

PANTHERS POUNCE ALL OVER RAIDERS



Paulding senior Jarrett Sitton is fouled on the shot and attempts a basket from the free-throw line. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The big county game between Paulding and Wayne Trace boys basketball took place on Saturday night at the Panther stadium. This followed last week's game when Paulding came back against Antwerp to take the game into overtime and ended up winning in the fifth quarter.

The local rivals' game began with Paulding's Alex Arellano scoring a 3 point basket from the outside in the first few seconds. Wayne Trace then took over the ball, but had a turnover quickly. Corbin Edwards received the pass and shot a 3 point and scored. The Raiders' Alec Vest retaliated with a 3 point basket of his own. Between both teams 15 points in 3 point baskets were made in the first quarter. Paulding took a strong early lead 10-3 over the Raiders from turnovers to the vexation of the Wane Trace players. It didn't take long until the guests were back on top and the quarter finished, 11-15.

The second quarter was much more competitive. Both teams scored 11. On the Wayne Trace side, Ethan Linder scored all the points but two, added by Brady Stabler who shot from the key. On the home team side,

(Continued to Page 2)

NORTHWEST STATE HONORS AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS



Amy Shaffer, Oakwood, Associate of Science

Northwest State Community College recently recognized eighteen Award of Merit recipients. For over 25 years, Northwest State has recognized graduates within the degree programs for their academic achievements. Award of Merit recipients are chosen by faculty from the respective divisions based on leadership involvement, special talents or abilities in their academic field, and significant contributions to Northwest State.

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WLS HOSTS CHRISTMAS STORY NIGHT



Woodburn Lutheran School presented a very special event for local families on Thursday, December 3rd. Students from WLS as well as those in the community were invited to attend the Christmas Story Night at the

school. The evening centered around literacy activities with a Christmas theme. Children read books with Mrs. Claus, created Christmas snacks and crafts, and ended the night with a story with Santa himself.

NEW HAVEN TO CELEBRATE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

In 2016, New Haven will officially turn 150 years old and the Sesquicentennial Committee has begun planning for the upcoming anniversary. Much has taken place during the 150 year history of New Haven. Since 1866, residents have not only shaped the geographic landscape, but continue to influence the quality and consistency of life in and beyond the community. Since its founding more

than a century ago, New Haven has been guided by a unique vision that continues to this day.

In 2016, highlights will include the hard work, leadership, creativity, and determination that have shaped the community as all celebrate the history of New Haven. The 150th Anniversary will be a year-long community-wide celebration the rich history as citizens maintain their promising future.

Throughout 2016, local events and promotions will

(Continued to Page 4)

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PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DINING CENTER MENU 12/9- 12/15

12/9 - Boiled dinner w/ smoked sausage, spinach salad, warm pitted cherries, apple corn muffin, grape juice, milk

12/10 - Pork roast, rice pilaf, seasoned zucchini, pineapple tidbits, fruit compote, w.w. bread, milk

12/11 - Chili spaghetti, peas & onions, orange juice, garlic bread, cake, milk

12/14 - Creamed chicken, mashed potatoes, peas, cinnamon applesauce, cookie, biscuit, milk

12/15 - Smothered steak, herbed mashed potatoes, fiesta corn, carrot, raisin, & pineapple salad, dinner roll, goldfish crackers, milk

TAPPING INTO THE ARTS TO LIVE "WELL BEYOND 60!"

By Bonnie K. Burman, Sc.D., Director of the Ohio Department of Aging

Tapping into the arts to live 'Well Beyond 60!' Living "Well Beyond 60!" is about much more than eating the right things and staying active. It's also about doing things that make you feel good and that help you continue to grow and thrive emotionally and spiritually as well as physically. In short: your well-being is as important as being well. For many of us, participating in and learning about the arts can be the pathway to that well-being. Research has shown that older adults who participate in the arts report improved physical health and better social engagement, as well as enjoy a higher quality of life and less risk for disability that can lead to a need for long-term care.

This is why the Ohio Department of Aging and the state's aging network are proud to support the Ohio Arts Council's work to improve the lives of older Ohioans and create a culture of health across the state. The Arts Council has already funded and supported successful initiatives like the Encore Artist Program at the Benjamin Rose Institute on Aging and the

Music & MemorySM program at Otterbein Senior Lifestyle Choices.

The council is currently seeking partners for its Creative Aging Ohio Initiative, which will build and work with a variety of state and local partners to support hands-on arts experiences based on best practices for adult learners. They are looking for teams who are currently implementing or would like to begin a program that supports healthy aging through participatory arts, helps caregivers and adds to the growing field of research about the arts and aging.

The deadline to apply for this great opportunity is Friday, December 18, 2015.

We are very excited about the potential that the Creative Aging Ohio Initiative holds for helping all Ohioans live "Well Beyond 60!"

SEEKING STUDENTS FOR WINTER/SPRING SESSION OF OHIO SCHOLARS IN AGING PROGRAM

The Ohio Department of Aging and the Ohio Association of Gerontology and Education (OAGE) are preparing to kick off the Winter/Spring 2016 session of the Ohio Scholars in Aging program. The program is a partnership between the state's aging network and colleges and universities that cultivates future decision-makers and designers of aging services in Ohio, while ensuring that Ohio communities and businesses design and implement solutions that address the issues, opportunities and impact of an aging population.

Ohio Scholars in Aging is for students who are enrolled in an internship or practicum (including clinicals and practicals) that involves older adults or their caregivers. The program links students' hands-on experience to aging-related policy at the state level. The program provides scholars of all academic backgrounds with the opportunity to learn about and contribute to aging-related policy-making, establish career-long professional contacts and gain valuable career knowledge and skills in the field of aging.

Applications for the Winter/Spring 2016 session will be accepted through December 18, 2015. Learn more and access the online application

www.aging.ohio.gov

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PATROL: FOLLOW THESE TIPS WHEN DRIVING IN WINTER WEATHER

The Defiance Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is warning drivers about the dangers of driving in winter weather and is offering some tips on what drivers should do in the event of a vehicle break down or a crash.

During the winter of 2014-15, there were 24,747 crashes on snow, ice or slush covered roadways, a decrease of 28 percent. These crashes accounted for 31 deaths and 6,676 injuries. Speed-related factors were reported as a cause in 67 percent of these crashes. To view a breakdown of winter crashes visit http://www.statepatrol.ohio.gov/doc/Winter_Driving_Bulletin_2015.pdf

In the event of inclement weather, the Patrol is urging motorists to allow extra time to get to their destination, maintain a safe distance between their vehicle and the traffic ahead, pay close attention to bridges and overpasses - as they are often the first to freeze over - and to drive slowly, as everything including accelerating, turning and braking takes longer on snow-covered roadways.

"In case of a vehicle breakdown, motorists should turn on their hazard warning lights, safely position the vehicle as far off the road as possible, call #677 for assistance and remain in the vehicle until help arrives," explained Lt. Robert Ashenfelter, commander of the Defiance Post.

Troopers further suggest that if you get stuck in snow, make sure that your tail pipe is free of all snow and debris to decrease your chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.

All motorists are encouraged to prepare their vehicle for winter driving by ensuring that the battery, cooling system, tires, wipers and defroster are all in working order. Drivers are also encouraged to carry the following winter car kit items in their vehicle in case of a breakdown:

- Cell phone with car charger
- Road flares or reflectors
- Help or Call Police signs
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Blanket/Sleeping bag
- Small shovel
- Bottled water and energy foods
- Candles and matches
- Tow strap/chain

Up-to-the-minute road conditions are always available by logging onto the Ohio Department of Transportation's website, www.ohgo.com.

THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REMINDS PARENTS ABOUT TOY SAFETY

Keep your children safe this holiday season with a few simple tips.

The holidays are an exciting time of year for kids and parents and to help ensure that everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), wants to remind parents to keep safety in mind when choosing toys for young children when out holiday shopping.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that more than 250,000 children are treated in hospital emergency rooms for toy-related injuries each year.

"Parents and others will purchase toys this holiday season for children," said ODH Director Rick Hodges. "By reading labels and being safety conscious, they can help prevent toy-related injuries and even death."

The following tips will help parents and others choose appropriate toys for children this holiday season:

- Select toys to suit the age, abilities, and interest level of the intended child.
- Be a toy label reader. Look for labels that give age recommendations.
- For infants and toddlers, avoid toys with small parts.
- For children under age eight, avoid toys that have sharp edges and points.
- Do not purchase electric toys with heating elements for children under age eight.
- Check toy instructions for clarity.
- Discard plastic wrapping on toys immediately the wrapping can cause suffocation.
- Charging batteries should be supervised by adults. Chargers and adapters can pose thermal burn hazards to young children.

LATTA SENDS LETTER URGING PRESIDENT TO HALT ADMISSION OF SYRIAN, IRAQI REFUGEES

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) signed a letter to President Obama urging the immediate halt of admissions of refugees from Syria and Iraq into the United States. The bipartisan letter was signed by over a hundred Members of the House of Representatives, and called for admissions of refugees to be suspended until effective vetting and monitoring processes are established, and the Administration can certify that asylum seekers from these countries do not pose a safety threat.

Reports have indicated one of the attackers responsible for the November 13, 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris entered Europe as a refugee.

"Without an effective means of gathering information on these refugees, or the ability to monitor those entering the country, we risk putting American's in harm's way. The tragic attacks in Paris are further evidence that freedom-loving nations must be ever vigilant in the war against ISIS. This terrorist organization poses a clear and present danger to the United States, and to our allies across the world. We must take appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security of the American people. Until these vital security issues have been addressed, I ask the President to suspend the admission of these refugees."

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;"

—John 11:25

Paulding Defeats the Raiders in overtime.



Brady Stabler attempts a free throw in the first quarter against Paulding. More pictures at westbendnews.net

Paulding spread their points across the team: Rhonehouse, Doster, Arellano, and Harder. The half ended at 22-26.

The second half the game intensified the competition. The third quarter finished only one point in scoring at 11-12 and finished at 34-37.

Fierce was the game in the fourth quarter. Ethan Linder, for the Raider side, was the top scorer, and the Raiders had 17 points in that period. The Panther boys had their best quarter with 20 points and the tops scorer was Corbin Edwards.

With three additional points, Paulding tied the

game. History repeated itself just as the game against Antwerp when the Panthers took back the game in the last few minutes.

The fourth quarter was tops for Paulding. Most of the time the scores are low in the fifth quarter, but Paulding posted 16 more points in the four minutes they had. The Raiders tallied up only 10 and the game finished 72-64.

Paulding is now 3-1 and Wayne Trace is 2-1. Wayne Trace will take on Lincolnview at Lioncolnview on December 12. Paulding plays December 11 at home against Ada.

More pictures at westbendnews.net

WAYNE TRACE JR. HIGH WRESTLING

Saturday, December 5th, Wayne Trace hosted their annual Jr. High Wrestling Invitational. The Raiders, having only six wrestlers on their roster, placed 7th out of 17 teams in attendance.

Wrestling 92lbs, Gabe Sutton was the lone Champion for the Raiders. Sutton went 4-0 for the day, pinning his way through the bracket.

Brendon Bidlack (80lbs), Seth Meggison (86lbs), and Kameron Bevis (134lbs), all placed 2nd for the Raiders. All three boys wrestled tough and made it to the championship

round, where they fell short in competition.

Jacobe Carpenter (122lbs), claimed 4th place for the Raiders. Carpenter went 3-2 for the day.

Jess Munger (104lbs), was 2-2 for the day; unable to earn a spot on the podium.

Coach Long, first year Jr High Coach for the Raiders was pleased with the boys performance. "There are definitely things we need to work on this year, some of the boys have only wrestled a few years. I'm pleased to have placed with only 6 wrestlers. I'm looking forward to working hard with the boys this year and watching them improve."

