning Org., \$1,420.51; Paw & Remmember, \$194.34; Ace Hardware, \$106.14; Pldg. Co. Sheriff Office, \$317.04; Animal Clinic of Paulding, \$210.41; Dayton Legal Blank, \$326.80; Windstream, \$156.30; Manatron, \$13,444.14; Stykemain, \$966.72; Lowes, \$371.68; Welder Services, \$128.73; Detroit Salt Co., \$6,638.44; Ohio Gas, \$1,716.95; Pioneer, \$325.11; Cintas Location, \$431.38; Koester's, \$4,639.00; Windstream, \$567.92; Quill, \$231.92; CEOA, \$1,014.65; Winter Equipment, \$1,930.75; Fitznerider, Inc., \$822.43; Terminal Supply, \$724.69; Mcafee's Communication, \$387.10; Stoneco, \$326.50; Hanson, \$556.63; Ace Hardware, \$160.61; Holt Equipment, \$834.06; Vomac Truck Sales & Service, \$164.50; Duthler Truck Center, \$1,075.40; St. John's Inc, \$821.50; J&K Communications, \$450.00; Ohio Gas, \$3,440.85; Cintas, \$124.60; Windstream, \$318.77; Private Duty Services, \$402.98; Adriel School Inc., \$4,513.02; Mercer Landmark Inc., \$1,200.00;

Pldg. Co. Commissioners, \$392.00; Defiance Publishing, \$100.00; Alco Stores, \$142.35; Inner Peace Homes, \$2,077.00; SAFY of Ohio, \$10,415.07; Dodi McCreery, \$118.74; The Center for Child & Family Advocacy, \$2,723.46; Vern Killion, \$100.00; Matthew Bender, \$110.40; Current Office Solutions, \$184.93; Lexis Nexis, \$397.00; Gerken Paving, \$748,705.75; C&Y Oil, \$141.99; Neil Shamberg, \$150.00; Alltel, \$175.28; Quill, \$430.11; Vantage Career Center, \$7,331.64; Vantage Career Center, \$1,572.36; Pldg. Co. Commissioners, \$1,055.00; ERS Wireless, \$8,688.00; Windstream, \$236.00; Cogent Systems, \$1,760.00, \$1,760.00

WHEREAS, it is certified that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the County Auditor is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance; and CC: Auditor

In The Matter Of Approving 'Then And Now' Purchase Orders And Payments:

WHEREAS, the Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claims on January 21, 2009, to-wit:

Alco, \$449.18; Windstream, \$629.39; IMPAC, \$192.00; Current Office Solutions, \$958.74; Kauser Trucking, \$445.00; Brown Supply, \$133.47; Pldg. Co. Commissioners, \$4,153.00; Pldg. Co. Commissioners, \$855.75; Pldg. Co. Commissioners, \$2,127.41; C&Y Oil, \$286.12; Neil Shamberg, \$150.00; C&Y Oil, \$1,128.12; Brice LP, \$367.36; Jay Dangler Excavating, \$1,607.62; Paulding Co. Treasurer, \$838.10, \$338.47; Blue Flame, \$406.13; Card Center, \$140.00; Adopted on January 26, 2009.

This 26th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners received quotes from County banking institutions to borrow funds in the amount of \$63,442.88 for combined notes No. 098 CSEA Annex Building and No. 276 Eagle Creek-Wilson Ditch; to-wit:

Antwerp Exchange Bank, 2.35%; First Financial Bank, 3.79%; First Federal Bank, 4.06%

A motion was made by Mr. Tony Zartman to accept the quote from Antwerp Exchange Bank for a combined general obligation note at an interest rate of 2.35%; and further. Adopted on January 26, 2009. CC: Auditor Treasurer

Meeting Notes Of Appointment:

Nancy Hessler, United Way of Paulding County - Ms. Hessler met with the Commissioners to inform them the Northwest Ohio Housing Coalition, Inc. will be conducting a "point-in-time count" on Tuesday, January 27. The "point-in-time" reports are completed semi-annually in June and February. The goal is to identify a realistic count of the number of individuals in Defiance,

Fulton, Henry, Paulding, and Williams counties that are currently homeless or are at immediate risk of homelessness on a given day. These statistics will assist providers in improving services to the homeless in our community. Ms. Hessler stated there have been approximately 50 data collection forms mailed to community members for completion in an effort to collect the information necessary. Ms. Hessler also provided reports tracking the homeless and those at risk of homelessness since June, 2005. The reports indicate an increase in both since 2005. It was noted Paulding County has 419 square miles and it is estimated there are 580 abandoned homes. Ms. Hessler then presented the Family-Wize Prescription Discount Card program. Discount prescription cards are available to anyone who does not have prescription drug insurance or does not qualify for Medicaid. Ms. Hessler announced there are several pharmacies in the county that participate in the program. Although the program has been available for quite some time, since October, 2008, the number of claims has gone up significantly. Cards are available at local pharmacies and are valid until 2010. Ms. Hessler then reported on the United Way's continued success in partnering with the Disney Store in Glenbrook Mall, Ft. Wayne. She reported \$3,000.00 in products since May, 2008, have been distributed to children in Paulding County. United Way of Paulding County has also partnered with Home Depot in Auburn, Indiana, receiving \$20,000 in products from July 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008. These products have been given to the ill, needy, youth, and non-profit organizations (per their mission statements) to improve homes in the county. Ms. Hessler stated the Habitat for Humanity is currently building a home in Haviland and have used items from the Home Depot. She also stated she is looking for donated storage buildings where these items can be stored until needed. Ms. Hessler is also currently working with Love Indeed to receive diapers, paper products, and laundry detergent for the local food pantries. She reports nine food pantries currently operating in Paulding County with an increase of needy families.

Lou Ann Wannemacher and Susan Simpson - Accepted and opened bids for combined note of general obligation (see resolution).

Andrew Porter, Health Department - Mr. Porter met with the Commissioners to discuss EPA loans for wastewater management. He stated there is a five-county coalition being formed that would work through Maumee Valley Planning Organization for such loans. Mr. Porter also discussed his disappointment in Paulding County's lack of CHIP funds for 2009. He stated a portion of the previous years' CHIP dollars were used for septic systems for those who needed assistance in funding.

PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONER JANUARY 28TH MEETING SUMMARY

This 28th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present:

Tony Burkley, Edward Straley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk

Allowance Of Claims:

Warrants docketed as 155066 through 155068 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted on January 26, 2009

Travel Request:

Sandee Buffington, CSEA Director's Meeting, Findlay, Ohio - February 6, 2009.

In The Matter Of Approving 'Then And Now' Purchase Orders And Payments:

WHEREAS, the Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claims on January 26, 2009, to-wit:

Delage Landen Public Finance, \$118.00; Brown Supply, \$186.04; Windstream, \$457.31; Hessler Inc., \$165.00; Ohio Utilities Protection, \$113.20; Kohli Kalihier, \$1,342.67; Ohio Cat Equipment, \$2,176.08; Navistar Leasing, \$75,228.64; California Cont, \$148.70; Napa, \$1,040.96; Jeff Schultz, \$1,764.77; PC Workshop, \$6,250.02; Current Office, \$126.04; Integrity, \$638.04; Hessler Computer, \$169.95; Grainger, \$415.63; NW Ohio Security, \$224.25; Class, \$9,700.00; Defiance Co. Juvenile, \$1,530.00; Recovery Services, \$528.90; Proclaim Plus, \$10,842.33; Proclaim Plus, \$5,346.09; Brown Mackie College, \$958.22. Adopted on January 28, 2009.

session with the following members present:

Tony Burkley, Edward Straley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk

Allowance Of Claims:

Warrants docketed as 155066 through 155068 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted on January 26, 2009

Travel Request:

Sandee Buffington, CSEA Director's Meeting, Findlay, Ohio - February 6, 2009.

In The Matter Of Approving 'Then And Now' Purchase Orders And Payments:

WHEREAS, the Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claims on January 26, 2009, to-wit:

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In The Matter Of Amending The 2009 Annual Appropriation (Fund 017):

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby amend the 2009 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the County Auditor to appropriate unappropriated funds in Fund 017, to-wit:

Fund 017 - Eaton Farm Fund, \$352.16. Adopted on January 28, 2009.

