

## NEW HAVEN UNITED METHODIST PRESCHOOL RECEIVES DONATION OF 57 BLANKETS FROM NANA'S CREATIONS



On December 14th and 15th, 2015, New Haven United Methodist Preschool had a very special visitor. Her name is Loretta Loy but she prefers to be called Nana. She has developed a ministry called "Nana's Creations" and she gave each one of our 57 preschool students a beautiful handmade blanket "made with love and imperfections." Each blanket is made with colorful cotton print fabric

on one side and soft flannel on the other side, trimmed with satin binding. They are especially created to meet children's sensory cravings as well as wrap them up in warmth and love. She donates her handmade blankets to local preschool children as well as local fire stations and military families. She has been making her special blankets for over ten years and has sewn well over 3,000. We love our spe-

cial blankets!

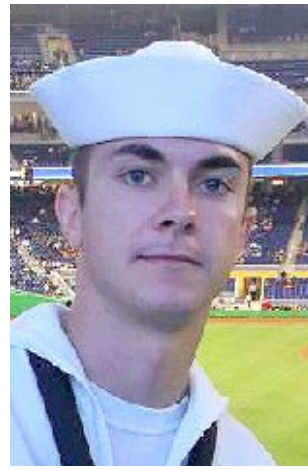
If you would like to support Nana's Creations, donations are always welcome. You may purchase blankets at A to Z Embroidery at 6150 Bluffton Road, Fort Wayne, IN, and at Beacon Credit Union at 10983 Isabelle Drive, New Haven, IN. Proceeds from each purchase go toward materials for more blankets. For more information, please contact Loretta Loy (260) 478-8300.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

From The West Bend News

The office will be closed Jan. 1st, 2016

### CHATTANOOGA SHOOTING VICTIMS AWARDED WITH PURPLE HEART



By: Donovan Klein - 21Alive; Eric Dutkiewicz - 21Alive

On December 16, the Navy announced that the Purple Heart will be awarded to the four Marines and one Sailor who were killed and the Marine who was injured at the July 16 attack in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Marine Gunnery Sgt. Thomas Sullivan, Lance Cpl. Squire Wells, Staff Sgt. David Wyatt and Sgt. Carson Holmquist were shot and killed in the attack on the at Navy Operational Support Center Chattanooga on July 16.

(Continued to Page 2)

### OHIO LEGISLATIVE YEAR IN REVIEW

By: State Representative Tony Burkley

With only a few days left in 2015, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on the productive year that we have had at the Ohio Statehouse. As your state representative I was very proud of the work that the legislature was able to accomplish this year in an effort to help our community thrive.

This year, my colleagues and I worked to pass House Bill 64, the state operating budget, which sets the spending priorities for the State of Ohio for the next two years. I am confident that HB 64 contains a number of provisions that will positively impact Ohio families, I believe the most important of which was significant tax cuts. Included in this legislation was language that provides nearly \$1.9 billion in tax relief to all Ohioans through income and small business tax cuts. By 2017, HB 64 will eliminate the tax for all small businesses earning under \$250,000, allowing these small businesses to keep more of their hard-earned money to in-

(Continued to Page 4)

## REINHART READY FOR MAYOR



As everyone who has been following the presidential race knows, the electoral process can be entertaining to say the least. It's like watching the OSU vs Michigan football game when it comes down to the last play. The mayor's race in Paulding came down to a

(Continued to Page 2)

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### NO RATE INCREASE FOR PAULDING PUTNAM ELECTRIC IN 2016

Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative (PPEC) is pleased to announce there will be no general rate increase in 2016. In fact, the 2016 operating expenses are projected to be slightly less than the year-end 2015 pro-

jected operating expenses.

Every year, the PPEC accounting staff prepares a detailed budget for the cooperative. In reviewing all costs, we ask ourselves a simple question: Is this necessary, and if it is, can it be done more efficiently? "Efficiency isn't about turning the wrenches faster, or typing faster at a keyboard.

(Continued to Page 2)

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**OBITUARIES**

**BUTLER, INDIANA**

**Regina L. Meyer**, 82, died Thursday, December 24, 2015 at the Laurels of DeKalb, Butler, Indiana.

Born on February 17, 1933 in Williams County, Ohio, Regina was the daughter of the late MX and Lamoile (Blinzler) Herman.

On August 17, 1957 Regina was united in marriage to Paul Meyer and he preceded her in death on January 30, 1985.

Regina was a member of St. Michael's Catholic Church, the Altar Rosary Society, and card club. She loved visiting people and playing bingo and Uno.

Regina is survived by her children, Timothy (Nancy) Meyer, Christine (Donald) Kettinger, Linda (Gary) Richhart, Cynthia (Russell) Pierce, Francis (Lisa) Meyer; (15) grandchildren, Chad, Kristen, Melinda, Bradley, Cailyn, Megan, Colleen, Jacob, Aaron, Paul, Scott, Stephanie, Kaleigh, Brandon, Bradley; seven great grandchildren; three siblings, Hilda (Bill) McCool, Carl (Carol) Herman and Robert Herman.

She was preceded in death by brothers, Augustin, Peter and Leo Herman.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. at St. Michael's Catholic Church, Hicksville. Visitation will be Monday from 2:00 to 8:00 at Smith & Brown Funeral Home, Hicksville.

Burial will be in Forest Home Cemetery.

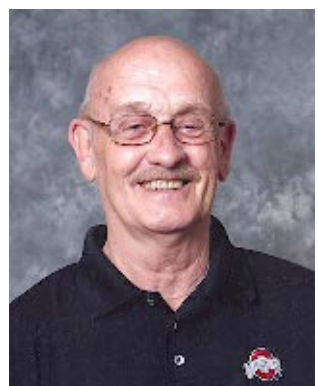
Memorial may be made to the charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be shared at [www.smithbrownfuneralhome.com](http://www.smithbrownfuneralhome.com).