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WOODLAN WARRIORS



2015-16 Boys Basketball



WARRIORS



View more pictures at: www.westbendnews.net

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VARSITY

#	Name	Yr	Ht.
1	Deontae Biggs	11	6'2
3	Tre'von McCarter	10	6'0
12	Austin Fancher	11	5'10
22	Ben Schwartz	12	6'2
23	Cole Weiss	12	6'5
24	Andrew Krahn	12	6'3
34	Aaron Hahn	10	6'3
35	Josh Gerig	11	6'3
44	Blake Williams	12	6'5

JUNIOR VARSITY

#	Name	Yr	Ht.
3	Adam Quantance	11	6'0
4	Donald Guerrant	10	6'0
5	Anthony Reidy	10	6'0
10	Alec Bayman	11	6'2
11	Jack Rhoades	10	6'0
12	Ah'lan Howard	10	6'1
14	Justin Durkes	10	6'2
22	Matthew Elias	10	6'2
33	Micah Robbins	10	6'3
42	Lucas Bertsche	10	6'2
50	Kyle Nahrwold	11	6'3

Head Coach:
David Randall

Assistant Coach:
Justin Reinig

JV Coach:
Braden Hines

Volunteer:
Kyle Rodriguez

Managers:
Adrienne Rebber
Brianna Raber
Sam Krahn
Collin Kindinger

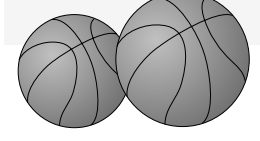
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Superintendent:
Ken Folks

Principal:
Ron Kammeyer

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2015-16 WOODLAN WARRIORS VARSITY BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
Sat, Nov. 21	Hamilton Scrimmage	Away	11:00AM
Wed, Nov. 25	New Haven	Away	7:30PM
Sat, Nov. 28	Bellmont High School	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Dec. 1	Garrett	Home	7:30PM
Fri, Dec. 4	Jay County High School	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Dec. 8	Angola	Away	7:30PM
Sat, Dec. 12	Blackhawk Christian	Home	7:30PM
Fri, Dec. 18	Adams Central	Home	7:30PM
Tues, Dec. 22	Fremont High School	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Dec. 29	Wayne Trace	Home	7:30PM

Wed, Jan. 6	Churubusco	Home	7:30PM
Sat, Jan. 9	Bluffton	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Jan. 12	ACAC Tourney	Away (TBA)	7:30PM
Thurs, Jan. 14	ACAC Tourney	Away (TBA)	7:00PM
Sat, Jan. 16	ACAC Con. Game	Away (TBA)	10:00AM
Sat, Jan. 16	ACAC Finals	Away (South Adams)	7:30PM
Tues, Jan. 19	Prairie Heights H.S.	Away	7:30PM
Fri, Jan. 22	Heritage	Home	7:30PM
Thurs, Jan. 28	Lakewood Park Christian School Home	Away	7:30PM

Thurs, Feb. 4	South Adams	Home	7:30PM
Fri, Feb. 12	Southern Wells	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Feb. 16	Eastside	Home	7:30PM
Fri, Feb. 19	Antwerp High	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Feb. 23	Hamilton	Home	7:30PM
Fri, Feb. 26	Leo	Away	7:30PM
Tues, Mar. 1	Sectionals	Away (Bluffton)	7:00PM
Wed, Mar. 2	Sectional	Away (Bluffton)	6:00PM
Fri, Mar. 4	Sectional	Away (Bluffton)	6:00PM
Sat, Mar. 5	Sectional	Away (Bluffton)	6:00PM

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WAYNE TRACE CHOIR TRAVELS TO EMBASSY



On Tuesday, December 8th the Wayne Trace 8th Grade and High School Concert Choirs travelled to Fort Wayne to participate in the annual Festival of Trees at The Embassy. They performed

several Christmas songs for those who were there to look at the trees and enjoy the entertainment on the grand stage. Afterward, they were able to enjoy the many trees decorated by local businesses.

SANTA'S WORKSHOP AT RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Does your child wish to give gifts to his/her loved ones or friends, but is short on cash? Then bring them out to Riverside Family Center on Saturday December 12th, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. to participate in Santa's Workshop. The kids will be able to browse a large selection of gifts for men and women, plus wrap them up at the wrapping station. While the parents are waiting for their children to finish, they will be able to relax to holiday music & refreshments.

Santa Claus will also be on hand that afternoon for photo opportunities and to get those special Christmas gift requests submitted.

This event will benefit the Riverside Youth to attend a youth conference in early 2016. For more information, contact Brandi at 260-704-7053.

MVNU STUDENTS TO SING IN BALLETMET'S THE NUTCRACKER

Members of Mount Vernon Nazarene University's Treble Singers Women's Choir will be performing in BalletMet's *The Nutcracker* on Friday, December 11, at 7:30 p.m., in the Ohio Theatre in Columbus, Ohio.

Each year, BalletMet invites women's choirs from the central Ohio area to sing the enchanting "Snow Chorus" during the "Waltz of the Snowflakes." The MVNU ensemble will also sing a pre-performance concert of favorite Christmas carols in the Theatre lobby at 6:45 p.m. Ticket information can be found on BalletMet's website.

Treble Singers Women's Choir, directed by Mrs. Sabina Anderson, is one of three choral ensembles at MVNU.

They perform frequently on campus for events such as chapel, Homecoming, Christmas Festival, and join the Choral Union for the annual Messiah performance. They also travel on weekend tours to regional churches twice a year.

For more information on this or other musical events, please visit or contact Tressa Daley at 740-397-9000, ext. 3000.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University is a private, four-year, intentionally Christian teaching university for traditional age students, graduate students, and working adults. With a 327-acre main campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio, and several convenient Graduate and Professional Studies locations throughout the state, MVNU emphasizes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service to community and church. MVNU offers an affordable education to more than 2,100 students from 28 states and 16 countries/U.S. territories.

REMEMBERING THE POOR

By: Rev. Gerry Weesner, Maples United Methodist Church

"If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother, but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be. ... You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore

I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.' " Deuteronomy 15:7-8, 10-11 (ESV).

There are many causes of poverty. Both people and causes are complex, too complex for us to be anything but sensitive to the needs of the poor whatever the cause. The important issue is not how or why they got there but what can we do to help. We do know that the message of God from the beginning of scripture to the end is a command to help the poor.

God has always had a special place in His heart for the poor, and an important test of godliness has always been that of having a concern for the poor. Exploitation of the poor or neglect of the poor has always made God angry. Jesus taught that it is how we treat the poor that will be criteria for judgment.

This is the holiday season; it is the time when many churches and organizations collect money, food, and clothing and other items to help the poor. The Salvation Army bell ringers will be out and collection jars will be put around different places. Then comes January and all will be forgotten until next year's holiday season.

Let us develop a love of God and a love for those in poverty and need, not just at the holiday season, but always.

BIBLE LESSONS

By: James Potter, Oakwood Church of Christ

1. Luke 23:34; For those Jews who wanted Christ crucified, what did Jesus ask the Father to do?
2. Luke 23:34; What did the Romans do with Jesus garments?
3. Luke 23:35; What were the people doing?
4. Luke 23:35; What were the rulers doing?
5. Luke 23:35; What was the rulers saying?
6. Luke 23:36; What were the soldiers doing?
7. Luke 23:37; What were the soldiers saying?
8. Luke 23:38; What three languages were the inscription written in?
9. Luke 23:38; What did the inscription say?
10. Luke 23:39; What was this criminal doing to Jesus?

We are available for comment, questions, or to help or to assist in some way with your study of the Bible, especially the New Testament. James Potter 419-393-4775, or e-mail at jsp1941@yahoo.com also there is Lonnie Lambert at 419-399-5022.

Answers to this week's questions:

1. Forgive them; 2. They divided them and cast lots; 3. Looking on; 4. Sneering; 5. Jesus saved others; let him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God; 6. Mocking Him and offering Jesus sour wine; 7. If you are the king of the Jews save yourself; 8. Greek, Latin and Hebrew; 9. This is the king of the Jews; 10. Blaspheming; "Ol Baldy" says bye for now, but continue to pray, read and study the New Testament. "Luv Ya!"

THE ART OF HEALTHY ARGUMENTS EXAMINED AT LIFETREE CAFÉ

Ways to avoid destructive disagreements will be explored at Lifetree Café on Thursday, December 10th from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The program titled, "I Disagree! How to Have a Healthy Argument," explores common causes of disagreements and offers practical tips for preventing arguments from damaging relationships.

"Conflict is inevitable, but there are certainly ways to fight fair," said Lifetree National Director Craig Cable. "This Lifetree episode will dive into the reasons arguments can turn ugly and will provide do's and don'ts for resolving conflict in healthy ways."

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is located in The Bachwell at 116 N. Washington Street, Van Wert, Ohio. Please enter through the handicap accessible door on Court Street.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversation about life and faith in a casual, comfortable setting. Questions about Lifetree may be directed to First Church at 419-238-0631 or firstchurch@wcoil.com.

Topic for December 17, "Pursuing an Audacious Life: Inspiration from a man who's traveled to every country."

(Continued from Page 1)

commemorate the anniversary of the city and will provide opportunities for residents to deepen their connection to the community. Plans are being made to host a series of celebrations and events throughout the year, and help is needed. The Committee is looking for additional committee members, volunteers, suggestions, photos, and community input.

4-H CLUB MEETING REPORT

The Brown Bettys & Buster Brown 4-H Club held a meeting November 30th at the Cooper Community Library. The meeting was called to order by president, Aaron Horstman. The pledges to the American flag and 4-H flag were led by Trent Church, Hailee Huner, Sam Mast, and Carson Eitnien. The secretary, Emma Horstman, read the roll call. Treasurer report was given by Madison Parrett. Secretary's report was read and approved. The Christmas drive thru at the Paulding County Fairgrounds, December 11-13 and 18-20, sponsored by the fairboards, were discussed. Our Club will have a display. The 2016 Family Guide, enrollment form, 4-H agreement form, and book order was handed out and discussed. The above forms plus family fee are due at the next meeting.

Recreation was conducted by Aaron Horstman, Madison Parrett, Emma Horstman and Estee Miller. Refreshments were served by Seth and Samantha Meggison. Drinks were served by Emma Elkins. The next meeting will be held December 28th at 11:00am at the Cooper Community Library.

DIVINE MERCY GETS PRESENTATION FROM WIND FARM



Earlier this week all the students at Divine Mercy School listened to a presentation from the Timber Mill Wind Farms and learned all about wind turbines, as well as had the opportunity to visit one.

OFF STAGE PRODUCTIONS, INC. PRESENTS GI HOLIDAY JUKEBOX

Are you ready for the big show? The cast and crew of GI Holiday Jukebox from Off Stage Productions, Inc. are hard at work as they are set to kick off this holiday musical production. Cast members are Laura Warnemont of Kalida; Kristin Lee of Lima; Chris Lybold of Delphos and Jerry Zimmerman of Fort Jennings. Zimmerman is also the director. All of these performers are experienced and is sure to delight.

GI Holiday Jukebox will be transporting the audience back to the 1940s era and the USO entertainment made available to our troops. In fact, you in the audience will be those troops and be entertained by music such as: "Baby it's Cold Outside," "Don't Sit Under the Christmas Tree", along with traditional Christmas carols, dancing and surprises.

The Henderson Sisters will be performing the popular "Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy" which will have you tapping your toes and singing along.

Costumes will be those pertinent to the era as well as the hair styles, all lending a part in the times, music and entertainment of WWII.

A special invitation is being extended to all veterans of WWII to come see the show for no charge. It is our way to pay respect to those who can attend. Just come in the front and say you are a WWII veteran and we will

see you are seated. For a chance to win free tickets to an upcoming show of GI Holiday Jukebox, correctly answer this trivia question and give the box office a call:

The USO had an official mascot at one point during World War II. What was it?

- A. a service dog
- B. a mongoose
- C. a fruit fly
- D. a bugler

The show opened last weekend and will run December 10, 11, 12 and 13. Off Stage Productions performs at the Van Wert Senior Center, 220 Fox Rd., Van Wert, OH. For more information, please call the box office at 419-605-6708, email at info@offstagetheatre.com or visit the Facebook page at Off Stage Productions, Inc.

Great Stocking Stuffer Idea!

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We Wish You a Merry Christmas!
 The Antwerp Community Band invites the West Bend News' readers to our musical celebration of the holiday season!
 Please join us for a performance of our annual Christmas concert on
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 AT 2:00 P.M.
 in the Auditoria at Antwerp Local School
 or on
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 7:30 P.M.
 at the Huber Opera House.
 There's something for everyone on our program, from the traditional "Greensleeves" and "O Christmas Tree", to the time-honored favorites in "Two 16th Century Carols" and a "Winter's Carol", with three medleys, "A Christmas Festival", "Holiday Cheer" and "A Christmas Portrait", John Rutter's gentle "Candlelight Carol" and more!
 As always, there is no charge for admission. Please join us to share the magic of this wonderful season and hear its joyous sound!

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, and you must provide a name along with a phone number and/or email to confirm validity of content. 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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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

What is wrong with the Obama Regime?

What is really going on in the Obama regime? Hasn't America seen enough to convince itself? I don't believe so. People are going about their business, not minding the terrorist attacks as long as they are not too close to home! Everyday Americans are dying, and the White House doesn't care. What if someone on the White House staff was shot by another staffer? Would that be considered just a murder, an assassination or workplace violence?

14 dead, 21 injured, 2,000 rounds of 9mm., another 2,000 rounds of .223's, 15 pipe bombs in the garage, enough materials to make several IED's, a Muslim attending a CHRISTmas party? Are you serious? The police force, the sheriff's department, and the F.B.I. cannot come to the conclusion that it was a terrorist

Thank You

Thank you to all the organizations and the village for making improvements to our village. Our downtown area looks great with the new painting and awnings placed at most businesses and the wonderful new Christmas decorations. We can be proud of our village and the pride shown by all.

Walt & Margaret Womack

attack? Of course, the F.B.I. is under the auspices of the Justice Department, the Justice Department is under the auspices of the White House. Can the average person figure that out? The orders come from the top down. People were still lying on the ground and Obama is on the television talking about banning guns! And Queen Hillary followed suit! Cars kill people, booze and drugs kill people, knives kill people, airplanes kill people. What are we going to do, ban all these things? Get real. Mr. Obama and Queen Hillary, we're much wiser than that.

I have a few questions. Why, Mr. Obama, when you were interviewed by George Stephenopolis, did you mention your "Muslim" faith? He had to remind you that you called yourself a "Christian." Let me let you in on a little secret, Mr. Obama, you are no more a CHRISTIAN than your dirty underwear. You cannot do and say the things you do and be saved. And please do not bastardize the word of GOD by pulling a verse out of context to try and prove your pretext. It doesn't work.

Mr. Obama and Queen Hillary, I want to close with this: We are at war with radical Islam, there are no MODERATE Islamist, they ALL want to see us INFIDELS.....DEAD.

Lastly, Queen Hillary, I wanted to share this with you. I was in the Army Security Agency, I had a top secret security clearance and I handled the # 2 priority for the National Security Agency (NSA) and at the tender age of 19, I knew what was classified and what wasn't, because when i received it, I STAMPED IT! You have to come up with a better excuse for your 999 classified documents than what you proclaim. If I would have let 1/100 of classified matter pass through, as you have, I would still be locked up in Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. I hope you and Mr. Obama both make the same New Years resolution, to start telling the truth. Do you think that is possible?