In The Matter Of Amending The 2009 Annual Appropriation (Fund 016):

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby amend the 2009 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the County Auditor to appropriate unappropriated funds in Fund 016, to-wit:

Fund 016 - Jacob Farm Fund, \$333.65. Adopted on January 28, 2009.

Executive Session:

A motion was made by Mr. Tony Zartman to go into executive session at 8:00 a.m. with the County Prosecutor. The motion was seconded by Mr. Edward Straley. All members voting yea. Adopted on January 28, 2009.

In The Matter Of Disposal Of Unneeded, Obsolete, Or Unfit Personal Property:

Mr. Tony Zartman moved to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Paulding County Commissioners have inspected a desk formerly used by the County Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the desk is worn out, broken and has been declared to have no value, and is of no use to the County; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of County Commissioners does hereby declare that said County personal property be discarded or salvaged pursuant to Ohio

Merging Meaning and Mourning

A funeral can be as unique as the individual being remembered. Even while adhering to traditions and ceremony, a funeral service should reflect personal values, interest and experiences - all the things that formed the rich tapestry of a life worth celebrating.

A meaningful funeral service is also an essential element in the healing process after the loss of a loved one. A funeral provides family and friends with closure after the death, and an opportunity to reminisce about the deceased's life.

As you reflect on the life of your loved one, and begin to plan a fitting tribute, focus on the unique aspects of their life, and work those key elements into the ceremony. Was your husband an amateur painter? Consider holding a retrospective of his work. Was your grandmother a teacher? You may want to ask a school choir to perform at the service. Weaving your loved one's personality into the event provides a lasting and honorable representation of who they were in life. Through special music, asking key individuals to speak, involving friends and family, and other special touches, you can creatively bring your loved one's individuality into the funeral service, evoking fond memories for those mourning the loss.

A few questions you can ask yourself to help organize your thoughts include:

- Some of my loved one's most important accomplishments include...
- Some of my fondest memories of him or her are...
- People who had the greatest affect on my loved one's life are...
- My loved one's favorite music is...

- My loved one's hobbies and interests include...
- Other things that gave him or her enjoyment are...
- The causes and beliefs my loved one was passionate about are...
- If my loved one was planning this service, he or she would include...



Your local National Funeral Directors Association (NFDA) member funeral director can be your greatest resource as you sort through your options and begin to make plans. NFDA funeral directors offer families information, advice, understanding, empathy and a shoulder to lean on during one of life's most difficult times.

They can help you find many unique ways to bring your loved one's qualities into the funeral service.

NFDA funeral homes around the country are participating in a national consumer education campaign, *For A Life Worth Celebrating*, in an effort to help inform consumers about the many available options when it comes to planning a meaningful funeral service. For more information, visit your local NFDA member funeral home or visit www.nfda.org.

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Revised Code Section 307.12 (1).

The motion was seconded by Mr. Edward Straley. Upon the call of the roll, the following vote resulted. Adopted on January 28, 2009.

In The Matter Of Signing Notes To Borrow Funds:

This 28th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners signed the combined notes No. 098 CSEA Annex Building and No. 276 Eagle Creek-Wilson Ditch for \$63,442.88 with the Antwerp Exchange Bank.

Audit Committee Meeting:

This 28th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners; Tony Burkley, Edward Straley, and Tony Zartman met with members of the Audit Committee: Susan Simpson, County Auditor; Lou Ann Wannemacher, County Treasurer; Carol Temple, County Recorder; and Ann Waldman, Clerk of Courts.

Ms. Wannemacher reviewed the Permissive Sales and Use Tax 2009 report and the Sales Tax Monthly Breakdown report. Sales tax paid in January '09 was slightly up from December '08, but still below the five-year monthly average. Vehicle tax was down 40% from January '08 and well below the three-year average. Ms. Waldman noted recent changes in Indiana tax laws will result in zero tax dollars for Ohio when an Ohio resident purchases a vehicle in Indiana.

Ms. Simpson reviewed the General Fund Receipts and Expenses reports. She pointed out a percentage of change column added to these reports for ease in comparing the previous year's activity. Ms. Simpson pointed out 2008 total General Fund Receipts were up by 2.5% when compared to 2007 totals. She also said 2008 total General Fund Expenses were down by 1.76% from 2007 total expenses. Mr. Simpson repeated the importance of creating purchase orders to encumber money for expenses to help reduce the number of then and now purchase orders and payments.

gone up. Certified mailers are purchased to send legal notifications from the Clerk of Courts' office.

Ms. Wannemacher stated that tax payments are down compared to last year at this time. She reported more payment plans being set up for first half taxes. She attributes this to the poor economy.

Meeting was adjourned. Next meeting will be February 25, 2009.

Meeting Notes of Appointment:

Ann Waldman, Clerk of Courts - Ms. Waldman updated the Commissioners on the Title Office project. She reports planning to move the office on February 27. Work has begun to make the necessary alterations to make the move possible.

Lou Ann Wannemacher, Treasurer; Susan Simpson, Auditor; and Geoff Hyman, Antwerp Exchange Bank - Signing of general obligation note (see resolution).

David Harrow, Paulding County Sheriff - Sheriff Harrow shared a recent Criminal Justice Weekly which had some interesting jail statistics for the state of Ohio. Mr. Harrow also reported that BAD (Bureau of Adult Detention) is under a new director. He is hopeful the new director will ease up on state minimum requirements for Ohio jails, noting that very few facilities pass BAD inspection 100%. Sheriff Harrow presented invoices for recent repairs to the HVAC system at his office.

Susan Simpson, Auditor - Ms. Simpson reports the Auditor's office has been very busy with year-end duties. They have answered many tax bill questions, prepared W-2s and 1099s, and have been selling dog tags. Ms. Simpson stated the revaluation is going smoothly. She also mentioned attending a training session on appraisal work. Ms. Simpson again expressed the importance of filing building permits to update tax records. She also voiced concern about TIFs and the ability to track them. Ms. Simpson also provided financial reports to preview for the Audit Committee meeting.

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8TH GRADE LADY ARCHERS EARN GMC CHAMPIONSHIP



(l-r) Coach Mike Rohrs; Back - Morgan Williamson, Lydia Yenser, Katie Bissell, Alexis Jones, Taven Bruce; Front - Avrial Sawyer, Kacy Brumett, Nikki Sanders

The 8th grade Lady Archers basketball team won the GMC title on January 31, 2009. Their first game of the tournament was against

Wayne Trace, 32-10; the second was with Fairview, 25-23; and the championship game was played against Edgerton, 30-23. Their record stands at

9-6. This year both the 8th grade volleyball team and basketball team won the GMC titles.

BBB HELPS THWART TWO MILLION DOLLAR SCAM!

First: A mystery caller congratulated an elderly Springfield Township consumer for winning two million dollars. He would have a "Western Union driver" (?) take her to the bank to deposit the winning check. Fortunately she first called the BBB and we warned her it was a scam! She was unwilling to contact law enforcement, however our Kathy Birr did. Police officer showed up. Scam artist didn't. Consumer was advised to call police immediately if these crooks come to her door. She was disappointed she didn't get the money, but very glad we prevented her from being robbed.

Second: G.F. Institute, possibly of Kansas City and Illinois, offers "government grants" up to \$25,000! BBB callers have been receiving an official looking bit of mail spewing promises of free government cash. It guarantees a \$25,000 grant from the US Government. Don't believe

this high-pressure sales tactic. It is against the law for anyone to promise you or guarantee you a grant in the U.S. That's for starters. When you contact the number it offers you a "grant guide" for \$59.00 that contains names and addresses of grant places you can apply to—there are no guarantees you will get the grant you apply for. This company is merely offering you a book with addresses for a fee. The rest is up to you. No one can ever guarantee you a grant. The company appears to masquerade as another company called The Landmark Publishing Company of Kansas City, offering the same recorded message to callers.

Tips: No government grant-making agency will make phone calls; send e-mail or letters to solicit money or personal banking information from a potential grant recipient.

—There is no processing fees for federal grants.