Woodburn Lions Club, Beta Sigma Psi Lutheran Fraternity, and he and his wife were a presenting couple for Lutheran Marriage Encounter from 1983 to 1999.

He is survived by wife of 60 years, Beverly (Sievers) Bridge; children, Melody (Dennis) Schlie of Spencerville, Tamara (Dean) Koontz of Fort Wayne, and Randy (Carolyn) Bridge and Mary Ann Unsicker both of Woodburn; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great grandchildren. He was also preceded in death by his son-in-law, Todd Unsicker in 2014.

Funeral service is 1 p.m. Thursday at Christ Lutheran Church, 4412 Park St., Woodburn with calling one hour prior. Pastor Timothy Edwards officiating. Calling is also 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 Wednesday at the church. Burial in the church cemetery. Preferred memorial are to Woodburn Christian Children's Home or Woodburn Lutheran School. Arrangements by E. Harper & Son Funeral Home, 740 St. Rd. 930 E., New Haven. To share online condolences please visit [www.harperfuneralhome.com](http://www.harperfuneralhome.com)



**PAULDING, OH:**  
**Terry L. "Sleep" Neer**, age 74 died Saturday, December 26, 2015.

Terry was born October 24, 1941 to the late Merkle and Lula (Anderson) Neer. On January 31, 1964 he married Linda Dempsey. He served in the US Navy from 1961 - 1964; worked at BF Goodrich from 1965 - 2001 retiring after 36 years, and was also a Paulding County Hospital "Phone-A-Ride" driver for 5 years. Terry was a life member of Paulding VFW Post #587. He proudly held several positions including Post Chaplain for many years, helping to lay to rest over 400 of his comrades. He enjoyed coaching little league baseball for 18 years and bowling on leagues for over 30 years. The last few years he liked going to casinos hoping to win big money. Most of all Terry loved doing things with his family. He treasured the vacations, the family get-togethers, and most of all Christmas Eve when all the family gathered at his home. His memory will be with us forever.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Linda; children, Greg (Becky), Deb (fiancé, Bart Ripke), Pam (Chris) Rossworm, Tim (Tina), 11 grandchildren; and 11 great grandchildren.

He is also preceded in death by his brother, Archie Mack Neer, and a grandson, Cody Jacob Unger.

Visitation will be Wednesday, December 30 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, from 2 - 8 PM with a Memorial Service at 7:30 PM conducted by VFW Post #587. A private family burial will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Paulding VFW General Fund.

Online condolences may be sent to [www.denherderfh.com](http://www.denherderfh.com)

(Continued from Page 1)

difference of only three votes after the preliminary count was recorded and initially Jim Guelde was in the lead. On November 17, the provisional ballots were counted again and this left Greg Reinhart in the lead with 10 votes. He was then certified as the next Mayor of Paulding, Ohio.

If you have been around Paulding in the last 50 years, you more than likely know Greg. He's outspoken and loves to laugh! He has been on the Paulding Exempted Village School board for 12 years. He finishes his service for the Paulding Sheriff's Office on December 31. He found out from the state that he cannot be both Mayor and a Deputy in the county. He also currently works in Defiance County as the director of waste water operations and has for 14 years. Other organizations Greg is a part of include the EMS for 35 years, the sheriff's department for 34 years and the fire department for 5 years.

Reinhart will be working for approximately 3500 residents of the village of Paulding. When he sets up shop in January he already has some plans. He will report for duty after his job at the water treatment plant in Defiance every day, the Mayor's Court will begin on their designated days at 5:00 p.m. with village council meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. His very first order of business will be mayor's court training in Columbus at the Bar Association so he can become acquainted with this important office task. After this he plans to oversee the completion of all the many roads that need their finishing pavement jobs. Reinhart's employers in Defiance are in complete support of this new venture of his and plan to work with him to be available to the people of Paulding.

Greg's wife Ann works for Paulding County Hospital. They have five children: Max lives in Bryan, OH; Clint, Nate, and Vince live in Paulding; and Suzanne, who is in the Navy, is currently living in Chicago awaiting her deployment after graduation in January 2016. Greg and Ann are expecting their first grandchild in February 2016. He also owns two rental properties, commercial lots for storage and a farm at the edge of Paulding. Mr. Reinhart was sworn into office at the Paulding village office on Monday, December 28, 2015 at 4:45 p.m.

**SLEEP SPECIALIST COMING IN JANUARY**

Manuel Cervoni, MD, Sleep Specialist is now performing interpretation of



sleep studies performed at Paulding County Hospital. Dr. Cervoni, is board certified in internal and sleep medicine, pulmonology and critical care. He is a U.S. Army veteran with 10 years of service.

He joined the pulmonology team at Lutheran Medical Group in September 1996. Dr. Cervoni received a bachelor's degree from Tufts University in Medford, Mass., and a medical degree from New York University School of Medicine. He completed an internal medicine residency at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco, and he was a pulmonary and critical care fellow at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., in 1991.

He served as director of the Medical Intensive Care Unit and respiratory care services at Tripler Army Medical Center, in Honolulu from 1991 to 1995. He earned a Meritorious Service Medal for distinguished clinical service while at Tripler, and he was appointed assistant clinical professor of medicine at the University Of Hawaii School Of Medicine and the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

Julie Arend, Nurse Prac-



itioner is conducting a sleep clinic at Paulding County Hospital. Julie will be following up on Dr. Cervoni's interpretations by writing prescriptions for breathing equipment that will help to ensure patients breathe normally during sleep. Julie previously worked with Dr. Cervoni at the sleep clinic at Lutheran.