Kenneth Barnes
Paulding, Ohio

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This goes out to the coward or cowards who shot a gray cat on Tuesday, November 24th, 2015, down by Woodring Ave. in Paulding, Ohio. Hope you are happy! She had to be put to sleep because you shot her twice with your air rifle and paralyzed her. Thank you, big coward! I would like it if someone has information about this so we can find who did this.

Brad Brown
757 Woodring Ave.

CAN WE PLEASE STOP

By: Laura Finley
Surely some uber-conservative political candidates will call me out on "politicizing tragedy" but I don't care. I don't want to pray for victims. I don't want to seek vengeance on perpetrators. I want this never to happen again; I want to never feel this weight again.

Not just something but so many things must be done. My heart is so heavy to learn of not one but two mass shootings in the U.S. today. While the news is focused on San Bernadino, California, as I write at least 14 people are dead and 17 seriously injured, another mass shooting occurred earlier in the day on December 2 in Savannah, Georgia. We have now endured more shootings in 2015 than days in the year. Yes, that's right, an average of more than one per day.

What do we do? It won't be easy, that's for sure. But there are some obvious components, and some other things we need to consider that are rarely part of the public dialogue.

Gun control? Check. We have to create sensible policies that at least make it more difficult for dangerous people to acquire dangerous weapons.

Provide better mental health services? Check. Without a doubt we need to be way better at recognizing who is suffering from mental illness, who among that population might be a threat to themselves or others, and offer supports for them to reduce the chances of horrific violence.

But in addition to those seemingly obvious answers, we also need to think about what motivates mass shooters in the first place. While some suffer from mental illness, many are simply people who have lost hope, who see themselves as worthless. The above-listed solutions do nothing to address how we change the hearts and minds of people. I do not profess to have all the answers, nor do I think any one thing is "the" solution, but I do think we need to talk a lot more, and act a lot more, to create a populace that sees violence itself as abhorrent. We need to create a society in which people's natural instinct for dealing with difficult times is not to pull out a gun or other weapon but rather to seek help and guidance and to use their humanity and creativity to work out another answer.

What I am not hearing much about is the importance of teaching people to think and act differently. We need to teach young people (and every age—it's never too late!) that they can and have to express how they feel. We need to teach people how to receive that information and how not to judge but to empathize and support. We need to help people learn how to adapt when things don't go as planned, and we need to learn to be better cheerleaders for one another. We need to teach people resiliency, as things will likely be challenging at some point but with ample coping skills we can not only survive but thrive. We need to figure out how to help people see a ray of light, a bit of hope, in what can often be perceived as a hopeless situation.

In essence, we need peace education. Everywhere. All the time. Peace education teaches people that not only are there nonviolent ways to resolve conflict but that each Xone of us is responsible for doing so. It emphasizes that we have to build our capacities for love, acceptance, and understanding if we want a better world. Laws and policies can help, but changing the way we think is imperative.

Can we please agree to do this? It's hard, but also not that hard. Our future seriously depends on it. Another way is possible, people. Let's make it happen.

Laura Finley, Ph.D., teaches in the Barry University Department of Sociology & Criminology and is syndicated by PeaceVoice.

(Continued from Page 1)

- Defiance County:** Laura Colon, Defiance, Paralegal; Chevelle Gonzales, Defiance, Visual Communications - graphic design; Jack Hudson, Hicksville, Industrial Electrician
- Paulding County:** Amy Shaffer, Oakwood, Associate of Science
- Williams County:** Gina Dietrich, Bryan, Office Administrative Services; Kaleb Westrick, Bryan, Accounting

SPORTS CARD SHOW

Saturday, December 19th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Hotel Fort Wayne (formally the mariott) located at 305 E Washington Center Rd (exit 312a off of I-69) in Fort Wayne, Indiana, there will be a sports card and collectibles show. Dealers from the tri-state region will be in attendance buying, selling and trading both sport and non-sport cards and collectibles. Featured will be vintage and new singles, hobby boxes and supplies. . . attendance is free and the public is invited to attend. Please feel free to bring your items in for appraisal. For more information please contact Brian Mayne at 260-824-4867 or mscardscomics@adamswells.com or on facebook at FORT WAYNE BASEBALL CARD SHOW.

LATTA, STATE CONSERVATIONIST COSBY TOUR WOOD COUNTY FARMS

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) and State Conservationist Terry Cosby of the United States Department of Agriculture toured Wood County farms to learn about various practices utilized to improve conservation and water management in farming.

The tour included stops at Brinker Farm in Bowling Green, a filter strip in Luckey, and the Swartz Farm in Perrys-

burg. "The agricultural community plays a pivotal role in our community, and is a driving force in our economy. It was great for me to have the opportunity to get out and see the industry's best practices first hand," said Latta. "These farmers are doing impressive work conserving resources and focusing on implementing technologies to manage nutrient application, while working toward continued improvement of overall soil and water quality."

**The West Bend News
READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

OHIO LOCATIONS

- Antwerp:** Country Time Market, Antwerp Branch Library, Antwerp Pharmacy, H2O, River Street Market, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Papa Oley's, Hometown Pantry, Pop-N-Brew, The Rootbeer Stand, Agora, Pit-Stop
- Broughton:** Kohart's Surplus & Salvage
- Bryan:** Chief, Town & Country, McDonald's, Bryan Senior Center, Walmart
- Cecil:** Cecil Elevator, Maramart, Vagabond
- Charloe:** Charloe Store
- Continental:** Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware
- Defiance:** Newman's Carry Out, Butt Hutt, Chief, Senior Center, Walmart, Big Lots, Cabin Fever Coffee, Cabbage Patch Convenience Store
- Edgerton:** Marathon, Valero, Kaiser Supermarket, Frager's Barbershop, Utilities Office, Napa
- Grover Hill:** Ross' Gas Station, N&N, Quick Stop
- Grabill:** Do-It Best Hardware, Save-A-Lot
- Hicksville:** Cline's Market, Hickory Hills Golf Course, Sailers, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, McDonald's, H2O, Senior Center
- Melrose:** Uncle Fudd's Diner, Morning Star Convenience Store
- Oakwood:** Rhees' Market, The Landing Strip, The Oakleaf, Cooper Community Branch Library, TrueValue Hardware
- Paulding:** Paulding Co. Carnegie Library, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Napa True Value, Maramart, Dollar General

INDIANA LOCATIONS

- Fort Wayne:** Walmart (Maysville Rd.)
- Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales
- Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Harlan Cafe, iAB Bank
- Hoagland:** Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub
- Monroeville:** Mel's Deli, The Village of Heritage, Phillips 66 Gas Station, Dollar General
- New Haven:** Curves, Milan Center, New Haven Branch Library, Ken's Meat Market, New Haven Bakery, Broadway Deli, Paterson Hardware, Richard's Restaurant, New Haven Chamber
- Woodburn:** Clip -N- Tan, Jim's Pizza, Woodburn Hardware, Bob's Restaurant, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, and Woodburn Branch Library, Financial Partners, Love's Travel Center

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THE LOBO TANK BUSTERS

By: Stan Jordan

We four P51 Mustangs, called the 589th Fighter Wing, are more or less an experimental group. We are part of the Air Force, but work hand in hand with ordinance department as we are the first to try out some new weapons. We are the only American planes that use the new 4 inch rockets, but the English Air Force now have a few planes equipped with the Jumbo Rockets.

We, also, are equipped with the new airplane to tank radio. We have an air force officer that rides in the tank's assistant driver seat and he keeps all the maps and overlays on his lap. If the tanks are stopped by some type of road blocks, he calls in the co-ordinance; we have the same maps and we can be there in just a little bit. This has worked out well a number of times.

A few days ago, we used our rockets on some German radar tower in southern France. We destroyed the tower and the invasion came off pretty well. The allies have a good foot hold down there.

We took off in the morning and went north to be up around the ancient city of Metz. This area has all kinds of history. It was the northern most bastion of the Holy Roman Empire. The Barge River is there and we found a busy bridge still in pretty good shape. It was an old type bridge with arches made of stone. I put a rocket into one of the arches and the dust and dirt flew, and that was about all. That arch was well made. The other pilots had about the same luck. We rendezvoused at about 1000 feet and talked on the radio, that we would go down and put another rocket into the same arch. Well, I did, and I had a lot better luck that time. A huge piece of arch fell off into the water and the bridge was listing a little.

We went on up the river, made a circle and came back. I put the third rocket in that same arch and this time the bridge span fell into the water.

I guess those arches couldn't stand all three of the rockets. We did a good job, all of the bridge spans were in the water. That bridge is out of the war now.

We couldn't find a target worthy of a rocket, so we all brought one back to use tomorrow. The colonel came over and we had a real session of euchre.

Lt. Nelson got a package from home, Pale Moon, Montana, it had cake and popcorn in it and we had a fine evening.

See ya!

I WENT DOWN FIGHTING

By: Stan Jordan

Years ago, Ben Franklin told me, "If you can't beat them, join them."

That is what I am going to do. I have written a few columns about this changing world and it didn't change a thing.

Over the years, I have interviewed a few retired school teachers, and they tell me how different school is now, compared to how it was 80 years ago. Nearly all lessons are over the computer, not in a text book. Some of the business subjects Mr. Bill Fast taught years ago - typing, short hand, business english, etc., have fallen by the way side.

I have complained about not teaching the students how to make change, like a check out clerk. Well, that electric cash register will tell them what the change is and is probably more correct than the old fashion way, and I'm sure that is going to stay that way.

I learned how to spell and pronounce words by the Phonetic system. I think they now learn by memorizing the spelling of the word. Books have been the basis of learning since the Dead Sea Scrolls. It is hard for me to see a school with no books to read from.

When I was little, and school started in the fall, we got two new pairs of pants and two new shirts. As soon as you got home from school, you took off your school clothes so they wouldn't get dirty or torn, now - a - days jeans with holes in them are the fashion. The more holes, the fancier it is. Funerals, churches, a steak house - wear those holey pants.

We had good clothes for church and Sunday school or any festive occasion when you wanted to look your best, patched maybe, but no holes. Girls dressed like girls, bobby

socks and all. Now you can see a lady in a nice fashionable dress wearing flip flops. In my times, the music was soft, slow, and easy to listen to, like "Beautiful Ohio."

Now, music is a loud ruckus, fast, and each instrument has its own amplifier to make it louder, and it is already too loud. They beat on a guitar, as fast and loud as they can. Nothing soothing about that.

Years ago, ladies had their ears pierced for earrings, now they have tattoos, pearls, barbells, etc. hanging all over, and boys are just as bad. Use to be a gold tooth was sufficient.

Yes, you're right, I am an old fuddy. I guess I live in the past.

I have stood by the roadside and watched the world advance, but I enjoyed doing it.

See Ya!



WHEN I'M AN OLD LADY AND LIVE WITH MY KIDS:

I'll make their life happy and filled with such fun.

I want to pay back all the joy they've provided, returning each deed. Oh, they'll be so excited.

When I'm an old lady and live with my kids.

I'll write on the wall with red, white, and blue; and bounce on the furniture wearing my shoes.

I'll drink from the carton and then leave it out.

I'll stuff all the toilets and oh, how they'll shout.

When they're on the phone and just out of reach, I'll get into things like sugar and bleach.

Oh, they'll snap their fingers and shake their head, and when that is done I'll hide under the bed.

When they cook dinner and call me to meals, I'll not eat my green beans or salads congealed.

I'll gag on my okra, spill milk on the table, and when they get angry, run fast as I'm able.

I'll sit close to the TV, thru the channels I'll click. I'll cross both my eyes to see if they stick.

I'll take off my socks and throw one away, and play in the mud until the end of the day.

And later in bed, I'll lay back and sigh, and thank God in prayer and then close my eyes; and my kids will look down with a smile slowly creeping.

"She's so sweet," they'll say, "when she is sleeping!"

TURKEY SHOOT IN AUGLAIZE TWP.

Auglaize Twp. fire department will host a turkey shoot Sunday, December 13, 2015 at 12:00 p.m.

The fire department is located on State Route 637, 1 1/2 miles east of Five Span Bridge or 3 miles west of Arthur.

The guns that are allowed are: 12, 16, and 20-410 gauge shotguns. Shells will be furnished by the club and sandwiches, coffee and soft drinks will be available.

USDA ANNOUNCES ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR SAFETY NET COVERAGE IN 2016

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) Administrator Val Dolcini announced that producers who chose coverage from the safety net programs established by the 2014 Farm Bill, known as the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or the Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs, can begin visiting FSA county offices starting December 7, 2015, to sign contracts to enroll in coverage for 2016. The enrollment period will continue until August 1, 2016.

"The choice between ARC and PLC is completed and remains in effect through 2018, but producers must still enroll their farm by signing a contract each year to receive coverage," said Dolcini.

Producers are encouraged to contact their local FSA office to schedule an appointment to enroll. If a farm is not enrolled during the 2016 enrollment period, producers on that farm will not be eligible for financial assistance from the ARC or PLC programs should crop prices or farm revenues fall below the historical price or revenue benchmarks established by the program.

The two programs were authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill and offer a safety net to agricultural producers when there is a substantial drop in prices or revenues for covered commodities. Covered commodities include barley, canola, large and small chickpeas, corn, crambe, flaxseed, grain sorghum, lentils, mustard seed, oats, peanuts, dry peas, rapeseed, long grain rice, medium grain rice (which includes short grain and sweet rice), safflower seed, sesame, soybeans, sunflower seed and wheat. Upland cotton is no longer a covered commodity. For more details regarding these programs, go to www.fsa.usda.gov/arc-plc.