—Federal grants are not issued for personal use, but are intended for institutions and

non-profits to carry out projects with a public purpose.

—Know who you're dealing with on the web. Scam artists will often post a web site with a name similar to a legitimate site. Fro US federal government sites, the extension should always be .gov; sites without this extension are fraudulent.

—If you have provided personal banking information to anyone claiming to be associated with a federal grant agency, call your bank immediately to prevent unauthorized access to your account. And if you see hucksters with question marks on their coats on TV claiming all sorts of free government cash, ignore their worthless baloney.

Finally: Nominations Time! Each year the BBB salutes our most ethical companies with our Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics. It's a tremendous honor to companies that are dedicated to honesty and fair dealing. Who are they? We need your nominations NOW! Deadline for nominations is February 28 and each person who nominates a company will automatically be entered in a drawing for two free tickets to Cedar Point. Customers, employees, vendors, donors, volunteers or business associates are welcome to nominate a company or charity, and nominating your OWN business is encouraged. Call us for a nomination form at 419-578-6000 or 800-542-5539. The Torch Awards luncheon

will be May 14 and will also be our BBB's 90th Anniversary celebration.

WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING CLUB COMPETES IN TWO TOURNAMENTS

On February 1st, the Wayne Trace Wrestling Club competed in the Wauseon and Cardinal Stritch tournaments.

Placing at the Wauseon Tournament:

First - Worth Clark, and Austin Smith; Second - Nate Showalter, Gage Waltmire, Kameran Bevis, Grant Baumle, Hunter Showalter, and Anthony Rooks; Third - Trevor Domina and Allie Schmidt; Fourth - Arin Canfield

Placing at the Cardinal Stritch Tournament:

First - Hunter Long, Dylan Laney, Robbie Bowers, and George Clemens IV; Third - Brandon Laney and Tyler Showalter

ANTWERP GIRLS FALL SHORT TO CRESTVIEW

Antwerp girls basketball traveled to Crestview on February 3. Crestview used the home court advantage to intimidate a win out of Antwerp, 20-42.

Score by the quarter:
Crestview - 7 9 16 10=42
Antwerp - 3 7 2 8=20
Archer top scorers - #21 Koppenhofer 4, #22 Arnold 12

MEXICO CITY POLICY

Guest Column From Representative Lynn R. Wachtmann

President Obama is proving true the dreadful love the Democratic Party has for killing unborn children, America's weakest citizens. In his first few weeks as President, Obama overturned the "Mexico City Policy," first established by President Reagan in 1984, which banned U.S. taxpayer dollars from going to international family planning groups that advocated and/or performed abortions in developing countries as a method of family planning with the intent of greater economic development.

When our nation's leader sanctions the death of the unborn by haughtily wielding his presidential powers, he must be held accountable. Our nation faces many challenges at this time, and President Obama's willingness to lead the death march on the unborn will shred what remains of America's moral fabric and literally kill future leaders at home and abroad.

President Reagan once said, "You know, if we look back through history to all those great civilizations, those great nations that rose up to even world dominance and then deteriorated, declined, and fell, we find they all had one thing in common. One of the significant forerunners of their fall was their turning away from their God."

I am proud to be an American and consider America a great nation. However, the persistent immoral actions of our leaders are drawing our beloved country closer to Godlessness and further from prosperity. I hope you will join me in speaking out against this death notice and in praying for our nation and its leaders during this critical time.

WAYNE TRACE WRESTLING NEWS



By: Dianna Clemens

The Wayne Trace Wrestling Team met some very tough and competitive competition at the Lima Central Catholic Wrestling Tournament. The two-day event consisted of 32 teams from all around Ohio.

The Raiders had only one place finisher, Cody Stahl, 145 pounds, placed second.

Even though the Wayne Trace Squad still had four wrestlers alive when the wrestling action began Sat. morning, only Cody was able to wrestle his way to the top.

Coming into the tournament as an underdog, Cody surprised a lot of spectators by pulling off some major upsets against some top seeded wrestlers. After pinning T.S. Burtch, from Swanton, in 3:44, he then met up with state ranked #2 seed Trevor Runk from Coldwater. Cody defeated Runk by a fall of 3:04, winning his next bout by a close dec. of 0/6-4 over Jake Nelson from Newark. He then faced state qualifier, #6 seed, Jake Runyon from Blanchester. Cody defeated him by another close score of 9-7. In his final round he met #5 seed from Carlise, Cody Washington. After a hard fought match, Cody lost via a pin and was awarded a 2nd place finish.

During the tournament the Raider fans had some oth-

er Wayne Trace Wrestlers that brought them to their feet.

Freshmen, 125 pound, Zach Cotterman, who has been wrestling very well this season, won his first round with an easy win over Drew Harris from Hillsdale in 2:31. After losing to the #6 seed, Zach came back and pinned Scott Boyer from St. Joe in 3:13. He was then eliminated after losing to Adam Brinkman from Bluffton.

In the 130 pound class, Raider Jacob Taylor won his 2nd round in O.T. Against Austin Bishop from Blanchester by a 5-3 dec. but he was unable to come through the tournament after losing his first and third round.

Michael Boyd, 135 pounds, gave the crowd a show in his first round in a quick time of 55 seconds, but losing two matches, he also was eliminated from action.

Katie Clemens, 103 pounds, and Tyler Arnett, 152 pounds, were unable to place either.

Coach George Clemens commented, "I think Cody Stahl is really beginning to peak and it is just at the right time of the season with sectionals only a short time away. I only hope that all the kids realize they have got to step up their practice and performance a whole lot."

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PHS STUDENTS SIGN LETTER OF INTENT TO PLAY COLLEGE BALL



By: Sue Knapp

Corbin Rhonehouse signs a letter of intent to Ashland College while his parents look on. Corbin has been involved in weight lifting, track along with football playing as a linebacker. His parents are looking forward to attending the football games. He will study General Business at Ashland.

Dennis and Sandy Vance watch their son, Corbin, sign a letter of intent for Bluffton College. His major at Bluffton College will be criminal justice. He has been involved in football at PHS as a line backer and weight lifting.

Andrew Mott played the

wide receiver position at PHS. He has also been involved in track, weight lifting and choir. He signed a letter of intent to Hillsdale College. He will major in business. His parents, Mike and Joanie Mott are glad that Hillsdale is close enough to attend the games. They have another son in PHS football and one son coming up. They will be going to football games for several years. This next season they will be able to attend both Paulding and Hillsdale games.

Tyler Arend played offensive line for PHA. He also ran track and weight lifted. He has signed a letter of intent with Kent State University and will

major in exercise physiology and eventually into physical therapy. His parents, Dave and Joanna Arend are looking forward to going to Kent State and watch him play.

This is Coach Chris Etzler's second year at PHS. This is PHS's first winning season in 11 years. He will be losing a total of 15 players this year. He has enjoyed working with the boys and is proud of them stating he appreciates that, "they're not only good players but better men."

Coach Etzler is looking forward to working with the football team next year and remarked that PHS has another good team coming up.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF OUR 16TH PRESIDENTCapitol Letters Weekly
Column by: Senator Steve Buehrer

Legend has it that at the turn of the 20th century former Ohio Senator Joseph B. Foraker heard waltz music through the locked doors of the Senate Chamber, while working late in his Senate office one night. When he looked through the window, he saw the ghost of Abraham Lincoln dancing with Kate Chase—daughter of former Ohio Governor Salmon P. Chase.

While some historians do suggest that Lincoln danced with Ms. Chase at a Statehouse ball when he was a candidate for President of the United States, Lincoln's connection to Ohio's capitol building goes beyond mere legend. In 1859, young and not yet well-known, he spoke to a small crowd on the east terrace of the Statehouse about slavery and the preservation of the Union.

Two years later, on his way to Washington, D.C. to be sworn in as President, Lincoln spoke to a joint session of the Ohio Legislature in the House Chamber. This time he was greeted by huge crowds.

His third and final stop at

the Statehouse was a somber one. On April 29, 1865, after his assassination, President Lincoln lay in state in the Statehouse Rotunda for six and half hours. More than 50,000 people came to Columbus to pay their respects during those brief hours at a time in history when Columbus' population was only 30,000.