Appointments may be made for the sleep clinic by calling 419.399.1782

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."  
—Matthew 11:28

(PPEC continued from Page 1)

It's about reviewing our processes and being sure that each step is necessary and adding value to the job," stated George Carter, CEO and General Mgr. of PPEC.

The management team and all employees are charged with ensuring that efficiency savings are part of the budget process. Cost management always starts with efficiency. A big part of the budget is a review of our electric rates, which starts with an update of the cost-of-service study, or the COSS, by our accounting department each year. The COSS breaks down all the investment necessary to serve each rate class, identifies all the costs associated with each rate class, and compares it to the revenue being generated by the rates for each class. With the study completed, the board of trustees can review the financial performance of each rate class.

And after a careful review of the proposed budget and the COSS, the board determined that no rate increase was necessary for 2016.

"Your board of trustees, management and employees work hard to deliver electric power that is reliable, safe and cost-competitive with our neighboring utilities. Be assured that we are working for you to keep your rates competitive, while still working to replace aging facilities, increase efficiency and improve our service reliability," added Carter.

**PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DINING CENTER MENU 12/30 - 1/5/16**

12/30 - Baked ham, sweet potatoes, wax beans, orange juice, w.w.bread, raisins, milk

12/31 - Beef stew, peaches, coleslaw, biscuit, cookie, milk

**HELPING U.S. EXPORTERS GAIN ACCESS TO VALUABLE OVERSEAS MARKETS**

Secretary Vilsack will travel to Japan and China to meet with agricultural counterparts. The United States recently concluded negotiations on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) with Japan and 10 other nations. Countries in the Trans-Pacific Partnership currently account for up to 42 percent of all U.S. agricultural exports, totaling \$63 billion. The Administration continues to work with Congress to secure the passage of the agreement into law so that American agriculture can take full advantage of unprecedented new market access in some of

the fastest-growing countries in the Asia-Pacific region.

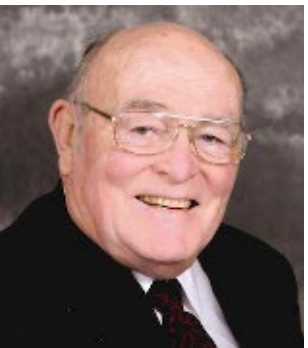
The past seven years have represented the strongest period for American agricultural exports in the history of our country, with U.S. agricultural product exports totaling \$911.3 billion between Fiscal Years 2009 and 2015. In fiscal year 2015, American farmers and ranchers exported \$139.7 billion of food and agricultural goods to consumers worldwide. Not only that, U.S. agricultural exports supported more than 1 million American jobs both on and off the farm, a substantial part of the estimated 11.7 million jobs supported by exports all across our country.

**Opening New Markets for Farmers, Ranchers, and Rural Businesses**

USDA continuously seeks opportunities for U.S. agricultural producers to expand overseas markets that contribute to a positive U.S. trade balance, create jobs, and boost economic growth.

• USDA's Market Development Programs have provided funding to help approximately 70 U.S. agricultural producer associations, each representing hundreds or thousands of producers, expand commercial export markets for their goods. An independent study demonstrated that U.S. agricultural exports increased by \$6.1 billion as a result of the increased joint investment in foreign market development by government and industry during the 2002-09 time frame studied. Overall, U.S. agricultural exports increase \$35 for every additional market development dollar expended by government and industry.

• When implemented, the TPP agreement with 11 Pacific Rim countries will provide new market access across the board for America's farmers and ranchers by lowering tariffs and eliminating other barriers, and will boost exports and support jobs in our rural economies. The agreement will advance U.S. economic interests in a critical region that accounts for nearly 40 per-



**WOODBURN, IN**  
**James Stanley Bridge**, 80, of Woodburn, passed away Monday, December 28, 2015 at Parkview Regional Medical Center, Fort Wayne. Born in Fort Wayne, he was the son of the late Harley and Marie (Luette) Bridge. He was a member of Christ Lutheran Church, Woodburn. He was the previous owner of Bridge Sprayer and Trailer Sales, where he continued to work in sales and management after his retirement. He was a member of Woodburn Community Historical Society, Woodburn Chamber of Commerce,

**Thank You**  
The family of Bud Overmyer wishes to express our appreciation for the many condolences we received after the passing of our husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. We thank the ladies of the church for the lovely dinner, our friends and family members for their expressions of sympathy and loving support, and we thank Pastor Jack Teeple for his love and continuing ministry. We also want Dr. Underwood and the nurses at CMH to know how much we appreciate their patience and dedication, and the folks at Dooley Funeral Home for being so caring and kind.

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cent of global GDP. The TPP is a partnership between the United States and Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam.

• Since 2009, the United States has entered into free trade agreements with Colombia, Jordan, Oman, Panama, Peru, and South Korea. And through organic equivalency agreements established by USDA with Canada, the European Union, Switzerland, Japan, and Korea, U.S. organic farmers and businesses have streamlined access to over \$35 billion in international organic markets.

• Through the Administration's Made in Rural America Export and Investment Initiative, USDA is working to help farmers, ranchers, and rural businesses access federal export

programs, connect with new customers and markets abroad, and bring new opportunity to rural America.