For more information, producers are encouraged to visit their local FSA office. To find a local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

The ARC and PLC programs were made possible by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk manage-

SANTA CLAUS COMES TO ANTWERP ON SHOP SMALL SATURDAY



Santa (Matt McDougall) poses during a break from on the kiddos on Saturday, November 28th during Shop Small Saturday in Antwerp.

On Small Business Saturday, November 28th, Antwerp kicked off the holiday season in style with Shop Small and Santa all rolled into one exciting day of holiday festivities. Santa paraded through town on the Antwerp fire truck - there was no snow that day, so his sleigh had to stay parked - and he set up 'shop' at the fire house. Children enjoyed telling Santa their wish list. Some popular items this year for the asking were Star Wars, hover boards and Pie Face game.

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce were the local sponsors of Shop Small, Small Business Saturday. Main Street was teeming with shoppers looking for the deals that businesses were offering for the weekend. Antwerp Pharmacy was handing out Dol-

lar coupons to get \$1 off your purchase. Hometown Pantry had everything in the store for 20% off! Several door prizes and other gifts were being offered at River Street Market, Keystone Salon and The Pit Stop as well.

Shopping small is an essential factor for the livelihood of many businesses in not only Antwerp, but in towns all across the West Bend News readership area. When you shop from Antwerp, you are directly supporting your friends and neighbors and their families. This builds stronger relationships and healthier businesses. This is an excellent way to help small towns like Antwerp grow and remain an active part of northwest Ohio.

ment tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.

HAVE A WEDDING, ENGAGEMENT OR ANNIVERSARY?

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REDUCE SODIUM INTAKE TO COMBAT HEALTH RISKS

By: Jill Starbuck

When we talk about addictions, we generally think of smoking, sugar, drugs, alcohol, and others. Sodium is typically not foremost on our minds when it comes to addiction. However, it is very much so. It is the reason some of us cannot stop at just one or two Doritos or McDonald's french fries. For some of us, we literally crave sodium. We often become addicted to various substances because of the way they make us feel. Sodium is no different. In fact, sodium triggers dopamine, which is the neurotransmitter associated with pleasure. Therefore, the more we eat, the more we want.

However, a sodium addiction can lead to many unfortunate health issues, with high blood pressure as the biggest. Other potential health issues that can arise from too much sodium intake include cancer, dementia, diabetes, and kidney disease. In addition, sodium can cause water retention and bloating, which can be uncomfortable and affect appearance.

While too much sodium becomes a health risk, some sodium is necessary for our bodies to function properly. The Dietary Guidelines for Americans suggests no more than 2,300 mg per day for those under age 51, and no more than 1,500 mg for those aged 51 and older, those who are black, and those who suffer from diabetes, chronic

kidney failure, or high blood pressure. Bear in mind that 1,500 mg is only two-thirds of a teaspoon.

Try the following techniques to reduce sodium intake from your diet:

1. *Choose natural foods.* Fruits, vegetables, and unprocessed meat have little to no sodium. Food in its natural form has lots of flavor on its own and is filling.

2. *Avoid condiments.* Condiments such as soy sauce, ketchup, salsa, and others are loaded with sodium.

3. *Read labels.* More than 75% of our sodium intake comes from processed and restaurant food. For instance, one serving of Campbell's vegetable soup contains a whopping 890 mg of sodium. With each serving at only 100 calories, we are likely to eat more just to feel full. Therefore, we can easily consume much more than the recommended amount in one sitting.

4. *Substitute other flavor additives for salt.* Garlic, vinegar, and other spices can give bland dishes a pleasing kick without the risk to health.

5. *Remove the salt shaker.* Out of sight, out of mind. Many times, we grab the salt shaker if it is in front of us, whether the food needs it or not.

Food manufacturers and restaurants use salt to preserve food and add flavor to it. With so many processed and fast foods at our disposal, most of us take in much more than the recommended amount. Make a conscious effort to control your sodium intake and discover how much better you feel.

Jill Starbuck has 20 years of experience as a business writer, editor, and market research analyst. She is a certified health coach through the Integrative Institute of Nutrition and a certified running coach through the Road Runners Club of America. She is also the co-owner of a running business. She can be reached at jillstarbuck@hotmail.com.

WOODLAN GIRLS BASKETBALL

By: Jeff Abbott

Woodlan Vs. Jay County
A second-half scoring drought doomed Woodlan to a 54 - 24 pasting by Jay County in girls' ACAC basketball at the Warriors' gym. Woodlan stayed close to the Patriots in the first half, trailing by a 14 - 8 score after the first quarter and by a 25 - 16 count at the half.

The Warriors scored just 4 points in the third period and again in the final stanza. Jay County stretched out the lead to 23 at the end of the third and 30 points at the buzzer.

Kenzie Salzbrenner led Woodlan scoring with 14 points.

Jay County - Wendel 16, Kunkler 8, Ault 7, Dues 6, Caldwell 6, Homan 5, Shreve 3, L Muhlenkamp 3

Woodlan - Salzbrenner 4, Kayser 3, Houser 2, Voors 2, Hinton 2, Reidenbach 1

Score by the quarter:
Jay County - 14 11 18 11 = 54

Woodlan - 8 8 4 4 = 24

Jay County won the reserve game with ease, 50 - 15 over Woodlan. Taylor Sarrazine led the Warriors with 6 points.

Woodlan Vs. Leo

Leo broke open a tight game, outscoring Woodlan 17 - 8 in the final 8 minutes as the Lions beat the Warriors 52 - 39 in girls' basketball. The Lions and Warriors battled through 3 ties and 7 lead changes in the first half with Woodlan leading by a single point at 13 - 12 after the first period and 23 - 22 at the half.

Leo took the lead in the third period and had a 35 - 31 advantage heading into the final quarter. The Warriors went cold on offense while Leo was able to build their advantage.

Morgan Sanderson led the Lions with 17 points and 9 players hit the scoring column for the Lions. Rain Hinton had 15 points for the Warriors and Ellie Kayser added 12 points.

Leo - Sanderson 17, Pierce 9, Imel 8, Heischman 6, Harding 4, Green 4, Neff 2, Wills 2
Woodlan - Hinton 15, Kayser 12, Voors 8, Houser 2, Salzbrenner 2

Score by the quarter:
Leo - 12 10 13 17 = 52
Woodlan - 13 10 8 8 = 39

Leo ran away with the reserve game, winning 50 - 18 over the Warriors. Jai'Shawn Winborn had 7 points for Woodlan

VAN WERT GIRLS VS. WAPAK BASKETBALL

Wapak recently met up with Van Wert and came out strong. In the first quarter, they scored 26 points to Van Wert's 6. Their energy held strong for another 18 points in the second quarter taking them into half time with a hefty lead over Van Wert (44-9).

The moment held strong for Wapak leading them to score an additional 39 points in the second half. Van Wert increased their game in the second half scoring 19 points, but it wasn't enough to topple Wapak who had already gained a substantial lead over them. Wapak took the game, 83 - 28.

Wapak - Jacobs 5, Stiles 6, Fisher 6, Helmstetter 8, Goulet 2, Hensley 2, Wilcox 11,

LADY ARCHERS FALTER UNDER WILDCATS PRESSURE



Rachel Williamson scores from the outside in this home game. More pictures at westbendnews.net

Kailda travelled to Antwerp on Thursday, December 3rd for the ladies basketball game. Antwerp started off very well. They outscored the Wildcats in an early lead of 10-7. Peyton Short was the top scorer with 4 points. Kiana Recker, Rachel Williamson, and Hope Smith each had two. The quarter ended 10-7 with the home team on top.

The trend reversed when Kalida outscored Antwerp by five points.

Unfortunately, The Archers points earned decreased in each of the sequential quarters leaving the home team with a court loss: 25-38

Score by the Quarter:
Antwerp - 10 6 5 4=25

Kailua - 7 11 9 11=38

Top points for Antwerp were earned by Peyton Short and Kiana Recker with 7, Hope Smith 6, Rachel Williamson 4, Audrie Longardner 1.

More pictures at westbendnews.net

SCHLENKER 9, CULUER 18, POTHAST 12, MOYLER 4

Van Wert - Meyers 4, Ally Jackson 3, Moonshower 4, Abby Jackson 2, Magowan 4, Kline 2, Priest 9

Score by the quarter:
Van Wert - 6 3 9 10 = 28
Wapak - 26 18 18 21 = 83

NEW HAVEN BOYS BEAT NORTHROP

On Tuesday, December 1st, New Haven played Northrop in boys basketball. New Haven boys had a slow start, but came back and played a better second

half. Joey Rowan lead a balanced attack with 16 points, 5 steals, 3 assists and 2 rebounds. Marquis Stevenson and Jacob Workman both had 13 points.

Score by the quarter:
New Haven 12 20 20 26
Northrop 21 16 15 16

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Woodlan's senior Andrew Krahn dives forward to score the basket. An amazing night for Krahn as he added 29 points to the game. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Woodlan boys basketball team stopped the Garrett boys in their tracks when they played the game on Tuesday, December 1 at the Warrior court. The JV game prior to was won by Woodlan in a very close match.

The varsity game began with Woodlan's aggressive behavior posting points early to the board, gaining a strong first quarter and doubling the Railroaders score, thanks to Andrew Krahn and the rest of the team who were on fire.

The second quarter brought balance back to the force when Garrett's Kordell Kessler started hitting the basket and second half scoring was only two points difference in the guest's favor. Woodlan was ahead, 28-21.

The third quarter was a lit-

tle ho-hum with both teams equally in at 11 and 10, and the defense working overtime on both sides.

It was the fourth quarter where Woodlan really added points on to the board—21 to be exact. The Warriors were fantastic in this game, winning 59-49, and handing the Railroaders their first loss of the season.

Score by the Quarter:
Garrett - 9 12 11 17=49
Woodlan - 18 10 10 21=59
Scorers of the Game:
Garrett (2-1) — Johnson 4; Purdy 7; Kessler 13; Wichmann 10 Yarian 9; Reneau 2; McCann 4.

Woodlan (2-0) — Biggs 6; Fancher 11; Schwartz 4; Weiss 7; Krahn 29; Hahn 2

More pictures at westbendnews.net

WOODLAN BOYS BASKETBALL

Woodlan Vs. Belmont
Woodlan boys' basketball got their season off and running with a 60 - 55 win on the road at Belmont.

Woodlan trailed by two points after the first period but got the lead in the second period and hung on the rest of the way for the win. Andrew Krahn led the Warriors with 19 points.

Woodlan - Krahn 19, McCarter 9, Weiss 9, Hahn 8, Fancher 7, Biggs 4, Schwartz 3, Williams 1

Belmont - Bauer 16, Ainsworth 11, Hess 10, Okoniewski 9, Hall 6, Weaver 3

Score by the quarter:
Woodlan - 9 14 17 20 = 60
Belmont - 11 11 12 21 = 55

Woodlan Vs. Garrett
Garrett scored the first points of the game, getting a three-pointer from Cordell Kessler, but Woodlan responded with a 10 - 0 run to take the lead for good and the Warriors went on to down the Railroaders 59 - 49 in boys' basketball.

Woodlan led by as many as 13 points in the game and every time Garrett got close, the Warriors responded to the challenge and kept the Railroaders at bay. Andrew Krahn led Woodlan scoring with 29 points including 3 three-pointers. Austin Fancher hit double figures with 11 points.

Garrett - Kessler 13, Wichamn 10, Yarion 9, Purdy 7, Johnson 4, Stafford 4, Reneau 2

Woodlan - Krahn 29, Fancher 11, Weiss 7, Biggs 6, Schwartz 4, Hahn 2

Score by the quarter:
Garrett - 9 12 11 17 = 59
Woodlan - 18 10 10 21 = 49

Woodlan got by Garrett 46 - 43 in the reserve game with Ah'lan Howards scoring 12 points for the Warriors.

PAULDING GIRLS PLAY LINCOLNVIEW

Paulding girls played hard against Lincolnview and had the lead for a while, but just couldn't pull it off.

In the first quarter they were ahead 11 - 8 and only scored 9 additional points in the second quarter, but that was still enough to keep them in the lead going into half time with the score being 20 - 18.

In the 3rd quarter, Lincolnview was still trailing by 3 with the score of 30 - 27. The game came down to the last seconds. Paulding scored with 7.5 seconds to go to take a 1 point lead, but Katlyn Wendel, Lincolnview, hit the game winner with 5 seconds

left. Paulding had a shot at the buzzer, but it was just off the mark, allowing Lincolnview to win 38 - 37.

Paulding - Vogel 19, Ar-end 4, Hale 2, Meggison 6, Manz 2, Townley 4

Lincolnview - Carey 2, O Gorman 4, Wendel 6, M Gorman 7, Looser 12, Schimmoller 6, Brant 1

Score by the quarter:
Paulding - 11 9 10 7 = 37
Lincolnview - 8 10 9 11 = 38

ANTWERP JUNIOR HIGH WRESTLES AT WAYNE TRACE

The Antwerp Junior High wrestling team opened their season on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Wayne

Trace Invitational. Both of the Archer wrestlers on this year's squad not only made their season debuts Saturday, but it was also their career debuts as wrestlers for the Archers. Placing 4th in his first ever tournament was 8th grader Fernando Gonzalez. Gonzalez posted 2 wins and 2 losses with 1 pin on the day. Placing 2nd in his first ever tournament was 8th grader Randall Mills. Mills posted 3 wins and only 1 loss with 2 pins on the day. Congratulations to both of these young athletes for starting off their careers in a very positive way.