Today, thousands of visitors each year walk through this same Rotunda to see the Lincoln-Vicksburg Monument, a 9,900-pound sculpture depicting Confederate officers surrendering to Union soldiers at Vicksburg, Mississippi. Above this scene rests a bust of Lincoln and below the soldiers is etched a quote from Lincoln's second inaugural address, which reads, "Care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphans."

Throughout 2009, the Ohio Statehouse will celebrate the life and legacy of America's 16th President.

On February 12, in honor of Lincoln's 200th birthday, there will be a rededication of the Lincoln-Vicksburg Monument at 10:00 a.m., followed by remarks from several state leaders, including Governor Ted Strickland, House Speaker Armond Budish and Senate President Pro Tempore Tom Niehaus. There will also

be a presentation by Lincoln historian, Gary Kersey.

On April 24th and 25th, the 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A, a Civil War re-enactment group, will set-up a Civil War encampment on the West lawn of the Statehouse. Lincoln re-enactor, Pete Raymond, will tell the story of our 16th President's life, death and legacy at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

1st Ohio Light Artillery, Battery A, will also stand guard next to an exact replica of Lincoln's coffin in the Statehouse Rotunda on April 29th from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., in remembrance of the President's death.

This summer, Lincoln historian, author and film producer, Mark Reinhart, will present a public program about Lincoln-related film and television in the Statehouse Atrium. Presentations will be held on July 22nd at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Finally, on September 16th, Statehouse visitors will have a chance to hear from a President Lincoln re-enactor, as he tells the story of Lincoln's life from birth to assassination. There will be presentations given at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., with question and answer to follow.

For more information about Lincoln events at the Ohio Statehouse, please visit www.ohiostatehouse.org.

Abraham Lincoln's leadership, courage and vision helped to end slavery and hold our nation together during one of its most trying times. His story continues to inspire leaders of all backgrounds and political affiliations. On the 200th anniversary of his birth, it is important that we all take time to remember his life and legacy.

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

PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 14TH MEETING SUMMARY

This 14th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Tony Burkley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk. Absent: Edward Straley

Allowance Of Claims:

Warrants docketed as 154517 through 154619 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted on January 14, 2009.

In The Matter Of Amending The 2008 Annual Appropriation (Fund 046): Adopted on January 14, 2009.

In The Matter Of Amending The 2008 Annual Appropriation (Fund 078): Adopted on January 14, 2009.

In The Matter Of Modifying The 2008 Annual Appropriation (Fund 001-030): Adopted on January 14, 2009.

In The Matter Of Appointments To The Tax Incentive Review Council (TIRC): Adopted on January 14, 2009.

Meeting Notes of Appointments:

Tony Langham, Paulding County Economic Development – Mr. Langham announced the Economic Development board will only be meeting once a quarter. He will schedule his appointments with the Commissioners on that same time table. Mr. Langham presented PCED Projects Report. Due to budget cuts, the administrative assistance will only be working Monday through Thursday. Mr. Langham stated the coordination of services between PCED and PCDJFS will work to benefit both agencies.

Stan Harmon, Ellen Schlegel, Tony Langham, and Ron Farnsworth (Election Board members); Brenda Crawford and Jan Comers (Election Board) – Mr. Harmon distributed the 2008-2009 budget comparison report, showing actual expenses and reductions made. Ms. Crawford stated they had received the reimbursement from the state for the cost of the paper ballots used for the November, 2008, election. The Board members are concerned with rising cost of maintaining equipment and the combined cost of using both the touch screens and paper. \$55.00 per year maintenance is paid on each touch screen machine. Mr. Harmon expressed the Election Board's appreciation for the use of the back room of the Law Library. Board members continue to have concerns about the handicapped accessibility of precincts. Use of CDBG dollars may be applied for when an improvement project becomes necessary.

Lou Ann Wannemacher and Jim Machock, Wells Fargo Insurance Services of Indiana, LLC – Ms. Wannemacher introduced Mr. Jim Machock as the county's new health insurance Benefits Consultant. Mr. Machock scheduled a six-month review for February 11, 2009, at 1:00 p.m. in the Commissioners' Office.

US 24 and SR 127 Wastewater Services – The following were present: Richard Weaver, Poggemeyer Design; Tony Langham, PCED; Travis McGarvey, Paulding County Engineer; Otto Gerdeman, GNG Development Services; Joe Sukup, Crane Township;

Joe Burkard, Prosecuting Attorney; Charles Simpson, Crane Township; Dennis Miller, MVPO

The purpose of this meeting was to review the final report of study prepared and presented by Mr. Gerdeman, GNG Development Services. Discussion was held on the steps necessary to move forward on this project. Formulation of a district board will be necessary pursuant to ORC 6119 guidelines. Board members should be residents of the area. Mr. Gerdeman expressed the importance of finalizing the wastewater district map. He also stated a final cost estimate must be determined so that funding can be secured and grants applied for. He indicated there may be a source of water on site; however, test wells will need to be drilled. The other option for water is from the Village of Paulding. Estimated cost for Village water is not yet known.

Auglaize River Sewer Project – Travis McGarvey, County Sanitary Engineer; Rick Weaver, Poggemeyer Design; Dennis Miller, MVPO; Joe Burkard, Prosecuting Attorney – The purpose of this meeting was to discuss possible funding possibilities for the Auglaize River Sewer Project. Mr. Miller stated that MVPO can do another income survey to see if the project qualifies for CDBG dollars. Mr. Weaver reported he is hopeful the project will be able to utilize infrastructure stimulus dollars. He emphasized the importance of having the project 'shovel ready', with permits and easements in place.



WOODBURN ELEMENTARY GEOGRAPHY BEE WINNER

To see Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek, and Seminole artifacts at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, you would travel to this state?

How well do you know your geography? Twenty students from the sixth and fifth grades competed for the title of "Woodburn Elementary Geography Bee Champion" during the Geography Bee held on Tuesday, January 20 in the school's cafeteria. The students competed in seven rounds of competition answering questions from the following categories: United States Geography, U.S. Cities, U.S. City Comparison, Odd Item Out, Continents, World's Largest Cities, and Cultural Geography.

Tynan Easterday, a sixth grader in Mr. Goetz's class, was crowned the Geography Bee champion by answering the most questions correctly. Kaleb Nelson, a sixth grader in Mr. Goetz's class, was the runner-up. Congratulations to all of the contestants for their hard work and wonderful sportsmanship.

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"FROM THE VANTAGE POINT:" VANTAGE BPA STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR STATE COMPETITION



Vantage Business Professional of America (BPA) state qualifiers! Row 1: Shiyanne Hook, Stacy Benien, Kisha Kelly. Row 2: Shelby McMichael, Audra Woodcox, Aurelia Wolford, Jessica Johnson and Jared Meyers. Unavailable for the picture were Casey Eblin, Justin Wilson, Trevor Goins and John Rohlf.

Vantage Career Center Business students recently competed in the first round of Region 16 Business Professionals of America skills contests at Findlay High School. Thirty-one students from the Vantage business programs - Interactive Media, Medical Office Management and Network Systems - competed in a variety of different contests including Microsoft Network Administration, Software Engineering, Fundamental Accounting, Medical Office Procedures, and Advanced Office Systems and Procedures. Benien also took first place honors in the Medical Office Procedures contest. Crestview's Shiyanne Hook, also a senior in Medical Office Management, placed second.

Kisha Kelly, a senior in the Medical Office Management program from Van Wert placed second in the Fundamental Accounting skills contest. The Medical Office Management team of Casey Eblin, from Wayne Trace, Shelby McMichael, from Paulding, Aurelia Wolford from Paulding and Audra Woodcox from Antwerp, pooled their talents to take top honors in the Economic Research Project competition.

Students who qualified for the state contest will compete on March 12 and 13 in Columbus. Congratulations and Good Luck to all student competitors!

Paulding as their Software Engineering Team placed first in the competition.

Stacy Benien, a senior in Medical Office Management from Continental, was the first place winner in the Advanced Office Systems and Procedures contest. Benien also took first place honors in the Medical Office Procedures contest. Crestview's Shiyanne Hook, also a senior in Medical Office Management, placed second.