• Since 2009, USDA has led more than 225 U.S. agribusinesses and more than 20 State Departments of Agriculture on agricultural trade missions to China, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Georgia, Ghana, Indonesia, India, Iraq, Malaysia, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, South Africa, Turkey and Vietnam. These businesses reported on-the-spot and short-term follow-up sales of more than \$94 million. That number will grow exponentially over the next several years as a direct result of the partnerships forged and contacts established during USDA trade missions.

• USDA opened international market outlets

for American farmers and ranchers by successfully negotiating and issuing thousands of export certificates for food products valued at more than \$800 million.

**Removing Unfair Barriers to Trade**

USDA works on behalf of agricultural exporters to resolve trade related to animal and plant health concerns and to ensure that trade decisions are based on science. In FY2015, USDA resolved more than 150 trade-related issues involving U.S. agricultural exports valued at \$2.4 billion.

• In FY2015, USDA engaged trading partners to eliminate all remaining animal health barriers related to BSE for U.S. export markets. The following 14 countries removed all BSE restrictions and granted access to U.S. beef and beef products: Aus-

tralia; Macau; Philippines; New Zealand; Singapore; Ukraine; Vietnam; Egypt; Lebanon; Turkey; Costa Rica; Guatemala; St. Lucia; Iraq. The total value of U.S. beef and beef products exported to the 14 countries that lifted their BSE restrictions is in excess of \$180 million.

• In FY 2015, USDA retained the poultry market to the European Union worth \$111 million.

• When shipments are held up at foreign ports, USDA negotiates the overseas process to get products moving again. In FY 2015 USDA successfully secured the release of 250 detained shipments worth \$45 million. The shipments ranged from apples to Taiwan to horses to Mexico.

• The USDA successfully negotiated continuation of "on-arrival" fumigation

for California citrus for the 2015/2016 season. Korea remains the number one market for California citrus estimated to be worth \$225 million.

• USDA successfully negotiated with Australia to open the Australian market to California Japanese plums in time for the 2015 shipping season. With the addition of California Japanese plums, the U.S. stone fruit market to Australia is now valued at \$12 million per year.

• In FY 2015 USDA secured access for U.S. pork to Peru, a market valued at \$5 million per year.

• USDA expanded market access for all apple varieties *from all states of the U.S. to China in FY2015; the estimated value of this market is \$100 million.*

• The USDA minimized the trade impact of 2015 flag

smut detection in Kansas which protected approximately \$800 million in annual sales of Hard Red Winter wheat to the sixteen countries that regulate for this disease.

USDA believes that American agriculture will always succeed if competition is fair. USDA remains a strong partner and advocate in the international marketplace, working with foreign governments and international regulatory or standard-setting organizations to ensure the smooth and safe flow of international trade. USDA will continue to strike down foreign barriers to American products that can't be justified by science-while helping exporters identify and gain access to new overseas markets.

# No Matter the Weather, The West Bend News has your Business covered in all Seasons!



(Continued from Page 1)

U.S. Navy Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Randall Smith of Paulding, Ohio, died of his injuries days later.

Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, announced the news and said that after investigation the FBI and NCIS determined that the attack was inspired by a foreign terrorist group.

Mabus also said:

"Although the Purple Heart can never possibly replace this brave Sailor and these brave Marines, it is my hope that as their families and the entire Department of the Navy team continue to mourn their loss, these awards provide some small measure of solace. Their heroism and service to our nation will be remembered always."

*This story was originally written and published for 21Alive News.*

### NATALIE GRANT TO PERFORM AT THE PREGNANCY LIFE CENTER OF VAN WERT

The Pregnancy Life Center of Van Wert is pleased to present Christian powerhouse, singing sensation Natalie Grant at the Niswonger Sunday, March 20, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. This Multi-Grammy nominated, heart-gripping, singer-songwriter, and charismatic performer has consistently remained one of the top selling Christian & Gospel artists since her 2005 breakout RIAA Gold certified album, *Awaken*.

Since her breakout year she has gone on to have over 3 million albums sold and currently hosts GSN's hit television series "It Takes A Church." In 2012 she was named Female Vocalist of the Year by The Gospel Music Association, an honor she has received 5 times. The Christian Billboard Charts had Natalie's latest album, "Hurricane," debut at #1 in the fall of 2013.

Outside of her music career, Natalie is a spokesperson for victims of human trafficking, including founding the anti-trafficking organization known as Hope for Justice International. This foundation is known for its work in providing quality restorative aftercare to trafficking victims both domestically and internationally.

Natalie is an incredible role model for women everywhere and has a voice that can transition from a gentle heart moving ballad to a powerful soul shaking roar in a moment.

Supporting sponsors for this event include Betsey's Boutique Shop along with media sponsors Decatur Daily Democrat, WTLW 44, and Star 88.3.

For more information

go to: NPACVW.ORG. The Niswonger Performing Arts Center is located at 10700 SR 118 S, Van Wert, OH.

### BIBLE QUESTIONS

**By: James Potter, Oakwood Church of Christ**

1. What day of the week did the women go back to the tomb of Jesus?

2. Luke 24:1; What time of day was it?

3. Luke 24:1; What did the women bring with them?

4. Luke 24:2; What did the women find rolled away from the tomb?

5. Luke 24:3; The women did not find what in the tomb?

6. Luke 24:4; What does it mean to be greatly perplexed?

7. Luke 24:4; Who stood by the women in shining garments?

8. Luke 24:5; Being afraid, the women did what?

9. Luke 24:5; The two men said what to the women?

10. Luke 24:6; If Jesus isn't in the tomb and He isn't, what happened?

Comments or questions? We would love to hear from you. Call James Potter 419-393-4775 or e-mail jsp1941@yahoo.com. Also there is Lonnie Lambert 419-399-5022. Jesus loves you and so does the church of Christ.