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FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN, UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN:



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TIME CAPSULE



Neil Postman once wrote, "Children are living messages we send to a time that we will not see." Have you ever wondered what kind of world our children and grandchildren will grow up in? What blessings or challenges will technology bring? What will our country look like? Will it be a world at peace or a world at war? Will the faith and morals of our nation be strengthened or will they continue in decline? One thing is certain... our world will be a different place.

When I describe the family, I often say, "The family is God's chosen medium for the transmission of godly lifestyle and values to each new generation." And when my friend, Bob Yawburg, describes the role of grandparents, he states, "A grandparent is the main, if not the only, contact the grandchild has with the past... a gentle reminder of how life once was and still should be." Taken together with the quote by Neil Postman, we begin to develop an understanding of just how essential the family is in shaping the future.

What kind of memories will your children and grandchildren have when you are gone? Will they recall the tenderness and fervency of your prayers as you tucked them into bed? Will they share the Christmas story with their children as you have shared it with them? Will they cherish praise songs because they can still hear your voice joining with theirs as you sat together in church? Have you fortified your children with faith and values that will stand the passage of time? Have you set the pattern for your family to follow? Will they have a home in Heaven because you showed them the way?

Yes, children are living, breathing "time capsules" we are sending into the future... time capsules of our faith and values... time capsules of our commitment to God... and time capsules with eternal souls. May God give us the victory in living our lives for Him and the foresight to pass it on.

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Our WCCH Family



Our WCCH Family on a recent trip to the Creation Museum

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WAYNE TRACE GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH



Front (L-R) Isabella Baker KA, LaShan Reynolds KC, Josh Lamberson 4B, Aubrie Stoller KB, Braxton Merriman 1A. Middle (L-R) Hannah Maenle 5A, Brayson Parrish 6B, Olivia Longstreth 4B, Alexa Campbell 6A, Maddy Egnor 5B. Back (L-R) Harley Halliwill 4A, Micah Sinn 2A, Gage Ogle 3B, Alex Doster 1B, Cole Miller 2B, Kal-el Lands.

PAULDING ELEMENTARY SPELLING BEE WINNERS!



Pictured here: (L - R) Madison Verfallie, Katie Beckman, Jacob Martinez and Haley Manz

The Paulding Elementary Spelling Bee was held on Friday, December 4th. Haley Manz was declared the Spelling Bee Champ and will represent Paulding Elementary

at the County Spelling Bee. The first runner-up was Jacob Martinez. There was a two way tie for second place. Madison Verfallie and Katie Beckman tied for second.

USDA REPORT WARNS CLIMATE CHANGE LIKELY TO IMPEDE PROGRESS ON GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY

Climate change is likely to impede progress on reducing undernourishment around the world in the decades ahead, according to a major scientific assessment released today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on global food security and its implications for the United States. The report, entitled Climate Change, Global Food Security and the U.S. Food System, identifies the risks that climate change poses to global food security and the challenges facing farmers and consumers in adapting to changing climate conditions. Secretary Vilsack released the report during the COP-21 Paris Climate Conference.

In the absence of response measures, climate change is likely to diminish continued progress on global food security through production disruption that lead to constraints on local availability and price increases, interrupted transport conduits, and diminished food safety, among other causes. The risks are greatest for the global poor and in tropical regions.

pledged to reduce U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in the range of 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025. U.S. agriculture is helping meet this goal, and American farmers, ranchers and foresters have demonstrated their leadership in recognition that their contributions send a strong message to the rest of the world.

"The report found that climate change is likely to cause disruptions in food production and a decrease in food safety, which in turn leads to local availability limitations and increases in food prices, with these risks greatest for the global poor and in tropical regions," said Dr. John Holdren, Assistant to the President or Science and Technology and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. "Accurately identifying needs and vulnerabilities, and effectively targeting adaptive practices and technologies across the full scope of the food system, are central to improving global food security in a changing climate."

Food systems in the United States benefit from a large area of arable land, high agricultural yields, vast integrated transportation systems, and a high level of overall economic development.

However, changes in climate are expected to affect U.S. consumers and producers by altering the type and price of food imports from other regions of the world, as well as by changing export demand, and transportation, processing, storage, infrastructure that enable global trade.

Climate risks to food security increase as the magnitude and rate of climate change increase. Higher emissions and concentrations of greenhouse gases are much more likely to have damaging effects than lower emissions and concentrations. The author team reviewed a range of scenarios. Under scenarios with continued increases in greenhouse gas emissions the number of people at risk of undernourishment would increase by as much as 175 million above today's level by 2080. Scenarios with lower population growth and more robust economic growth coupled with lower greenhouse gas emissions resulted in large reductions in the number of food insecure people compared to today. Even in these scenarios, higher greenhouse gas emissions resulted in more food insecurity than lower emissions.

Effective adaptation can reduce food system vulnerability to climate change and reduce detrimental climate change effects on food security, but socioeconomic conditions can impede the adoption of technically feasible adaptation options. The agricultural sector has a strong record of adapting to changing conditions. There are many opportunities to strengthen agricultural economies and bring more advanced methods of crop production to low-yielding agricultural regions. Other promising adaptations include reducing food waste through innovative packaging, expanding cold storage to lengthen shelf life, and improving transportation infrastructure to move food more rapidly to markets.

On April 23rd, 2015, Agriculture Secretary Vilsack announced USDA's 10 Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture, a comprehensive set of voluntary programs and initiatives that is expected to reduce net emissions and enhance carbon sequestration by over 120 million metric tons of CO2 equivalent by 2025 - about 2 percent of economy-wide emissions. The ten "building blocks" span a range of technologies and practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase carbon storage, and generate clean renewable energy. USDA also supports global food security through in-country capacity building, basic and applied research, and support for improved market information, statistics and analysis.

'Climate Change, Global Food Security and the U.S. Food System' was prepared as part of the United States National Climate Assessment and part of the President's Climate Action Plan. USDA led the production of the report on behalf of the thirteen Federal Agencies of the U.S. Global Change Research Program. Thirty-one authors and contributors prepared the report, representing nineteen federal, academic, nongovernmental, and inter-governmental institutions in four countries.

ELVES' WORKSHOP AT THE LIBRARY

Paulding County Carnegie Library Youth Services presents the Elves' Workshop. This event will take place in the children's room at the Historic Carnegie Library in Paulding, Ohio on Thursday, December 10th, 2015. You can come anytime between 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. for snacks, crafts, games and fun!

NEW HAVEN BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TAKE ON CONCORDIA LUTHERAN

New Haven High School boys met up against Concordia High School on Saturday, December 5th. They came out strong and continued to stay strong through out the game. In the first quarter, New Haven took a 5 point lead over Concordia, scoring 15 points to Concordia's 10.

Concordia managed to close the gap some, bringing New Haven's lead down to 3 points, but going into the half Concordia was behind 28 - 25.

Both teams went into 3rd quarter playing well, each scoring 15 points.

No matter how hard they tried, Concordia just couldn't take the lead from New Haven, falling short of a win, 59 - 54.

New Haven - Moore 5, Stevenson 15, Gardner 7, Upshaw 5, Towns 9, Rowen 9, Workman 6, Clark 3

Concordia - Tharp 7, Weikart 11, Paradine 16, Ashford 6, Bergdoll 9, Webb 5

Score by the Quarter:
NH - 15 13 15 16=59

Concordia - 10 15 15 14=54

ANTWERP ELEMENTARY WIN PRIZES FOR LYSOL HEALTHY HABITS VIDEO



Earlier this year, the first grade classrooms at Antwerp Elementary created videos for the Lysol Healthy Habits contest. Based on the number of votes for their videos, the classrooms won a large stash of Lysol supplies and \$1,300 for classroom supplies of their choice. Pictured here are Brayden Dunderman, Michael Rohrs, Emery Jones, and Madison Schmidt with some of the Lysol products the classrooms won.

LOCAL ATTORNEY SPEAKS WITH PAULDING MS STUDENTS



Local attorney Harvey Hyman recently spoke with 8th grade students at Paulding Middle School. Mr. Hyman explained the jury selection process and the rights protected under the 6th Amendment.

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HICKSVILLE DOMINATES PAULDING



23 blocks 23: Samantha Meggison blocks Ashley Peter while on defense for the Panthers. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Lady Panthers hosted the Aces Girls Basketball team on Tuesday, December 1. The game was very difficult for the home team when they scored only 4 points in the opening period. The Hicksville girls pounded the Lady Panthers outscoring them nearly 4-1 in the first half when both Addie Bergman and Chelsey Taylor were all over Paulding. The half time score was 11-41—Hicksville far in the lead, ouch!

The game took a daring turn starting with the third quarter starting up. Paulding finally got their act together when the girls delivered the ball to the basket over and over. "Despite the loss, the second half tonight is something we can build on," stated Coach Mark Rhodes, "We played well and some of the

things we have been working on in practice seemed to click with the girls, and best of all, it was against a quality opponent. Ss Hicksville has a very nice and well rounded team."

The third quarter changed the game for the lady Panthers and demonstrated to the crowd, and most importantly to the players, that they can comeback even when they are down by so much. In the third and fourth quarters, Paulding earned more points than first and second combined. The final redemption was led by Faith Vogel in points and rebounds. The final score was 43-61. Still a tough loss, but it was a great to see the offense and defense work so well. Too bad it didn't start until the first half of the game was over.

Score by the Quarter:

Paulding - 4 7 15 17=43

Hicksville - 19 22 8 12=61

Paulding Scorers of the Game:

Vogel 17; Manz 8; Townley 7; Meggison 5; Arend 4; Hale 2.

More pictures at westbendnews.net

FAIRVIEW GIRLS START OUT STRONG

7th grade girls team won 39-18 against Ayersville Monday November 23rd, with a solid defensive performance by all. Carrie Smith led a balanced scoring attack with 10 points and Kiersten Cline chipped in with 9.

The 7th grade girls basketball defeated Bryan 23-9. Led in scoring by Michelle Marshall with 10 points and the defense only allowed 3 pts in the 2nd half. 7th grade is now 2-0.

On November 23rd the 8th grade girls basketball team defeated Ayersville 35-30. All six 8th graders contributed to the win. Riley Mealer led everyone with 15 points.

The 8th grade girls defeated Bryan Monday night 40-24. It was a great team effort to improve to 2-0 on the season. Sami Kime lead all scorers with 15 points, Riley Mealer added 9, Kendall Baker with 6, Taylor King and Makayla Karzynow with 2 each.

FAIRVIEW BASKETBALL RESULTS

The 7th grade boys defeated Bryan 46-13 on Monday evening. Scoring was lead by Caleb Frank with 12, Trey Hastings with 9 and Luke Timbrook with 8.

The 8th grade came from behind to defeat Bryan 44-43. Scoring was lead by Cade Polter with 13 and Riley Lucas had 10.

JV girls lost to Archbold 37-27. Katelyn Smith led the scoring with 9 points and Rose Zeedyk scored 6 points.

The varsity girls lost to Archbold 91-28. Carly Wendling and Katie Crites each scored 6 points. The girls are 0-2.

The 8th grade boys defeated St Paul 46-21. Scoring was lead by Riley Lucas with 16. Noah Hagerman and Chayse Singer with 9 each.

The 7th grade boys defeated St Paul 70-2. Scoring was lead by Luke Timbrook with 13, Russ Zeedyk had 12 and Trey Hastings with 9.

A great defensive effort by all enabled the 8th grade girls to pick up a come from behind victory. FV defeated Edgerton 34-33. Sami Kime had 16 points and Audrey Hug chipped in 8 points. Riley Mealer, Kendall Baker and Taylor King had strong defensive efforts that contributed to the win. FV 8th grade is now 3-0 on the season.

The FV girls 7th Grade BB Team was victorious last night and beat Edgerton 47-5 with a solid defense performance by all. All players scored on the team with Karrie Smith & Emily Singer leading the balanced scoring with 8 each while Olivia Ricica & Anna Ankney chipped in with 6. The 7th grade is now 3-0 on the season.

JV girls lost to Hicksville 35-26. Leading scorers were Mercedes Wagner with 7 and Carlie Phillips and Rose Zeedyk each had 6 points.

WAYNE TRACE TOPPLES BRYAN

Wayne Trace continue on their winning streak as the Lady Raiders beat the Lady Golden Bears. Raiders came out strong scoring 18 points in the first quarter while the Golden Bears scored 10. The second quarter was even better for the Raiders as they increased their lead by scoring 23 more points while the Golden Bears scored 8. After going into half time trailing the Raiders 41 - 18 the Golden Bears came out pumped and scored 34 more points in the second half but it wasn't enough to beat the Raiders who ended the game 73 - 52. On the Raiders played

EAGLES EVADE ARCHERS



Antwerp's Brandon Pendergrast drives up the key to score a basket with only seconds left on the clock. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Antwerp boys basketball team played against the Fayette Eagles on Saturday, December 5th on the Archer home court.

The game began early following the girls and JV boys games. If the team would have played as well as they did in the last minute, they would have gone away with the win. Nevertheless, Fayette's offense was too much for the Archers to handle.

The final score was 46-60.

The Archer aggressive behavior narrowed the Fayette lead by quite a bit in the last minute, but there wasn't enough time left to change.

Score by the Quarter:

Antwerp - 6 12 10 18=46

Fayette - 12 13 18 17=60

Scorers of the Game:

Antwerp - Longardner 15, Jones 14, Pendergrast 8, Williamson 7

Fayette - Seiler 18, Smith 15, Bost 13, Bates 7, Colegrove 6, Burkholder 1

well, and made all but two of their free throw shots. Erin Mohr was top scorer for the Raiders scoring 28 of the 73 points, with Gracie Gudakunst and Courtney Mead coming in second with each of them scoring 12 points.