Kisha Kelly, a senior in the Medical Office Management program from Van Wert placed second in the Fundamental Accounting skills contest.

The Medical Office Management team of Casey Eblin, from Wayne Trace, Shelby McMichael, from Paulding, Aurelia Wolford from Paulding and Audra Woodcox from Antwerp, pooled their talents to take top honors in the Economic Research Project competition.

Students who qualified for the state contest will compete on March 12 and 13 in Columbus. Congratulations and Good Luck to all student competitors!

PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 12TH MEETING SUMMARY

This 12th day of January, 2009, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Tony Burkley, Tony Zartman, and Nola Ginter, Clerk. Absent: Edward Straley

Allowance Of Claims:
Warrants docketed as 154352 through 154487 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment. Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of Approving 'Then And Now' Purchase Orders And Payments: Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of Modifying The 2008 Annual Appropriation (Fund 250): Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of Modifying The 2008 Annual Appropriation (Fund 251): Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of Accepting Final Report Of Engineering Study For Wastewater Services In The US 24 And SR 127 Area And Authorizing Gng Development Services And County Sanitary Engineer To Submit Plan To OEPA For Review And Approval: Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of Approving The Purchase Of Social Service Contract Between Paulding County Department Of Job And Family Services And Paulding County Economic Development: Adopted on January 12, 2009.

In The Matter Of The Organization Of The Board Of County Commissioners: Adopted on January 12, 2009.

Meeting Notes of Appointments:

David Harrow, Paulding County Sheriff - Sheriff Harrow presented his December, 2008, monthly inmate statement. Total inmates held at Van Wert for the month of

December was 42, with an average of 16 per day. A total of 60 people were kept in the Temporary Holding Facility in Paulding. The Sheriff reported 41 trips to Van Wert (a total of 1,532 miles) to transport prisoners. Also included in his December report was a copy of the invoice received from Van Wert County Correctional Facility for boarding fees for a total of 484 days at \$42.00 per day, totaling \$20,328.00. Sheriff Harrow also presented an accounting for the Sheriff's general fund by line item and prisoner payments for 2008.

Board of Revisions Organizational Meeting - Tony Burkley, Commissioners' Representative; Lou Ann Wannemacher, County Treasurer; and Susan Simpson, County Auditor met for the Board of Revisions organizational meeting for the calendar year 2009. The BOR re-appointed Tony Burkley as 2009 chairman. Susan Simpson, the County Auditor, serves as secretary. Ms. Simpson provided BOR guidelines and a flow chart as to how complaints are handled. She reminded the Board that applications for review are due on March 31, 2009. Ms. Simpson stated every denial will be accompanied with a form letter, explaining the reason for denial.

Otto Gerdeman, GNG Development Services, LLC; and Travis McGarvey, County Engineer - Mr. Gerdeman and Mr. McGarvey met with the Commissioners for an update on the Cecil/US 127-US 24 exchange area sewer and water study. Mr. Gerdeman presented his feasibility study and costs. He stated the report is ready to submit to the Ohio EPA for approval. GNG Development Services, LLC has now completed their responsibilities for this phase of the project. Mr. Gerdeman briefly touched on what needs to be done as the project moves


Woodlan Jr./Sr. High School

Student of the Month - January '09



Woodlan Jr/Sr High School's Student of the Month is senior Rachel Hathaway. Rachel is the daughter of Steven and Linda Hathaway of Woodburn. She is Woodlan's Sterling Sentinel Nominee in Language Arts, as well as the school's nominee for the Daughter's of the American Revolution Good Citizen Award. Rachel earned these honors not only because she is an exceptional student, but for the diligence and work ethic she consistently displays. She is always willing to challenge herself, whether academically or through her extracurricular activities. Rachel has been a 4-year member of the show choir and the track team, has spent three years in the school musical and as football manager, and has also participated in yearbook, student council, Academic Super bowl, and volleyball. In addition, Rachel has volunteered at the Fort Wayne Civic Theatre, the Harvest Food Bank, Halloween at the Zoo, Woodburn Lutheran School, McMillen Health Center, and as a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. Her school honors include: high honor roll -9-12th grade, academic top ten- 9-12th grade, Principal's Award (all A's) 9-12th grade, Woodlan Scholar- 11th grade, National Honor Society - 11th and 12th grade, and Student Rotarian. Rachel is planning on pursuing a degree in pre-law or political science. Her schools of interest include IU-PUI and Valparaiso.

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forward. Discussion was held as to the benefits of setting up a sewer district. Mr. Gerdeman strongly suggested starting the process of applying for grants to help fund the project. He recommended working with Maumee Valley Planning Organization for assistance.

Andy Porter, Health Department Sanitarian - Mr. Porter reported he is currently working with the County Prosecutor for more concise premises sanitary regulations. He is proposing establishing a fund (revenue from fines paid) to pay for the clean-up of abandoned and dilapidated properties. Mr. Porter gave a brief report on 2008 septic systems.

Corey Walker, Director, Paulding County Department of Job & Family Services (PCDJFS) - Mr. Walker requested a purchase of service agreement between PCDJFS and Paulding County Economic Development be approved by the Commissioners. He will have the County Prosecutor approve the contract as to form. Mr. Walker discussed options of re-locating PCDJFS, stating they have outgrown their current facility. He stated state funding may be used for administrative expenses, which would include costs to re-locate.

Brad McMillen, Northwest Regional Director, Connect Ohio - Mr. McMillen introduced himself and explained that Connect Ohio is a non-profit entity sponsored (hired) by the state to partner with communities to improve broadband and technology related to broadband service. Mr. McMillen explained they use baseline data to form a plan for each county. He will be scheduling a kick-off meeting soon and will be contacting community leaders to attend. Mr. McMillen explained that all 88 counties are being evaluated by four regional directors. Once county plans are created, projects are considered. Mr. McMillen is hopeful the OPWC grant dollars will be awarded for broadband services.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct record of the proceedings of the Board under the date of January 12, 2009.

RESEARCH SHOWS EXERCISE KEEPS MONEY IN YOUR WALLET AND OTHER GREAT REASONS TO HEAD TO THE GYM

In today's uncertain economy, families are looking to cut back on any expenses that seem like a luxury or even the slightest bit frivolous. One of the items receiving scrutiny in many households—and in the media—is gym memberships. Yet a growing body of evidence suggests that cutting that gym membership may be exactly the wrong move for even the most cash-strapped family.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, inactive adults have significantly higher direct medical costs than active adults, and the costs associated with physical inactivity increase with age.

"To put it in perspective," said Jerrica Steffens, owner of the Curves women's fitness center in Hicksville, "for every dollar you spend on wellness, you save as much as five dollars on illness."

Curves has partnered with major health insurance and third party providers—including Healthways SilverSneakers, AARP, and Blue Cross Blue Shield—who see huge financial benefits in wellness programs and offer reimbursements and incentives on Curves gym memberships to their plan members.

For example, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota recently completed a landmark study that found that people who went to the gym at least eight times a month had significantly lower healthcare costs than those who did not. These frequent gym attendees had:

- *39 percent fewer visits to the Emergency Room
 - *41 percent fewer hospital admissions
 - *18 percent lower overall claims costs
- In an era where many have no health insurance at all and those who do have higher co-pays, a gym membership may be the most affordable way to keep healthcare dollars in consumers' pockets. This will become even more important in the near future, according to
- (Continued to Page 14)

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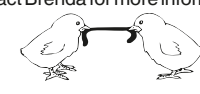
Order 200 chicks and receive 50# bag of Sauder Feeds' Medicated Chick Starter plus either a 250 watt white heat bulb, a thermometer, or a 2' metal feeder.

(Orders must be placed in February to qualify; limit one kit per customer.)

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FINGERPRINTING DONE AT ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS PRESCHOOL!



Mr. Cody Anderson and Mr. George Alley from Western & Southern Life Financial Group recently visited Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool to do a fingerprint identification on each and every preschooler! Pictures were taken of the children along with their fingerprints to help identify any child in case of a tragedy. We know how important it is to plan for the

unexpected even though we pray every day nothing will ever happen to our precious children. Shown here from the left are: Mr Anderson taking Wyatt Beckman's fingerprints, Brooke Ankney, Emma Shuherk and Mr. Alley. These children are in the afternoon group of four and young five year olds with Mrs. Chris Adams and Mrs. Ann Miller.