Answers to today's questions next:

1. First; 2. The scriptures say early in the morning; 3. The spices they had prepared; 4. The stone; 5. The body of Jesus; 6. They were in great doubt as to what happened to Jesus' body; 7. Two men; 8. Bowed their faces to the earth; 9. Why do you seek the living among the dead; 10. Jesus is risen.

"O! Baldy" says bye for now, but continue to pray, read and study the New Testament for this is the covenant we are under today. "Luv Ya"

### IMMANUEL - GOD WITH US

**By: Rev. Gerry Weesner, Maples United Methodist Church**

"This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel"--which means, "God with us." Matthew 1:18-23 (NIV).

Joseph had made plans, though they weren't on a kingly scale. He was already established as a carpenter in a little town in Galilee, and the next item in the plan was the wedding with Mary. He was going to get married, have kids, raise a family, attend the synagogue, and maybe even achieve some modest prosperity. It was an ordinary plan for an ordinary man.

And then he's told that Mary, his betrothed, is pregnant. That messes up his plans. Joseph is sorrowful and humiliated, but he's a kind man, so he goes to a plan that would be less hurtful for Mary: break the engagement quietly and send Mary back to her father's house.

They didn't know it then, but Joseph and Mary were fulfilling a prophecy that God had promised seven centuries before. "All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,' which means, 'God is with us.'"

The virgin birth of Jesus gave to us a divine Redeemer whose life became a ransom for sin. The Lord Jesus Christ will never be understood by those who don't see Him as the Savior. Christmas is an empty thing unless the Christ of Christmas is your Savior.

### CHRISTMAS CELEBRATES NONVIOLENCE

**By: John Dear**

"And so this is Christmas, and what have you done?" That's the question which John Lennon puts to us in his famous Christmas song. In the chorus, he gets right to the point, to the heart of Christmas: "War is over, if you want it."

For some, that might seem like a leap of faith, but I think John Lennon's theology was better than most. If you want to celebrate Christmas, he says, work for the end of war and the culture of war. Spend your life pursuing a new culture of peace for everyone.

Christmas celebrates the birth of the most active person of nonviolence in the history of the world, as Gandhi once described Jesus. In the Gospel account of Jesus' birth to homeless refugees, angels announce to poor shepherds the coming of peace on earth. He grew up to become a great peacemaker, a nonviolent activist who denounced war and systemic injustice and offered the gift of peace to everyone near and far.

The life of Jesus is a record of pure, radical nonviolence, like Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus taught the methodology and vision of nonviolence--"Offer no violent resistance to one who does evil," "Love your enemies," "Hunger and thirst for justice," "Blessed are the peacemakers." He formed a community of nonviolent resisters and organized a grassroots movement of nonviolence to disarm everyone. He led his campaign of nonviolence from the countryside to Jerusalem where he engaged in dramatic nonviolent civil disobedience and was immediately arrested and killed. But he lived on in the community and the movement, and that creative nonviolence continues today.

To claim the name of Christian is to be a practitioner of Gospel nonviolence. To celebrate the birth of the nonviolent Jesus is to do our part in his ongoing grassroots movement of nonviolence to welcome the gift of peace on earth. "War is over," Jesus announced. "Peace is yours, if you want it. Get involved and join the movement of nonviolence."

To be a Christian is to renounce every trace of vi-

olence and carry on Jesus' grassroots movement of Gospel nonviolence. It is to see life through the eyes of peace, and the nonviolent struggle for peace on earth. It means renouncing our own violence and our complicity in the culture of violence. We get rid of our guns, stop supporting the military, serve the poor, welcome the refugee, advocate for justice, and work for disarmament. It means upholding a whole new vision of shared humanity, a whole new world of nonviolence.

What's so interesting is that more than a hundred years ago, Gandhi discovered that every religion is rooted in nonviolence. He realized that nonviolence lay at the heart of Hinduism. With his friend Abdul Gaffer Khan, he learned that nonviolence was central to Islam. His Jewish friends taught him that shalom/nonviolence was key to Judaism. Buddhism, he saw, places nonviolence in the air we breathe. And he began reading the Sermon on the Mount every day and found there what he considered the best blueprint of nonviolence ever written.

We all need to rediscover the nonviolence at the heart of every spiritual tradition. That will help us discern the prejudice and false claims we hear these days. It will also help us pursue a new culture of interfaith nonviolence.

But Christians first and foremost need to rediscover their nonviolence. We have not just ignored the nonviolence of Jesus; we have outright rejected it and mocked it. In its place, we have created cults of violence that have nothing to do with the nonviolent Jesus. In the name of the false gods of war, we justify violence, hatred, corporate greed, racism, guns, warfare and environmental destruction.

Each year, Christmas invites Christians to reject violence and war, to break with the betrayal of past Christian history, and to start over again on the journey of nonviolence in the footsteps of the nonviolent Jesus.

Christmas is a celebration of nonviolence, pure and simple. It invites us to repent of violence and choose once again Jesus' way of nonviolence. It summons us to name warfare as obsolete and get on with the work of practicing nonviolence in our personal lives; joining the global grassroots movement of nonviolence for disarmament and justice; and institutionalizing nonviolent conflict resolution.

Christmas calls us to a high ideal: the abolition of war itself, and along with it, the abolition of poverty, corporate greed, racism, executions, empire, fascism, nuclear weapons, and environmental destruction. This goal is achievable, if we want it.

That's the message of Christmas. Peace is ours, if we want it. John Lennon was right. So were Gandhi and Dr. King. We, too, can side with the voices and visionaries of peace and do our part to hasten the abolition of war and injustice and the coming of a new world of nonviolence.