When it comes to the Golden Bears, McKenna Grube was top scorer, scoring 9 points and Allye Minor coming in second scoring 8 points.

WAYNE TRACE BOYS TAKE ON BRYAN GOLDEN BEARS

Wayne Trace did a fine job defending their home court against Bryan.

In the first quarter they had the lead by double the points with the score being 16 - 8. The Golden Bears outscored the Raiders in the sec-

ond quarter, but still trailed going into half time 25 - 18.

The Raiders came out strong in the third quarter scoring 19 points to the Bears' 7. Once again, the Golden Bears outscored the Raiders in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough. The Raiders took the win 63 - 48, bringing their record to 2 - 0 and leaving the Golden Bears 0 - 2.

Wayne Trace - Stabler 15, Miller 7, Sinn 8, Shepherd 6, Linder 2, Vest 12, Speice 13

Bryan - Valdars 15, Miley 3, Lehmann 8, Lamberson 8, Smith 2, Arthur 6, Garza 4, Cooley 2

Score by the quarter:

Wayne Trace - 16 9 19

19 = 63

Bryan - 8 10 7 23 = 48

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TIPS FOR MAINTAINING A LIVE CHRISTMAS TREE



By: Staci Miller, Education Specialist, Paulding SWCD

It's officially the Christmas season and many are starting to put up their Christmas tree in celebration of the season. Many people choose to put up an artificial Christmas tree, but others cherish the joy of picking out a live Christmas tree each year. The excitement of finding the perfect Christmas tree to fill the house with the scent of fresh pine and provide a beautiful backdrop for your most treasured ornaments and collectables.

This wonderful live tree will need to be maintained properly to ensure that it makes it through the Christmas season. Once you get your tree home, you need to make a fresh cut to remove about a 1/2-inch thick disk of wood from the base of the trunk before putting the tree in the stand. Make the cut perpendicular to the stem axis. Don't cut the trunk at an angle, or into a v-shape, which makes it far more difficult to hold the tree in the stand and also reduces the amount of water available to the tree. Once this is done, you need to ensure that you have properly fitted stand for your tree. A traditional reservoir type stand is the most effective way of maintaining their freshness and minimizing needle loss problems. According to the National Christmas Tree Association, the stand should be large enough to hold one quart of water per inch of stem diameter. You should avoid whitening the sides of the trunk down to fit a stand. The outer layers of wood are the most efficient in taking up water and should not be removed.

Live trees have more fire risk than artificial, so you need to check the water level daily to ensure it doesn't fall below the base of the tree. Be sure to keep your tree away from major sources of heat (fireplaces, heaters, heat vents, and direct sunlight). It is vital to get water to your tree

as soon as possible. Live trees can only go 6-8 hours without water before starting to lose hydration. Drilling a hole in the base of the trunk does not improve water uptake. Also, the temperature of the water used to fill the stand is not important and does not affect water uptake. Once your tree is in the stand, you are now ready to decorate your tree. Be sure to check your lights to make sure they are in good working order to avoid an increase chance of fire. Be sure to always turn off your lights on your tree when you leave the home or go to bed at night. Monitor the tree for freshness. After Christmas, or if the tree is very dry, remove it from the house. A tip for easy tree removal is to place a plastic tree bag underneath the stand when you set the tree up. You can hide it with a tree skirt. Then, when the holidays are done, pull the bag up around the tree, stand and all, and carry it outside. Once outside, remove the stand and your tree is ready for disposal. You should never burn any part of a Christmas tree in a woodstove or fireplace. These are just a few helpful tips for helping you maintain your live Christmas tree throughout this holiday season.

CREATIVE OHIO CONFERENCE OFFERS DAY OF NETWORKING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Ohio Arts Council, Ohio Humanities Council, Heritage Ohio, Ohio Citizens for the Arts, and Ohio History Connection are proud to present Creative Ohio: Transforming Communities on Tuesday, December 15. The Creative Ohio conference is a day of networking and sharing best practices with leaders from state and national arts, and cultural organizations.

Keynote with Tom Borrup:

Conference organizers are excited to welcome keynote speaker Tom Borrup. Borrup is a leader and innovator in creative community building and creative placemaking. He consults with cities, foundations, and nonprofits across the U.S. to integrate arts, economic development, urban planning and design, civic engagement, and animation of public space. His book "The Creative Community Builders' Handbook" remains the leading text in the field. It profiles communities that have transformed their economic, social, and physical infrastructures through the arts.

Breakout Sessions:

Creative Ohio includes sessions on a variety of topics

that include Evolving Downtowns Transform Communities, The Art of Partnerships, The Infrastructure of Placemaking, Traveling the Crooked Road, and resource presentations by the Ohio Arts Council and Ohio Humanities Council.

This year's Creative Ohio conference will be held at the Columbus College of Art and Design. Free parking will be available on site. Registration includes access to all breakout sessions, keynote with Tom Borrup, and lunch. Register is available online at heritageohio.org/creative-ohio-transforming-communities.

For questions contact Joyce Barrett at 614-258-6200 or jbarrett@heritageohio.gov.

OHIO'S DEER-GUN SEASON OPENS WITH MORE THAN 22,000 DEER HARVESTED

Hunters checked 22,256 white-tailed deer on Monday, November 30, the opening day of Ohio's deer-gun hunting season, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR).

Ohio's deer-gun season remains open through Sunday, December 6. New this year, an additional two days (Monday, December 28, and Tuesday, December 29) have been added to increase the opportunity for people to hunt with firearms. Find more information about deer hunting in the Ohio 2015-2016 Hunting and Trapping Regulations or at wildohio.gov. Past year's harvest summaries and weekly updated harvest reports can be found at wildohio.gov/deerharvest.

Deer Management Goals

The ODNR Division of Wildlife remains committed to properly managing Ohio's deer populations through a combination of regulatory and programmatic changes. The goal of Ohio's Deer Management Program is to provide a deer population that maximizes recreational opportunities, while minimizing conflicts with landowners and motorists.

Until recently, deer populations in nearly all of Ohio's counties were well above goal. In the last few years, through increased antlerless harvests, most counties are now at or near goal. Therefore, to help stabilize deer populations, bag limits were reduced, and antlerless permit use has been eliminated in most counties for the 2015-2016 season.

The ODNR Division of Wildlife is in the process of resetting Ohio's population goals and is asking hunters that receive the survey to help by completing and returning the survey as soon as they are done hunting or at the end of the season. Landowner surveys have already been distributed, and hunter surveys should arrive in the mail later this week. Hunters for this year's survey were randomly selected from the list of hunters who purchased a license and deer permit by Nov. 16. Public input is an important part of Ohio's deer management program, and survey participants are asked to complete and return their surveys.

Hunting Popularity

Ohio ranks fifth nationally in resident hunters and 11th in the number of jobs associated with hunting-related industries. Hunting has a more



Dear Miss C,
I just saw on your Facebook page a #DoUntoOthersDecember challenge. Where did this come from? And if I wanted to do it too, what are some ideas?

-Wants To Help Girl
Dear Wants To Help Girl,

I am so glad that you asked this question. In fact, if this question would not have arrived in my email inbox, I probably would have written about it anyway!

#DoUntoOthersDecember was inspired by a pool of questions received in my inbox, combined with my own struggles with holiday seasons. So many people seem to mimic struggle. Everything seems to be more dramatic during the holiday season. If we have fewer people around us, loneliness is more _____, if we struggle with money, the struggle feels more desperate, and if we are busy and have normal stress, that stress is also feels amplified.

The more pressurized all of this feels, the more we have the tendency to draw inward. And inward is the worst solution. So, this movement was inspired by the need for reminder to enjoy the season as it was meant to be...as season of giving, loving, and rejoicing. #DoUntoOthersDecember is a month full of random acts of kindness, because it is often the small things that make the biggest difference! If you decide to participate, don't be afraid to post it on my Facebook page!

Now, here are 10 ideas (and there are millions more) that you can do:

1. Give out sincere and random compliments to strangers.
2. Send out thank you notes to those who inspire you. Some people are not aware of the impact they have had on your life (or in your community).
3. Send cards to those who are sick, grieving, or struggling in some way.
4. Donate or volunteer to

your favorite charity.
5. Send cards, or visit lonely seniors.

6. Send notes or cards just to make someone laugh.

7. Give someone the benefit of the doubt.

8. Contribute small amount of money to someone or something that matters to you.

9. Pay for someone else's dinner, and if you can't do that, invite someone to dinner.

10. Carry around 5\$ gift card so you can give it to someone who does something you feel deserves an extra thank you. Or carry around hand made "Thank you for making my day" cards to pass out to those who make you smile.

The sky is the limit, be creative...be loving...and rejoice! But above all other things #DoUntoOthers-December!

With Many Blessings,
- Miss C

Send your questions to AskMeMissC@gmail.com or message me through my Facebook page.

than \$853 million economic impact in Ohio through the sale of equipment, fuel, food, lodging and more, according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation's Hunting in America: An Economic Force for Conservation publication.

ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at ohiodnr.gov.

Editor's Note - A list of all white-tailed deer checked by hunters during opening day of the 2015 deer-gun hunting season:

- Adams: 373; Allen: 116; Ashland: 483; Ashtabula: 772; Athens: 420; Auglaize: 99; Belmont: 429; Brown: 248; Butler: 66; Carroll: 571; Champaign: 104; Clark: 52; Clermont: 154; Clinton: 79; Columbiana: 522; Coshoc-ton: 888; Crawford: 177; Cuyahoga: 7; Darke: 74; **Defiance: 316**; Delaware: 110; Erie: 66; Fairfield: 219; Fayette: 33; Franklin: 31; Fulton: 140; Gallia: 372; Geauga: 167; Greene: 54; Guernsey: 647; Hamilton: 44; Hancock: 135; Hardin: 149; Harrison: 556; Henry: 125; Highland: 300; Hocking: 521; Holmes: 552; Huron: 367; Jackson: 377; Jefferson: 386; Knox: 619; Lake: 44; Lawrence: 224; Logan: 563; Logan: 249; Lorain: 195; Lucas: 27; Madison: 28; Mahoning: 165; Marion: 120; Medina: 152; Meigs: 418; Mercer: 76; Miami: 52; Monroe: 334; Montgomery: 28; Morgan: 387; Morrow: 184; Muskingum: 722; Noble: 352; **Ottawa: 20**; **Paulding: 157**; Perry: 399; Pickaway: 107; Pike: 209; Portage: 157; Preble: 80; **Putnam: 90**; Richland: 462; Ross: 320; Sandusky: 76; Scioto: 207; Seneca: 273; Shelby: 97; Stark: 248; Summit: 24; Trumbull: 468; Tuscarawas: 658; Union: 97; **Van Wert: 63**; Vinton: 401; Warren: 61; Washington: 490; Wayne: 211; **Williams: 327**; Wood: 87; Wyandot: 227. Total: 22,256.

USDA ANNOUNCES 2016 AGRICULTURAL OUTLOOK FORUM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will host the 92nd Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum in Arlington, Va. on February 25-26, 2016. The theme for this year's forum is "Transforming Agriculture: Blending Technology and Tradition."

The challenges and opportunities for agriculture and rural America are changing. In 2015, American farmers persevered in the face of drought and an unprecedented animal disease outbreak. Demographics are also changing in rural America and across farm households. Meanwhile, technology is rapidly opening new applications for producers and throughout the marketing chain, and new markets are emerging for U.S. agricultural products. USDA continues to seek out new and innovative ways to expand opportunity and provide support for America's farming families, and that mission will form the basis for the 92nd Agricultural Outlook Forum.

The Plenary panel, "Pro-

viding Leadership for Present and Future Generations in the Transformation of Agriculture," will feature remarks from Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack and Deputy Secretary Krysta Harden. Thirty concurrent track sessions supporting this theme include the Agriculture Talent Pipeline, Bioproducts, Commodities, Land & Tenure Transition, New Markets, Organic, Risk Management, Scientific Advancement, and Trade, to Urban Agriculture.

USDA Chief Economist Robert Johansson will present "The 2016 Economic Outlook for Agriculture." The Forum's keynote address will be delivered by Howard Buffett, CEO of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation. Mitch E. Daniels, Jr., President of Purdue University and former Governor of Indiana will be the dinner speaker.

Deputy Secretary Harden will also host a session on opportunities in agriculture for new and beginning farmers ranchers, and she will and host a Women's Agriculture Networking event.

To view information about the Forum and to register, go to www.usda.gov/ocel/forum/.

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THE STATE OF OHIO,
PAULDING COUNTY:

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR MORGAN STANLEY IXIS REAL ESTATE CAPITAL TRUST 2006-1, MORTGAGE PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-1, Plaintiff,

vs.
JAMES ALLEN SPEARS aka JAMES A. SPEARS aka JAMES SPEARS, ET AL., Defendants,

Case No. CI 15 112.

Pursuant to an Order of Sale in the above entitled action, I will offer for sale at public auction, at the East door of the Courthouse in the Village of Paulding, in the above named County, on Thursday, the 31st day of December, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., the real estate located at:

308 Harmon Street,
Oakwood, Ohio 45873
Parcel Number: 10-22S-019-00 and 10-22S-020-00

A full legal description of this property is on record at the Paulding County Engineer's Office located in the basement of the Courthouse.

Said premises appraised at Forty-eight Thousand and No/100 (\$48,000.00) Dollars and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of that amount.