(Continued from Page 13)

to researcher IBISWorld: As baby boomers pass through their 40s and 50s, healthcare costs are forecast to rise dramatically.

Everyone knows that the human body thrives on regular exercise, and that staying fit and maintaining a healthy weight can contribute to significantly reduced risks for various cancers (by as much as 60 percent!), diabetes, heart disease, hypertension and many other debilitating conditions. Here are some other great reasons to head to the gym:

—Exercising with others can "greatly improve your exercise adherence." It's much easier to stick to an exercise program when you have accountability - from trainers and coaches, friends, or both. (University of Georgia Department of Kinesiology and Health)

—Exercise is like Miracle-Gro for your brain and can

make you smarter by releasing chemicals that cause neurons to branch and connect in new ways. New junctions between neurons are the basis of learning. (Kristin R. Wehner Keffeler, Entrepreneur.com)

—Exercise may make you a better worker - by as much as 15 percent according to a study presented to the American College of Sports Medicine - and enhances time-management skills, mental performance, ability to meet deadlines, mood, and interactions with co-workers. (MSNBC.com)

—Exercise directly reduces stress by decreasing the production of stress hormones and increasing the production of endorphins - your brain's "feel good" neurotransmitters. (MayoClinic.com). Exercise pays you back double: Each hour of exercise adds two to your life. (Harvard Alumni Study)

CITY OF WOODBURN MINUTES FOR JANUARY 5, 2009

Mayor Hoepfner received the 2009 contract from Sch-nelker Engineering: \$600.00 paid quarterly, for a total of \$2400.00. Councilmen made motions to renew the Sch-nelker contract, all agreed, motion passed. Mayor would like to do a couple projects this year and start engineering, to do a phase each year. Jim Lauer will be at our next council meeting with details of the projects suggested for this year. Mayor has contacted Jeff Rowe with Umbaugh to look at doing the water/sewer rate study and presented the contract with them. Lesa reported that Gregg Guerretaz with Financial Solutions has offered to do the study for \$1,000.00 cheaper and would like the opportunity to address the Council on this matter. Arnold Gerber's plowed snow for the City last year and has agreed to do it again this year for \$75.00. Councilmen made motions to accept, all agreed, motion passed. Mayor would like the decals removed and run the old police car through the car auction. Councilman Reichhart would like lettering on the new police car as soon as possible. Mayor discussed the decision of providing medical insurance. Councilman Reichhart stated it was decided any full time employee or elected official has the option to get insurance. Mayor Hoepfner and Clerk Treasurer are interested.

Lesla reported a resident had a water leak under her home and is asking for a discount to sewer. Councilmen made motions to give a one-month discount to sewer, all agreed, motion passed. Reading of the minutes were suspended. Councilmen made motions to approve, all agreed, motion passed. Warrants were presented; Councilmen made motions to approve, all agreed, motion passed. Mayor reports the cost of removing the pad of concrete beside the elevator will be shared with the elevator and they will repair their noise abatement fence facing Center St.

Resident reported streetlights from Hetric Road to Subway are out. In order to report streetlight outages we need the pole number; Lesa will get pole numbers and send notice to AEP.

Ryan Walls reported the lift station in Havenwood lost power and overflowed; IDEM was notified. There are no back ups or alarms on the lift station. Council would like him to examine what's needed for future emergencies. He will also get a bid from Treece Electric Company for emergency power for the maintenance building. Ryan reported the lift station on Core St. has to be cleaned once a month due to residents flushing items that shouldn't be flushed. He will put together a letter to be mailed out Citywide.

Councilman Reichhart would like Ryan to pick up some leaves and sweep streets when he has time and weather permits.

Councilman Zimmerman stated with the completion of the UAW Hall, he would like to see a sidewalk put in from Stenger St. to Main St on the east side of Elm St. on Front St. He would like to continue

the sidewalk down to 101 and South to the Library. Mayor feels with Knoblauch Construction and the water lines we should consider putting a crosswalk in and continuing the sidewalk on the other side of the street. When doing sewer repairs on Stenger St. we will look at putting in sidewalks and curbs also. Councilman Zimmerman would like to see new signs for the City of Woodburn; Mayor will speak with Todd at the High school about constructing the new signs.

Jim Norden stated the remaining 2008 money should be re-appropriated to the 2009 budget. Lesa stated Gregg Guerretaz with Financial Solutions, is recommending leaving it as is and doing an additional appropriation to use the 2008 money that was not spent. We have six months to make this decision.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15. Minutes submitted by Lesa Meadows.

NEW TITLES FOR THE PAULDING COUNTY CARNEGIE LIBRARY PART II

- Captain's Fury* by Jim Butcher
- Charlemagne Pursuit* by Steve Berry
- Christmas Sweater* by Glenn Beck
- Circle of Blood* by Alane Ferguson
- Coyote Road* by Ellen Dallow
- Cross Country* by James Patterson
- Crossroads* by Belva Plain
- Cruel Intent* by J. A. Jance
- Cursor's Fury: Book Three of the Codex Alera* by Jim Butcher
- Daemon* by Danual Suarez
- Dashing Through the Snow* by Mary Higgins Clark
- Death and Life of Gabriel Phillips* by Stephen Baldwin
- Dewey: The Small-Town Library Cat* by Vicki Myron
- Divine Justice* by David Baldacci
- Do the Right Thing: Inside the Movement That's Bringing Common Sense Back to America* by Mike Huckabee
- Dog Named Christmas* by Gred Kincaid
- Don't Call Me a Drama Queen!* By Debra Mandel
- Eat This Not That!* By David Zinczenko
- Eclipse* by Richard North Patterson
- Feathers* by Jacqueline Woodson
- Fleeced: How Barack Obama, Media Mockery...* by Dick Morris
- Flower Fairies Alphabet* by Cicely Mary Barker
- Flower Fairies of the Winter* by Cicely Mary Barker
- Food Matters: A guide to conscience eating* by Mark Bittman
- Friday Night Knitting Club* by Kate Jacobs
- Furies of Calderon* by Jim Butcher
- Fussy Eaters' Recipe Book* by Annabel Karmel
- Gate House* by Nelson DeMille
- Gatekeepers* by Robert Liparulo
- Geronimo's Valentine* by Geronimo Stilton
- Girls' Book of Glamour: A Guide to Being a Goddess* by Sally Jeffrie
- Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
- Grown up Digital: How the Net Generation...* by Don Tapscott
- Guilty: Liberal "Victims" and Their Assault on America*



Sue and Don Coughlin ANTWERP EXCHANGE BANK HOLDS GRAND OPENING

By: Sue Knapp
Antwerp Exchange Bank's Payne Branch held it's Grand Opening on January 30. Numerous people visited the Grand Opening, visiting with the employees, other customers and enjoying refreshments.

Sue and Don Coughlin, residents of Payne, are very pleased with the bank and are happy that the bank is providing services in Payne.

Geoff Hyman, Branch Manager was very pleased

- by Ann Coulter
- Hello, Cupcake!* By Karen Tack
- Here's the Story: Surviving Marcia Brady* by Maureen McCormick
- Hitman: My Real Life in the Cartoon World* by Bret Hart
- Home on the Range: John A. Lomax and His Cowboy Songs* by Deborah Hopkinson
- Horsing Around* by Nancy E. Krulik
- How I First Believed* by Wally Lamb
- How to Talk to Girls* by Alec Greven
- House of Dark Shadows* by Robert Liparulo
- How to Take the Ex Out of*

with the turn-out and is thankful to be able to serve the Payne area.

The winners of the \$100 Bonds were: Vincent Schaffer, Payne; Bob Burley, Payne; Afton Bates, Antwerp. The winners of the \$50.00 Bonds were: Amanda Mobley, Payne and Linda Hook, Antwerp.

Established in 1898, Antwerp Exchange Bank is a privately owned, full service bank. You may contact the Antwerp Exchange Bank, Payne Branch at 419-263-2705 or stop in at 119 N. Main Street in Payne.