That's a goal, a vision, a way of life worth celebrating.

Rev. John Dear, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is an American Catholic priest nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. He is the author most recently of *Thomas Merton Peacemaker*.

### FOLLOWING YOUR DREAMS EXPLORED AT LIFETREE CAFE



A determination to pursue dreams even in the midst of difficult circumstances will be discussed at Lifetree Café on Thursday, January 7 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

The program, titled "Follow Your Dreams: Even When You Think You Can't," features a filmed interview with Mandy Harvey, a jazz vocalist whose sudden hearing loss nearly derailed her dream of becoming a professional singer.

During the interview, Harvey explains how losing her hearing caused a downward spiral that almost kept her from pursuing any interest in music altogether.

"I started not being able to understand my teachers talking anymore, so I started moving closer and closer to the front of the room,"

she says. "It didn't help. I got hearing aids, but they stopped being useful probably after a month. I figured that I would never do music again."

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is located in The Bachwell Center for Music and Dance at 116 N. Washington Street, Van Wert, Ohio. Please enter through the handicap accessible entrance on Court Street. Parking is available in the Courthouse lots.

*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 UM Church at 419-238-0631 or firstchurch@wcoil.com.*

Topic for January 14 is "Tough on Crime." Too tough? Not tough enough?

(Continued from Page 1)

vest back into their business. The significant reduction in small business taxes, as well as the personal income tax, will have a positive economic impact on our community.

The Ohio House also passed HB 80, legislation I introduced that will expand and support the agritourism industry that is rapidly growing in Ohio. Agritourism includes events and activities held on farmland such as produce stands, fruit picking, cultural tours, seasonal festivals and farming demonstrations, which provides farmers with additional revenue streams. House Bill 80 aims to eliminate the regulatory and liability burdens for farmers so they are able to more effectively provide agritourism opportunities on their farm. I was happy to see HB 80 pass the Ohio House unanimously because this important legislation will have a tremendous positive impact on our farming community.

In addition to the beneficial legislation that has been passed, I am also proud to have recently been appointed to the Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network Steering Committee. The goal of this committee is to ensure the implementation, operation and maintenance of the emergency services network so that it can support Next Generation 9-1-1 in Ohio. As a former local government official, I am very aware of the crucial need for modern and effective emergency service in our community and am looking forward to accomplishing this goal through the work of this committee.

Although it has been a busy year, I have thoroughly enjoyed being able to represent the 82nd Ohio House District. This is a truly rewarding job that allows me to make a difference in the lives of Ohio families. As 2015 comes to a close, I want to wish you and your loved ones a very merry Christmas and happy New Year!



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Changeless Christ in a  
Changing World.*

**Rev. Derek Evans M.Div., S.T.M.**  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Study  
10:15 a.m. Worship Service



## Fellowship Church

(Meeting at Riverside Family Center;  
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Editor's Note: We here at the West Bend News print all "Letters to the Editor" because we believe that everyone has a Constitutional right to freedom of the press. In saying that, we do not necessarily agree with the content that is printed. We are just the messengers. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article. To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 1000 words, 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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LET US BUILD BRIDGES

By: Majd Isreb, M.D.

At times of increased tension, both ISIL and racists in the west are taking a similar path to polarize the public. I'd propose an alternative approach to avoid a bleak future with limited civil liberties.

Coming back from a medical mission that treated the unfortunate Syrian refugees in Jordan, I could imagine the customs and border protection officer denying my entrance to the country of my citizenship because I am a Muslim. "I am sorry, doctor, but the rules have changed since your departure," he would say. Sitting in that cold waiting room waiting for an airline to take me somewhere in the world, my past 18 years would flash in front of my eyes. This is a situation that I hope would never transpire.

Both ISIL in the Middle East and the racists in the West have the same agenda: polarizing the populace into an "us against them" mentality. With every televised horrific ISIL act and the ensuing bombings, more civilians in the Middle East are turning to ISIL for safe haven. On the other side, with every racist action in the west, more Muslim youth feel alienated and regress into an extreme religious propaganda available all over the Internet and thus more join an extremist organization. This closes the loop on a vicious cycle. Unfortunately, the media is falling into this trap like many of us. They are overplaying and overanalyzing every action and contributing to the division.

Sitting in that cold room, I could remember abandoning the medical specialty that I loved the most because it was popular among American graduates and choosing a less popular specialty. I could

resent Christianity. The heart of the matter, nevertheless, is that we are all falling into a ploy leading us to believe in a clash of civilizations or religions.

In 2011, a group of Syrians started a nonviolent uprising against the injustice and lack of political liberty imposed upon them by the Assad regime. They were met with brutal force. Unfortunately, some started carrying weapons to defend themselves. Many neighboring countries, with blessing from major world powers, added fuel to the fire by allowing foreign fighters to enter Syria. ISIL was, therefore, formed. The latter, however, does not represent Islam nor the Syrians. Its extreme ideology has been supplemented by spectacular, horrific and televised acts of terror. Since then, the whole world determined that it is the enemy and countless countries commissioned airstrikes in Syria with no regards to civilian lives.

Meanwhile in the West, there is a rise of fascism with racist slurs and religious bigotry. It is built on a rhetoric that ignites fear and rage in a population that is not familiar with foreign events, and leads to alienation and cornering of minorities. Hate crimes are on the rise and Muslim minorities are finding themselves in a defensive position. Two of them with sick brains in San Bernardino adopted an extremist reaction. By doing that, they validated the racist rhetoric and assessment and, thus, increased its popularity.