The appraisal of this property was completed without an interior inspection. Neither the Sheriff's Office nor the appraisers are responsible for the condition of the property at the time the purchaser takes possession.

Purchasers are advised they have no legal right to access this property until the Sheriff's Deed has been filed with the Paulding County Recorder's Office.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten percent down on day of the sale with the balance to be paid before the deed is issued.

The successful bidder will have 30 days from the sale date to obtain an examination of title at their expense, if so desired. Should such examination disclose the title to be unmarketable by any defect in the court proceedings or the existence of any outstanding interest rendering the title unmarketable, the successful bidder has 30 days to file a written motion requesting the sale shall be set aside. If the court finds the title unmarketable, the court will refuse to confirm the sale or fix a reasonable time, not to exceed 90 days, within which the defect of title may be corrected.

Taxes shall be prorated to the filing date of the confirmation entry and paid from the sale proceeds.

Sheriff Jason K. Landers
Paulding County, Ohio
www.pauldingohsheriff.com
Carson A. Rothfuss, Attorney
for Plaintiff

PAULDING COUNTY COURT REPORTS

Criminal Dispositions

Rachel A. Rethmel; Oakwood, OH; Disorder Conduc; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs today 11/23/15; shall maintain general good behavior

Thomas Pery; Cloverdale, OH; Disorder Conduc; J-No Cont; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; shall maintain general good behavior

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Christopher W. Boyle; Cleveland, OH; Drug parapherna; J-No Cont; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; defendant's operator's license shall be suspended for 6 months commencing 11/9/15; defendant has privileges to drive home from court then license is suspended; Count B; Poss marijuana; J-No Cont; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; defendant's operator's license shall be suspended for 6 months commencing 11/9/15; shall run concurrent with case #15-CRB-403; defendant is given privileges to drive home from court then OL suspended

Stacy A. Landis; Antwerp, OH; Dom Violence; J-Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; placed on standard probation; complete 20 hours community service; complete the Hands Down Program; shall follow all no contact/orders from the Common Pleas Court; submit an evaluation; complete class

Holly E. Willson; Cecil, OH; Cross Yellow Ln; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Avery E. Coplin; Paulding, OH; FTY Emer Vehicl; J-Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 1/29/16 or will be sent to collections

Jonathon L. Slusher; Van Wert, OH; Child restraint; J-No Cont; Pay all fines and costs by 12/18/15 or will be sent to collections

Joseph T. Hilt; Antwerp, OH; No OL; J-Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 1/29/16 or will be sent to collections; Count B; Driv under susp; pay all fines and costs by 1/29/16 or will be sent to collections

Curtis A. Price; Wrong plate; J-No Cont; Proof of insurance not provided; pay all fines and costs by 4/29/16 or will be sent to collections; shall pay \$40 per month commencing 12/18/15; Count B; Viol being pass; J-No Cont; Pay all fines and costs by 4/29/16 or will be sent to collections; shall pay \$40 per month commencing 12/18/15

Leslie S. Ward; Fort Wayne, IN; FTY Emer Vehicl; Guilty; case was waived by defendant

Real Estate Transfers:

Antwerp Village: 11/30/15; Suzanne B. Shinabarger; Lot 30; 0.2498 acres; To: Derek North

James E. & Joyce C. Miller; Lot 1; 0.1552 acres; Lot 2; 0.1552 acres; Lot 3; 0.0776 acres; To: James E. Miller

Paulding Village: 11/30/15; Lynn A. & Michel D. Moore; Lot 89; 0.2 acres; To: Jason L. Grace

US Bank National Association, trustee; Lot 29; 0.1584 acres; To: Dionicia Webster

Emerald Twp.: 11/30/15; Jason C. Luther, trustee & Amy L. Nadeau, trustee; Sec. 6; 5.86 acres; To: Jason C. Luther

Harrison Twp.: 11/30/15; Kevin T. & Patricia A. Lee; Sec. 36; 2.294 acres; To: Kevin T. & Patricia A. Lee, trustee

Jackson Twp.: 11/30/15; Arend Brothers; Sec. 22; 1.118 acres; To: Scott D. & Lindsey M. Arend

ANTWERP COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION MEETING

The Antwerp Community Improvement Corporation met Tuesday, November 10th, at the Village of Antwerp Town Hall.

During the meeting, the new sign promoting the 84+ acres available at Antwerp Commons was discussed.

Paulding County Economic Development Director Jerry Zielke reported that the new sign has spurred interest.

The CIC Board of Trustees agreed to meet in January to decide upon an asking price for the acres available at Antwerp Commons.

Zielke also reported that 40 development projects are ongoing in Paulding County.

USDA BEGINS 49th ENROLLMENT PERIOD FOR THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack reminded farmers and ranchers that the next general enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) begins, December 1, 2015, and ends on February 26, 2016. December 2015 also marks the 30th anniversary of CRP, a federally funded program that assists agricultural producers with the cost of restoring, enhancing and protecting certain grasses, shrubs and trees to improve water quality, prevent soil erosion and reduce loss of wildlife habitat.

As of September 2015, 24.2 million acres were enrolled in CRP. CRP also is protecting more than 170,000 stream miles with riparian forest and grass buffers, enough to go around the world 7 times. For an interactive tour of CRP success stories from across the U.S., visit www.fsa.usda.gov/CRPis30, or follow on Twitter at #CRPis30.

"Over the past 30 years, farmers, ranchers, conservationists, hunters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts have made CRP one of the most successful conservation programs in the history of the country," said Vilsack. "Today, CRP continues to make major environmental improvements to water and air quality. This is another longstanding example of how agricultural production can work hand in hand with efforts to improve the environment and increase wildlife habitat."

Participants in CRP establish long-term, resource-conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees (known as "covers") to control soil erosion, improve water quality and develop wildlife habitat on marginally productive agricultural lands. In return, FSA provides participants with rental payments and cost-share assistance. At times when commodity prices are low, enrolling sensitive lands in CRP can be especially attractive to farmers and ranchers, as it

softens the economic hardship for landowners at the same time that it provides ecological benefits. Contract duration is between 10 and 15 years. The long-term goal of the program is to re-establish native plant species on marginal agricultural lands for the primary purpose of preventing soil erosion and improving water quality and related benefits of reducing loss of wildlife habitat.

Contracts on 1.64 million acres of CRP are set to expire on Sept. 30, 2016. Producers with expiring contracts or producers with environmentally sensitive land are encouraged to evaluate their options under CRP.

Since it was established on December 23, 1985, CRP has:

- Prevented more than 9 billion tons of soil from eroding, enough soil to fill 600 million dump trucks;
- Reduced nitrogen and phosphorous runoff relative to annually tilled cropland by 95 and 85 percent respectively;
- Sequestered an annual average of 49 million tons of greenhouse gases, equal to taking 9 million cars off the road.

Since 1996, CRP has created nearly 2.7 million acres of restored wetlands.

For more information FSA conservation programs, visit a local FSA office or www.fsa.usda.gov/conservation. To find your local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

The Conservation Reserve Program was re-authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past six years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing, and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/farmbill.

STATEMENT BY AGRICULTURE SECRETARY TOM VILSACK ON RURAL AMERICA AT A GLANCE, 2015 EDITION

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack released the following statement on Rural America At A Glance, 2015 Edition, an annual report by USDA's Economic Research Service:

"Today's report reflects a rural America on the road to recovery. Rural employment has increased; rural population decline did not increase over the past year and some rural counties have seen population growth; and the rural child poverty rate has declined by one percentage point. These trends are promising. "The report also demonstrates the continued need for targeted investments in rural people and places.

THE WEST BEND NEWS *Answers on Page 15*
Sudoku Puzzle

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					4			
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5				9				3
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"BATTLE OF THE BELTS"



WTWC members Hunter Long, Jarrett Hornish, Graid-en Troth, Corbin and Colton Kimmel traveled to Findlay to wrestle in the annual "Battle of the Belts" open tournament. Long and Hornish (pictured) both accomplished what they came to do, win the championship belt. Hornish finished with two pins and a tech fall, winning his four man round robin bracket. Long finished his 16 man bracket with having two pins and two tech falls, giving up only two points. Troth, and both Kimmel boys ended the day winning a match.

USDA's nutrition programs, the StrikeForce Initiative for Rural Growth and Opportunity, and the Rural Impact effort, which focuses on a multi-generational approach to public and private investments in rural families and communities, work together to address persistent rural poverty, particularly among children. At the same time, the Administration continues to look for innovative ways to spur rural job and business growth, including expanding access to credit and capital through USDA's Rural Infrastructure Opportunity Fund and the Rural Business Investment Companies, and the Small Business Administration's commitment to increasing credit to rural small businesses by \$2 billion.

HUNTERS HARVEST MORE THAN 1,500 WILD TURKEYS

Hunters harvested 1,536 wild turkeys during Ohio's 2015 fall wild turkey season, according to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR). Ohio's 2015 fall wild turkey hunting season was open in 56 counties October 10 - November 29.

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NORTHWEST STATE ANNOUNCES INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WITH WHITEHOUSE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Northwest State Community College has announced an internship program with the Whitehouse, OH police department for its Criminal Justice students. The program is the brainchild of Whitehouse Chief of Police Mark McDonough, working in partnership with NSCC Dean of Allied Health and Public Services Lori Robison, Criminal Justice faculty member Andy Kozal and Police Academy Commander David Mack.

"In February 2015, I reached out to Lori Robison at (NSCC), and offered this program idea. We met in April 2015 to discuss the idea further and to move towards implementation," stated Chief McDonough. The program is set to begin January 2016.

The workload for the student-intern will include follow-up with crime victims, ride-along opportunities with officers on patrol, introduction to the criminal justice system through court visits, and meetings with other criminal justice and social services members. The student-intern will also survey the community in regards to the Whitehouse police department. "The information received from those surveyed will assist me and the police department command staff and officers in meeting

our mission," remarked McDonough.

"The internship provides valuable experience from multiple perspectives," stated Robison. "Students can watch as the case navigates the court system, they can better understand the case from all aspects, and see the successes and flaws." Robison added "this internship opportunity is ideal for both students and for the police department, the officers can evaluate the students as they're training. The students gain unique exposure which will enhance their classroom instruction."

Northwest State has existing partnerships in the six-county area for its criminal justice and law enforcement academy students, areas of which include probation departments, law enforcement agencies, and the Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio (CCNO). The Whitehouse P.D. internship is yet another valuable opportunity for NSCC students.

McDonough anticipates many opportunities in the NSCC internship program, including the potential for finding a future employee. He encourages other entities to explore similar internship programs, which can benefit businesses, organizations, communities and students alike.

PARTNERING WITH FARMERS AND RANCHERS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOOD SECURITY CHALLENGES

As world leaders gather in Paris this week to negotiate a new global climate agreement, it is important to recognize the contributions of farmers, ranchers and foresters in the United States towards achieving a more food secure world while adapting to climate change, increasing carbon sequestration, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Over the course of my tenure as Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. producers have faced a record drought, which the University of California estimates has cost farmers in California alone an estimated \$3 billion in 2015. We've seen increasing incursions of invasive pests and diseases and extreme weather, everything from bark beetle to severe droughts, which have cost billions in lost productivity. We've faced a series of record wildfire seasons in the western United States—the worst decade in U.S. history for wildfire. The growing El Nino weather pattern in the Pacific has created the perfect storm for disasters to strike the already damaged and weakened western landscape.

Tomorrow in Paris at COP 21, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will release a new report, titled Climate Change, Global Food Security, and the U.S. Food System. This report will outline the impacts of climate change on global food security, including food availability, access, utilization, and stability.

Never before has agriculture faced challenges of this magnitude. We've all seen the statistics: Nine billion people by 2050. Feeding these new citizens will require at least a 60 percent increase in agricultural productivity. We must do all of this in the face of climate change that is threatening the productivity and profitability of our farms, ranches and forests.

As we embark on our efforts, we have found that one of the first steps is to educate and inform our farmers, ranchers, and forest land managers – and our own USDA professional staff in the field – about climate change and the threats posed to our resources and the opportunities to contribute to solutions.

For example, earlier this year, USDA announced our 10 Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture, a comprehensive set of voluntary programs and initiatives that we expect to reduce net emissions and enhance carbon sequestration by over 120 million metric tons of CO2 equivalent by 2025 – about 2 percent of economy-wide emissions, building upon a U.S. government-wide commitment to emission reduction. And through efforts by the federal government and a broad coalition of partners, the United States has restored more than 9 million hectares of lost or degraded forest since 2011 – more than half way to our Bonn Challenge commitment of restoring 15 million hectares by 2020.

We are promoting the building blocks strategy through our extension and technical service providers. To support our efforts, we

have established a network of regional climate hubs to analyze risks and deliver localized information to help farmers adapt to climate change. We continue to support research into technologies and practices that will reduce climate risks. We are moving rapidly to integrate climate change into our domestic conservation and renewable energy programs.

Collectively, these efforts make U.S. agriculture and forestry a more publicly visible part of the climate change solution in the United States and abroad. They demonstrate to the world that these sectors can provide solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while simultaneously boosting productivity to meet growing demands for food and fiber, stimulating the rural economy, and offering compatible environmental and economic benefits.

We don't face these challenges in a vacuum. These same conditions have dire effects across the world, especially for poor, rural smallholder farmers in developing nations. Drought in the western United States and drought in Central America threaten farmers and livelihoods, disrupt communities, and strain food systems. Increasing climate threats, whether it is drought, high temperatures, increases in pests, or wildfire, are separate symptoms of the same problem.