- Ex-Boyfriend* by Janette Ral-lison
- I Want to Be Free* by Joseph Slate
- Independence of Miss Mary Bennet* by Colleen McCullough
- Influence* by Mary-Kate Olsen
- Inkdeath* by Cornelia Funke
- Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke
- Jay McGraw's Life Strategies for Dealing with Bullies* by Jay McGraw
- Jeffrey Gitomer's Little Teal Book of Trust* by Jeffrey H. Gitomer

(Look for the conclusion of this list in the next issue!)

Happy Valentine's in Paulding
Los Gallitos Mexican Restaurant
Feb 13 & 14 All Day
2 Mexican Dinners including non-alcoholic Drink only \$15
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Chick Days Are Coming!!!

Our Chick Days are scheduled March—Sept.
Upcoming order deadlines are:
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March 9th for Tue., March 24h arrival.
March 30th for Tue., April 14th arrival

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~Don't Miss these upcoming Events!~

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March 20 - SECOND IN CONCERT SERIES - KEVIN MANOR
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March 28 & 29 - HUBER hosts 4th bi-annual QUILT SHOW!**
April - Probable two weekends - school musical "The Lion King"

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- or
- Two Prime Rib w/potato, vegetable, dinner roll and salad bar.
Complete with drink and dessert.....\$35.00

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FISH WINTER KILLS: HOW TO AVOID THEM

By: Jim Lopshire, Extension Educator

As ponds freeze over completely, owners need to monitor the situation to avoid a late winter fish kill. Winterkills are rare in Ohio, but do occur during more severe winters. Winterkills are the result of oxygen depletion, which is also the primary cause of summer fish kills. The difference is that in winter, oxygen levels decline slowly under the ice and can take weeks to reach critically low levels. In contrast, summer oxygen levels can decline to critical levels in just a day or so under certain conditions.

The presence of ice by itself does not necessarily mean a fish winterkill situation is going to develop. As long as sunlight can penetrate thru the ice, photosynthesis will occur and keep oxygen levels high enough to insure fish survival. Any condition that severely reduces or eliminates sunlight penetration will reduce oxygen production. Ice that is very opaque will severely reduce sunlight penetration, and the thicker the opaque ice the more concerned the pond owner should be. The other condition is several inches of snow on top of the ice, even if it is clear ice. The snow reduces light penetration thru the ice. The occurrence of either condition for more than several weeks will begin to significantly lower oxygen levels. The owner may wish to consider ways of increasing light penetration into the water under the ice.

There are a number of factors that hasten the depletion of oxygen once the ice and snow have curtailed photosynthetic activity. Ponds and small lakes with any of the following factors can experience a fish kill while nearby water bodies may not. This risk can

be significantly increased with a combination of any of these factors. Shallow ponds are at a higher risk because less water volume means less total oxygen available once photosynthesis is curtailed. Old ponds with large amounts of black, organic bottom materials have a higher biological oxygen demand (BOD), which hastens oxygen depletion under the ice. Complete control of aquatic plants and algae after mid-July increases winter BOD because decomposition may not be complete by the time ice covers your pond. Completion of decomposition of those plants under the ice requires large amounts of oxygen.

So, how can winterkills be prevented? The key is to allow for sunlight penetration to occur in at least a portion of the pond, preferably about 25% of the pond's surface area. This is easily accomplished by shoveling off the snow. Be careful! It is prudent to make sure the ice is safe prior to shoveling the snow. Be sure to check ice thickness as you move away from shore. A fully-charged, cordless drill with a butterfly bit makes drilling test holes easy. The first check should be in water no deeper than your waist so that if you do go thru, it is relatively easy to get back to shore. Keep in mind that ice which has been under heavy snow for several weeks may not be as thick as you think.

Another technique to prevent fish winterkill is to have a bottom aeration system in place or can quickly be installed that can be turned on as needed in the winter. These bubblers will open up a sizable whole in the ice after a few days and allow for oxygen replenishment via the bubbles and photosynthesis in and near the open hole. Please note that ice on a pond using aeration is not considered safe.

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

FOR SALE - Town lot in Antwerp by new school, city water, sewer, natural gas, ready to hook up, property is lined on one side with cedar trees. 419-258-2888. oam

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 2 corner lots in Broughton. 419-796-7191.

LEGISLATIVE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO CLASS OF 2009

Guest Column From Representative Lynn R. Wachtmann

While many high school students are getting comfortable with their new class schedules, this time of year can be very stressful for our seniors as they make final decisions about their post-graduation plans. Some plan to enter the workforce immediately, while others plan to attend a two or four-year institution to pursue a college degree. Although most college classes do not begin until the fall of 2009, now is the time when high school students are busy preparing their college admissions applications and applying for financial aid.

With the rising of college tuition steadily rising, many students hope to receive assistance in covering their higher education costs. Fortunately, resources are available to applicants and their parents to make dreams of a college education become reality.

One of these resources is the Ohio Association of Career Colleges and Schools (OACCS), which is offering scholarships to high school graduates of the class of 2009. Through the cooperation of Ohio's businesses and trade schools, the OACCS provides the Legislative Scholarship Program to students at no cost to the state of Ohio. This program offers over 180 scholarship opportunities worth more than \$500,000 to graduating high school seniors. These scholarships

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

DEADLINE FOR THE CLASSIFIEDS IN THE WEST BEND NEWS IS MONDAYS AT 12 NOON!! "FOR SALE BY OWNERS IN THE WEST BEND NEWS" IS FRIDAYS @ 5PM!!

offer students interested in post-secondary, trade or business training the opportunity to enroll in educational programs that range in length from one to two years. All scholarships are for diploma and/or associate degree programs.

Students applying for the scholarship must obtain the signature of a member of the Ohio House or Senate that represents their district, and members of the General Assembly may nominate as many students as they wish. Students should send the completed application to their district's House or Senate member for nomination.

The application deadline for the Legislative Scholarship Program is April 1. To obtain an application form, students should contact their high school guidance counselor or visit the OACCS website at: www.ohiocareercolleges.org. You may also contact my office for a copy of the application.

Training Ohio's future workforce is essential to ensuring the state's future economic prosperity. I encourage every high school student graduating in 2009 interested in attending a proprietary school to apply and take full advantage of this scholarship program.

As always, I welcome your views on all state issues. If you have any questions, thoughts or concerns, or if you need assistance working with a state government agency, please write to me: Representative Lynn Wachtmann, Ohio House of Representatives, 77 South High Street, 10th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215, or call my office at (614) 466-3760.

IT'S STILL HAPPENING: ODOT ASKING PROPERTY OWNERS NOT TO PLACE SNOW ON THE ROADS

Prior to the area's last significant snowfall, ODOT asked that snow plowed from private drives or any access road along a state route not be placed on the highway.

Some have chosen not to heed the message.

"During our cleanup of this most recent storm, our operators have seen several occurrences of significant amounts of snow plowed from private drives and left on the highway," said Tim Burkepile, Ohio Department of Transportation District I deputy director.

Burkepile reminds citizens that Ohio Revised Code 4511.74 prohibits the placement of injurious material on a highway except that which is placed on the roadway by a proper authority, such as the salt or grit which ODOT uses to treat icy roads.

Placing anything on the highway could be dangerous to motorists in that they may hit these obstructions and lose control of their vehicles. "If there are individuals who continue to leave snow from their private drive on the highway, law enforcement will be brought in to deal with the problem," said Burkepile.

There is potentially civil

and criminal consequences if it is found an individual's actions caused or contributed to an accident, he said.

According to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, the offense is considered a first degree misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine.

ODOT is once again advising that snow from private drives and side roads be pushed completely off the highway. It is recommended that the snow be placed so that a passing ODOT truck will not throw the snow back into the driveway, said Burkepile.

District One serves the counties of Allen, Defiance, Hancock, Hardin, Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert and Wyandot.