Both ISIL in the Middle East and the racists in the West have the same agenda: polarizing the populace into an "us against them" mentality. With every televised horrific ISIL act and the ensuing bombings, more civilians in the Middle East are turning to ISIL for safe haven. On the other side, with every racist action in the west, more Muslim youth feel alienated and regress into an extreme religious propaganda available all over the Internet and thus more join an extremist organization. This closes the loop on a vicious cycle. Unfortunately, the media is falling into this trap like many of us. They are overplaying and overanalyzing every action and contributing to the division.

Sitting in that cold room, I could remember abandoning the medical specialty that I loved the most because it was popular among American graduates and choosing a less popular specialty. I could

recollect practicing in an undeserved area with a salary below the reasonable wages for my specialty for several years. I could remember the countless number of US patients that I treated from the heart without ever asking them about their religion or nationality. I would wish that people stood together across all religions and races and stopped this slippery slope. I would hope that instead of bombing Syria, we shut down ISIL's social media and bank accounts, arrest their oil exports to Europe and halt the flow of weapons to Syria. I would desire that we called out racists when we saw them, that we wrote to the media when they produced biased reports, that we networked with each other and rallied to tell the country and the world that that was not the trajectory we wanted for humankind. I would wish that we built bridges, not destroyed them.

Majd Isreb, M.D., Vancouver, Washington, is an immigrant from Syria and a nephrologist.

REVIEW: TA-NEHISI COATES'S 'BETWEEN THE WORLD AND ME'

By: Winslow Myers

Toni Morrison calls this book required reading, and it is. Even if it first germinated before the many police murders of unarmed African American boys and men over the last year, it could not have entered the cultural scene at a more fateful moment.

The book takes the form of a letter from Coates to his son, overflowing with mingled anger, despair, and love, about the experience of growing up in a country where our foundational heritage is the ongoing freedom of whites to kill blacks with impunity. This injury is complemented by the insult of hundreds of years of rank economic injustices extending back to the origins of our "exceptional" political experiment, conceived, with due respect for their good intentions, by slaveholding white men.

To define whiteness, Coates uses the provocative phrase "people who believe they are white," by which I take him to mean that there is a negative part of some of us that needs to feel superior to, and therefore also fearful of, some "lower" order. No peak without a valley. The pain caused by this illusory mis-identity is unfathomable.

After the latest mass shooting in San Bernardino, the African-American president of the United States spoke from the Oval Office trying to calm the fears of citizens anxious about the random terror of ISIS. He appealed to our best tendencies: "We were founded upon a belief in human dignity that no matter who you are or where you come from or what you look like or what religion you practice, you are equal in the eyes of God and equal in the eyes of the law." While acknowledging the reality of terrorism, he cautioned against separating Muslims and non-Muslims into a stereotypical "us and them." Because "us and them" sadly forms a big chunk of our only partly acknowledged heritage, Obama was immediately attacked by presidential candidates of the opposing party with the fear-mongering version of our national

identity. The violence of ongoing exceptionalism, built upon so much insufficiently processed history, continues to assume grotesque forms. Sadly, the Senate cannot even pass a bill forbidding people on terrorist watch lists from buying weapons because the National Rifle Association has such a powerful lobby. What are the roots, if not raw fear of the "other," of this white obsession with the Second Amendment?

At my Ivy League college 50 years ago, the hundred or so young white men with whom I shared meals were served by a group of young black men in white coats. Did we speak a friendly word to them? Did we see them as people with the same potentialities as ourselves? We did not.

Now I have become part of a family where I have four mixed-race adoptive grandchildren. My love for them is just as fierce and fearful as Ta-Nehisi Coates's for his son. Suddenly it is of more than the academic interest that the oldest of my four is approaching the adolescent moment when he will start to look dangerous to the police.

The knotted heritage of our nation cannot be loosed by the descendants of slaves who endured it and endure it still. Instead, the knot must be newly owned by those who have too long disowned it; can we who think we are white emerge from the dreamy pretension of our effortlessly assumed privilege? Can we admit that our perverted form of exceptionalism has cut a swath of destruction not only through our national history but also through such diverse haunts of otherness as Vietnam and Iraq?

Those who think they are white came to wherever they are now by free migration not by slave ships, out of the common pool of all humans from the savannas of Africa. In that shared origin story may reside some hope of post-racial—or post-religious for that matter—interrelationship among equals. Meanwhile, we have Coates's authentic cry of the heart from which to learn and grow.

Winslow Myers, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is the author of "Living Beyond War: A Citizen's Guide." He also serves on the Advisory Board of the War Preventive Initiative.

**BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT**  
Peyton Shafer and Austin Bowers got a wonderful, early Christmas present on December 21, 2015, when they welcomed their little baby boy, Lincoln James Bowers into the world. Lincoln arrived at 8:57 a.m. weighing 8.55 lbs and was 19 1/4 inches long.  
Grandparents are: Shannon & John Mason, Bryan, OH; William & Samantha Shafer, Brownsburg, IN; and Traci & Dan Bowers, Ant-

werp, OH.  
Great - Grandparents are: Lou Ann & Max Begley, Defiance, OH; Ken & Judy Bowers, Paulding, OH; Loretta Mussa, Bryan, OH; Dan Shafer, Rochester, IN; and Karen & Raymond Turner, Rochester, IN.  
Great-great-grandparents are: Norman Begley, Wooten, KY; Faye Begley, Wooten, KY; Jane Ankney, Antwerp, OH; Floy Ruth, Cecil, OH; and Frieda Bok, Paulding, OH.