That is why the United States is committed to sharing information globally. The lessons we learn, we want to share through the Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture. Through our collective efforts, agriculture can make meaningful contributions to the effort to limit global temperature increases to less than two degrees Celsius. We are also proud of our efforts through the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition initiative, which supports efforts to make data available, accessible, and usable for unrestricted use worldwide.

USDA also directly supports international cooperation and development projects to help promote climate-smart agriculture. For example, last year we supported 11 Borlaug Fellows to work on climate change topics. This program allows agricultural scientists from around the world to work side-by-side with U.S. scientists on finding ways to increase food production while mitigating the effects of climate change.

In order to address climate change, we have to get ahead of it, and I'm convinced that no one innovates in the face of challenge better than agriculture. This will not be an easy task, but I am confident that working together and building on a legacy of partnership, efficiency and innovation, the Alliance members and other interested parties will continue to strive to achieve the three important goals of climate-smart agriculture: achieving food security, sustainably increasing agricultural productivity, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, where possible.

Food security has implications far beyond what's on our plates. A more food-secure, nourished world, able to feed itself and the future, is essential to the long-term prosperity and security of individuals, communities, economies, and nations.

ANTWERP STUDENTS MAKE GINGERBREAD HOUSES



First graders at Antwerp Elementary School recently made gingerbread houses by reusing milk cartons from lunch and decorating with frosting and candy. Here, Charleen Ritchie, Keegan Wyckoff-Gray, and Levi Monroe show off their masterpieces. The gingerbread houses will be on display in the case at the end of the elementary hallways until winter break.

USDA AWARDS FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016 MARKET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) has awarded fiscal year 2016 funding to more than 60 U.S. agricultural organizations to help expand commercial export markets for U.S. goods.

The Market Access Program (MAP) focuses on program promotion, including brand promotion for small companies and cooperatives, and is used extensively by organizations promoting fruits, vegetables, nuts, processed products, and bulk and intermediate commodities. The Foreign Market Development (FMD) Program focuses on trade servicing and trade capacity building by helping to create, expand and maintain long-term export markets for U.S. agricultural products.

"USDA continues to expand markets for American goods abroad, work aggressively to break down barriers to trade, and assist U.S. businesses with the resources needed to reach consumers around the world," said Vilsack. "Together market access and market development activities can help agricultural organizations representing thousands of producers and businesses open and grow markets for American products around the world."

Under the MAP, FAS will provide \$172.8 million for fiscal year 2016 to 62 nonprofit organizations and cooperatives. These organizations use the funds to help U.S. producers with activities to promote their products around the globe. Activities can include market research, technical assistance, and support for participation in trade fairs and exhibits. MAP participants contribute an average 137 percent match for generic marketing and promotion activities and a dollar-for-dollar match for promotion of branded products by small businesses and cooperatives.

Under the FMD, FAS will

allocate \$27.5 million for fiscal year 2016 to 23 trade organizations that represent U.S. agricultural producers. The program focuses on generic promotion of U.S. commodities, rather than consumer-oriented promotion of branded products. Preference is given to organizations that represent an entire industry or are nationwide in membership and scope. The organizations, which contribute an average 184 percent cost share, will conduct activities that help maintain or increase demand for U.S. agricultural commodities overseas.

USDA's international market development programs have had a significant and positive impact on U.S. agricultural exports. An independent study released in 2010 found that trade promotion programs like MAP and FMD provide \$35 in economic benefits for every one dollar spent by government and industry on market development.

The past seven years have represented the strongest period for American agricultural exports in the history of our country. In fiscal year 2015, American farmers and ranchers exported \$139.7 billion of food and agricultural goods to consumers worldwide – the third highest level ever. U.S. agricultural exports supported nearly 1 million American jobs both on and off the farm, a substantial part of the nearly 11.3 million jobs supported by exports all across the country.

USDA has published the list of organizations that will receive fiscal year 2016 MAP awards and FMD awards. To learn more about MAP, FMD and other FAS programs, visit www.fas.usda.gov.

ANTWERP WRESTLERS COMPETE AT MONTPELIER

The Antwerp High School wrestling team made their 2015-16 season debut on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at the Ironhorse Invitational in Montpelier, OH. Of the 7 wrestlers competing, 4 of them were able to place in the top 3 of their respective weight classes. Placing 3rd for the Archers were senior Justice Clark at 182 pounds (3-2 record with 2 pins) and senior Austin Van Atta at 220 pounds (3-2

record with 3 pins). Finishing 2nd on the day was junior Logan Shaner at 152 pounds (4-1 record with 3 pins). The lone champion for the Archers on the day was freshman Aidan McAlexander at 106 pounds. Aidan recorded 2 wins, 0 losses, and 1 pin on the day. This was also the first tournament of McAlexander's high school career. Congratulations to both Aidan and the rest of the Archer wrestlers for their hard work and success in their season opener.

Saturday, December 12, 2015

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WOODBURN ANNUAL DECORATING CONTEST

On December 14, 2015, Woodburn will hold its annual decorating contest for businesses and residents in the city limits. The contest will be from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. and prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

USDA RANKS HIGH IN EPA REPORT ON RENEWABLE ENERGY USE

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) continues to lead in the use of green power according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Top 100 list of the largest green power users nationally. USDA ranked eighth among federal agencies and

92 among all sectors. "Our goal is to support domestic production and use of renewable energy," said USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. "Using green power helps grow American jobs, helps USDA programs and services become more sustainable, and demonstrates to every level of government and private industry that supporting clean sources of electricity is a sound business decision and an important choice to help reduce climate risk."

In Fiscal Year 2014, USDA bought and produced a total of 57 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of renewable energy, up from 42 million kWh in fiscal Year 2013 and 37 million in 2012. USDA generates green power where feasible from a growing portfolio of on-site solar, wind, biomass, low-impact hydro, and geothermal energy systems. The Department also supports local clean energy production by buying green power products and renewable energy certificates from local utilities.

"EPA applauds the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its commitment to using green power and for taking a leadership position on the environment," said James

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WANTED TO BUY: Buying military items, old photographs, old photo albums, old postcards, old toys, antiques, old padlocks and old signs, etc. 419-393-2107. 43-50p

NORTH POLE SERIES, Start a Tradition. Santa Visiting Center, Sweet Rock Candy Co. \$40 ea. Town & Country houses 2/\$7. Dept. 56 North Pole items. Lenon China Liberty Pattern, Service for 8 extra serving pcs. new \$1200 obo. Phone, 419-399-5878 48,49p

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HUGS & KISSES DAYCARE: Antwerp area. Full time. Lunch & snacks provided. On bus route. 574-298-6199. 48-51p

WANT TO WISH SOMEONE SPECIAL A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON? Say it with an ad in The West Bend News! Deadline for the Christmas issue is Friday, Dec. 18 at 5PM. Call 419-258-2000 or email info@westbendnews.net.

GUN SHOW/FLEA MARKET: Vendors welcome. Dec. 12-13; 9-5. 5278 CR 424. Old Dana Building. 574-298-6199. 48-49p

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FOR SALE: Dixie bedroom set, fruitwood, full/queen headboard, 5 drawer chest, 9 drawer dresser with mirror. Tops are rough. Needs some new drawer pulls. Nice, sturdy wood, \$50.00. 419-258-7065. p

Critchfield, Manager of the Green Power Partnership. "USDA is helping to reduce carbon pollution and provides an excellent example for other government agencies to invest in environmental progress."

The EPA estimates that USDA's 57 million kWh of renewable energy is enough to power about 5,000 average American households each year. The Department's commitment to sustainability also extends to the use of alternative fuels in fleet vehicles, recycling and minimizing waste, improving the design and construction of lower-energy green buildings and the purchase and promotion of renewable biobased products. To learn more about USDA's sustainable operations, please visit <http://greening.usda.gov/>.

Green power is zero-emissions electricity that is generated from environmentally preferable renewable resources, such as wind, solar, geothermal, biogas, eligible biomass, and low-impact hydro. Using green power helps accelerate the development of new renewable energy capacity nationwide and helps users reduce their carbon footprints.

EPA's Green Power Partnership is a voluntary program that encourages organizations to reduce the environmental impacts associated with the use of electricity. From major corporations to small businesses, colleges, universities and

all levels of government, more than 1,300 partner organizations together buy and produce billions of kilowatt-hours of green power annually. Usage amounts reported reflect U.S. operations only and are sourced from U.S.-based green power resources.

USDA also advances the production and use of American made renewable energy and biobased fuels and products through investments in research, international trade promotion, conservation and renewable energy production. Learn more at the USDA Energy Web.

HAVE A WEDDING, ENGAGEMENT OR ANNIVERSARY?
Let your friends and neighbors know for **FREE** in the **West Bend News.**
(pictures are extra)

Sudoku solution from page 13

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

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LATTA VOTES TO PROTECT AMERICAN CONSUMERS, AMERICAN HOMEOWNERS

This week, Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) voted in support of legislation to protect American consumers and homeowners from costly, burdensome regulations imposed by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). The bills, H.R. 1210 and H.R. 1737, passed the U.S. House of Representatives with bipartisan support.

The CFPB's current mortgage rules will make it more difficult for credit-worthy Americans to buy a home. H.R. 1210, the Portfolio Lending and Mortgage Access Act, relaxes the CFPB's one-size-fits-all mortgage rule to better allow credit-worthy Americans the ability to buy a home they can afford to keep.

"Under the CFPB's current rule, one in five Americans who borrowed in order to buy a home just five years ago will not be able to meet these burdensome requirements. This is unacceptable," said Rep. Latta. "Homeownership is part of the American Dream. Community banks and local credit unions understand the needs of their customers and communities far better than unelected bureaucrats in Washington. These local banks should have flexibility to serve their customers who want to buy a home as long as they agree to retain the risk of that loan."

H.R. 1737, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Guidance Act, rescinds the CFPB's flawed guidance relating to indirect auto lending. The CFPB has created enormous uncertainty in the indirect auto lending market by issuing this guidance without notice and comment, and

by taking enforcement and supervisory actions based upon flawed statistical models. H.R. 1737 nullifies this guidance, and creates requirements that increase the transparency needed for future guidance on this matter to be issued.

"This legislation protects consumers, especially those with low and moderate incomes, by ensuring they are able to receive the best financing available to purchase a car or truck. Consumers - not government bureaucrats - should decide what products and services they want and determine works best for their needs. This bill safeguards the right of Americans to negotiate, seek a better deal, and choose the loan that's best for them when purchasing a vehicle."

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The Paulding County Board of Developmental Disabilities is accepting sealed bids for one 1999 Thomas/Ford handicap school bus. Interested parties may inspect the bus between the hours of 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday at the PARC Lane Training Center, 900 Fairground Drive, Paulding Ohio. The bus will be sold as is with no warranty either written or implicit. Bids will be accepted until 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 15, 2015, to Jeremy Akom, Transportation Supervisor, Paulding County Board of DD, 900 Fairground Drive, Paulding, Ohio 45879. The County Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids and waiver formalities. Payment for and transfer of title to said vehicle will be handled within ten (10) days after bid opening.

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Paulding County Hospital
1035 W. Wayne Street
Paulding, OH 45879

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL

'TIS THE SEASON...



By: Crystal Rider
"Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful." - Norman Vincent Peale

It's that time of the year again, when as you drive in the evening you can see houses lit up with Christmas lights. Some might have only a small candle or two in their windows or maybe just a Christmas tree. Others might have their property lit up like fireworks on the Fourth of July.

If you have ever had the opportunity to drive on old 24 in Paulding County this time of year, close to the US 127 intersection, you have probably drove past John Walk's house. As you drive by, you won't see the three five gallon buckets that are full of the extension cords used, or the 115 - 120 receptacles. What you will see, is different sizes of Santa Claus', a few Mrs. Claus', lamp posts,

candy canes, soldiers, a bear or two, a Nativity scene and if you look close, you can even see a gingerbread man and Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

John started out five years ago with just a single outdoor candle on his porch and has continued to add to his collection yearly, sometimes by going to the Hillsdale, MI fairgrounds to buy some and sometimes people just come to him and give him some. In just the last year his collection has increase by fifty, bringing his total to 297 and he said it took him fifty-five hours to set them all up. He believes he is at his maximum limit now, being as he stores them in his shed in the summer and is running out of room.

If you like looking at Christmas lights, this is something to see. Next time you happen to be driving in the evening and are on the old 24, watch for John's house and enjoy the lights! Merry Christmas.

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REP. BURKLEY APPOINTED TO SERVE ON COMMITTEE THAT PROVIDES OVERSIGHT OF STATEWIDE EMERGENCY SERVICES IN OHIO



Speaker of the Ohio House Clifford A. Rosenberger (R-Clarksville) has appointed State Representative Tony Burkley (R-Payne) to serve as the designated House Majority Caucus member on the Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network Steering Committee.

The committee is tasked with advising the state on the implementation, operation, and maintenance of the state-

wide emergency services internet protocol network. This network supports state and local government next-generation 9-1-1 services in order to ensure that this vital public safety service is updated, effective and cost-efficient.

"The Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network Steering Committee does important work on behalf of the people of Ohio and I'm pleased to appoint Rep. Burkley to serve on this committee. His unique background and expertise will help to provide vital insight on this issue," Speaker Rosenberger said.

"Having effective emergency services is critical for all citizens and as a former local government official, I know firsthand the role it plays in our communities," said Burkley. "I appreciate Speaker Rosenberger's faith in my abilities and look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that we are taking the necessary steps as a state to keep the public safe."

Rep. Burkley is serving his second term in the Ohio House. He represents the 82nd District, which includes Defiance, Paulding and Van Wert counties, as well as part of Auglaize County.

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