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

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The **VILLAGE OF PAULDING** will be accepting applications for Pool Manager, Head Lifeguard, Lifeguards and Pool concession workers and Front desk workers for the 2009 season.
Applications are available at Paulding High School, Antwerp High School, Wayne Trace High School Offices or at the VILLAGE Office 116 S. Main St.
For information Call: 419-399-4011.
Applications will be accepted until February 17, 2009

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listings in the West Bend News



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HOME FOR SALE BY OWNER. 211 E. River St., Antwerp. Newly remodeled, 2 story on finished basement. 4/5 bedrooms, 2 full bath. 419-258-1640. 5-6p

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Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont business, the world's leading source of agricultural seed technology, inoculants, and agronomic information, is currently looking for an Independent Sales Representative to promote Pioneer® Brand Products in Paulding County. This role is a full service seed agent providing sales and service to local farmers. This individual will market a wide range of products and provide full agronomic service to area growers. Sales Representatives are independent contractors who exclusively promote, sell and distribute Pioneer products and are compensated through a commission program. Qualified candidates should have an interest in agriculture and the desire to help educate local growers of the benefits of Pioneer® brand seed products. Strong relationship building skills, sales skills, and agronomic knowledge are required. Experience working with seed, fertilizer, and herbicides is a priority. Animal feed and nutritional understanding would be a plus! Computer skills including use of Windows and Microsoft Word are necessary. Candidates with a farming background, sales experience, and/or business planning and development experience will be strongly considered.

To express interest contact Brian Mitchem at (419) 203-2064 or Brian.Mitchem@pioneer.com.

SHERWOOD VFW POST CONTRIBUTES \$1000 TO V.E.T.S.



(l-r) Nancy Lichty, Ron Luderman, Joyce West & Lori Manon

Our January 15, 2009 V.E.T.S. public meeting began with a very unexpected surprise. It wasn't unusual to have Mr. Ron Luderman from the Sherwood VFW Post attend our meetings. After all, he was so very helpful in the beginning of 2008 and throughout the year when V.E.T.S. tried desperately to find a plan of action to see that the Antwerp "All" Veterans memorial would become a reality. Mr. Luderman, as representative for the Sherwood VFW Post, presented V.E.T.S. with a check for \$1,000 towards our memorial fundraising efforts.

Recently, at the January 17th Civil War statue "Change of Guard" program, V.E.T.S. was given many compliments and sincere thanks for this project. These kind words were appreciated. V.E.T.S. has a fiery and most dedicated group of volunteers. Antwerp will have a near "one of a kind" Veterans memorial that honors them by name, be-

cause we now have our entire community and surrounding area rallying behind our vision.

Sandy Sanders has logged a list of names to be engraved as follows: Civil War - 337, of those 132 died while serving and 9 POW's; Spanish American War - 21, WWI - 119, of those one died while serving, WWII - 302, of those eight died while serving and one POW, Korea - 76, of those one died while serving; Vietnam - 170, of those four died while serving; peacetime - 37; and Gulf Wars - 11. Sandy continues to add names as they are submitted.

Antwerp School District area Veterans: please do not assume we know who you are or have your name on our list. You or the veterans families must submit honorable service documentation to be included on your memorial. For more information: Call 419/399-5764. Donations may be sent to V.E.T.S. P.O. Box 742, Antwerp, OH 45813

STATE OF THE STATE IDENTIFIED KEY PRIORITIES, BUT LEFT QUESTIONS, CONCERNS

Capitol Letters Weekly Column by: Senator Steve Buehrer

On January 28, Governor Ted Strickland delivered his State of the State address to a gathering of legislators, state agency leaders, Ohio Supreme Court justices, university presidents and other interested parties from across the state. The speech focused on key topics, such as the economy and education, and included a number of inter-

esting ideas. However, many of these proposals lacked detail, leaving important questions and concerns about how the Governor plans to accomplish his goals.

Of particular concern is the Governor's reliance on \$3.4 billion from the not-yet-approved, federal stimulus package to cover costs in his state budget plan. Using one-time money to pay for ongoing state expenses or the creation of new state programs that will require funding in the future could set the stage for tax increases down the road that average Ohioans cannot afford.

I do applaud the Governor for his commitment to avoid tax increases in the upcoming budget, while also working to keep the cost of tuition low for Ohio's students. Following the Legislature's lead from the last budget bill, the Governor called for a continuation of the tuition freeze at community colleges over the next two years. He also proposed a freeze on tuition at Ohio's four-year higher education institutions next year and a 3.5 percent cap on tuition increases the following year.

At the same time, I am concerned about the Governor's plan to raise various state agency fees, fines and penalties, which could place an added financial burden on Ohio families and businesses at a time when they can least afford it.

Perhaps the most-anticipated part of the Governor's State of the State address was the announcement of his long-awaited education reform plan. While I was encouraged by the Governor's ideas to strengthen accountability for teacher behavior and school spending, as well as expand efforts to ensure our kids have modern resources in the classroom, he provided few specifics about how much his plan would cost and the impact it would have on Ohio's local school districts.

In addition, I have reservations about the Governor's proposal to allow voters to pass conversion levies, which grow local property taxes with inflation. Not only are there concerns that this could create a greater disparity between high-wealth and low-wealth school districts, but it would roll back important protections for taxpayers against automatic tax increases.

The Governor also said that he plans to introduce a second economic stimulus package in the coming months. The Legislature worked with the Governor just last year to pass a \$1.57 billion jobs stimulus package, and unfortunately, much of that money has not been used. I think the Administration needs to first distribute the money they have been given before trying to borrow more money.

Government spending alone, whether it's at the state or federal level, will not solve the economic challenges fac-

ing our communities. Instead, it is important that we work to make government more efficient and accountable to Ohio taxpayers, while focusing on policies that encourage the type of development and job creation that will jumpstart our economy.

The Governor is expected to announce the details of his budget plan in the coming days, and hopefully, the budget documents will help clear up many of the questions and concerns. I certainly look forward to working with the Administration and my colleagues in the Legislature to ensure that the residents of our area and all Ohioans are better served in the days ahead.

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

WOODBURN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE INVITES COMMUNITY TO MONTHLY MEETING

Anyone interested in working together to improve our community join the Woodburn Chamber of Commerce for a meeting.

Meetings are held at Woodburn City Hall the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The next meeting will be held February 12, 2009.

DATE CHANGE TO EAGLE SCOUTS CEREMONY

This is an update, and change, to our previous announcement.

Payne Boy Scout Troop 137 has changed the date of their Eagle Scout Court of Honor to Saturday, 14 March. Times have changed as well. Meet and Greet is at 12:30 p.m., and the Court of Honor Ceremony begins at 1:00 p.m.

The location is the same, Saint James Lutheran Church, in Payne, right across from the elementary school.

If you can help, please contact Scoutmaster Kip Long as soon as possible, so we can continue to develop our first Eagle Court of Honor. You can reach Kip at 419-263-3822, or Email rev.long@yahoo.com

WE DID IT AGAIN!!



Receiving our second Step Up Quality Award this year are staff members from Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool. Shown here from the left are: Chris Adams (teacher for four year olds), Carrie Myers (teacher for three year olds), Miss Katie Neville, Step Up Coordinator, and Ann Miller (owner).

We've got something to shout about! Recently, Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool was named a Step Up To Quality program again! This is our second year in a row and still the only preschool in Paulding County to receive this prestigious award. Only the top child care programs in Ohio receive this award, so we are very proud! This award comes from the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services - Bureau of Child Care and Development, the state agency responsible for licensing and promoting high standards among Ohio's child care programs.

We have received this award for the second time because of our overall commitment to quality and our excellent early care and education program. We offer a wonderful environment for children to grow and develop, and it is an honor to receive state recognition for our efforts. Among the special

quality features that helped us win this award are the following:

* More teachers per child - this allows a teacher to spend more time with each child

* More qualified teachers - more training in early childhood development

* A commitment to ongoing learning and Ohio's Early Learning Content Standards

* An outstanding work environment - paid staff benefits mean staff is treated professionally, which goes a long way in retaining good teachers for your child

"Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool is so proud to be a One-Star program. We know that learning begins the moment babies open their eyes. Because of that, we are committed to high-quality care and education. Thank you, Ohio, for this recognition and thanks to our staff for their outstanding work with children," said Ann Miller, program director.

Saturday, February 14, 2009

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