The West Bend News  
READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

**Antwerp:** Country Time Market, Antwerp Branch Library, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, River Street Market, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Papa Oley's, Home-town 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, H20, 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 Gener-

al, Dairy Queen, Holly Wood and Vine, Paulding County Senior Center, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Country Inn Living Center, Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding Co. Bookmobile, Susie's Bakery, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. OSU Extension Office

**Payne:** Lichty's Barber Shop, Payne Super Valu, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Maramart, Payne Branch Library, Puckerbrush Pizza

**Scott:** Scott Variety Store

**Sherwood:** Sherwood Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank,

**Van Wert:** Pak-A-Sak, Short Stop, Family Video, Orchard Tree, BalyEat's, Lee's Ace Hardware, Main Street Market, Walmart

INDIANA LOCATIONS

**Fort Wayne:** Walmart (Maysville Rd.)

**Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales

**Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Harlan Cafe, iAB Bank

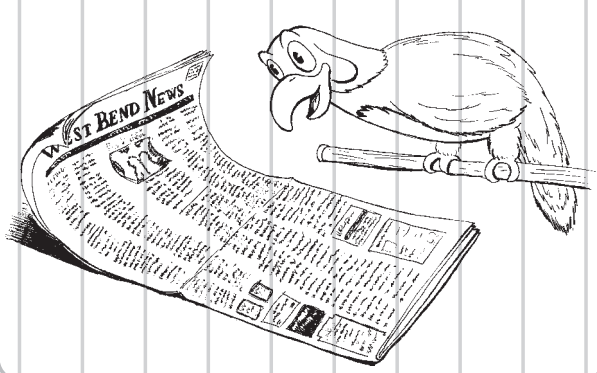
**Hoagland:** Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub

**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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**Off the wall**  
Escalators don't break down... they just turn into stairs.

**THE LOBO TANK BUSTERS**

**By: Stan Jordan**

This morning we left on dawn patrol and headed east into Germany. We didn't see any railroad traffic so we just flew on over to the Mainz area where the big bombers hit the underground area yesterday.

Well, those bomber must have done some good, because the area was crawling with big equipment like cranes, drag lines, bulldozers and caterpillars.

We made a tight circle and came back over the area and I put one of my rockets into a big crane and pieces flew all over. By then I was past the place and turned around and came back.

I saw a big piece of earth moving equipment and hit it with another rocket and I was past the place again. We made another circle over the area but there wasn't many targets left to shoot at.

There were big craters all over where the big bombers did their job. We made another big circle and used up our other rockets.

We made a wise decision and went up to about 6000 feet and headed back to our airbase. I guess the Germans had enough time to scramble and come after us because I could see six ME109's coming toward us.

I took on the one on the far right side and the fight was on. I took a couple quick snap shots with my 50's and he threw a few at me.

I made a grab rule and went upstairs and he must have lost sight of me 'cause I straightened out and came right on his tail and poured around after round into his. He side slipped a little, like I figured he would, and he flew right into my line of traces. His plane flew off to the right and was falling to earth. I followed him all the way down and watched him crash.

By now I had time to look around, but I didn't see anything. No German planes or any of ours either.

I called on the radio and said I was going over to the course to take me back to our air base. After a little bit each one answered and said they were alright and would head back toward home. We all got back to east of Anthony and landed one at a time.

After supper we discussed the actions and I guess we had two kills and two probables. The other German planes just left the area. After all, we had a good day.

See Ya!

I intend to live forever... or die trying.

We never knew he was a drunk... until he showed up to work sober.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

A blind man walks into a bar... and a table, and a chair.

At what age is it appropriate to tell my dog that he's adopted?

Want to hear a pizza joke... nah, it's too cheesy. What about a construction joke? Oh, never mind, I'm still working on that one. Did you hear the one about the rope? Skip it. Have you heard the one about the guy in the wheelchair? Never mind, it's too lame.

I used to be in a band, we were called 'lost dog'. you probably saw our posters.

I childproofed the house... they still get in!

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

If I've told you once, I've told you a million times, don't exaggerate!

How did the blonde die while drinking milk? The cow sat down.

"Good News"  
The patient says to the doctor, "Doc, I gotta know my test results!"

The Doc replies, "Well, you want the bad news or the good news?"

"Good news, Doc. Gimme the good news!"

"Well," says the Doc, "I hear cremations are on sale this week."

"Greeting Card"

For the occasion of her new shop grand opening, a salon owner ordered a beautiful, expensive floral arrangement.

When it arrived, she was miffed that the large announcement card read, "May You Rest In Peace."

She called the flower shop and complained to the owner, who moaned, "Uh, oh. Now

there's a fancy bouquet at the funeral home with a big sign that says, "Best of luck in your new location!"

**POLITICS AND POLITICIANS**

**By: Stan Jordan**

Ben Franklin told me one time, "There will always be death and taxes, but politics and politicians are about as everlasting."

Ben was in the printing business, where he met a lot of guys running for office.

Most major politicians are not very truthful but they didn't start out that way. They make promises of what they will do for you, if you elect him into office, knowing pretty well that he can't keep his word, but that doesn't seem to matter.

As soon as he is in office, he starts politicking for the next elections, the promises he made has long been forgotten.

One politician made his speech and said, "I will hire your kids when I get to Washington." One old timer standing there said, "Will you hire my son?" "Yes sir, I will. What can your son do?" "Nothing", was the answer. The politician replied, "Fine, I won't have to break him in."

I understand in Canada they are only allowed six weeks for campaigning for office. That is a first class rule, we need that rule in the United States.

Oh what a break for the American public that would be, but the television stations would go broke.

When you are a politician running for office, your opponent will plow up your back ground. If you have any skeletons in your closet, they will find them and publish them.

The so-called debate among the candidates is a pharse, a rumble, a rhubarb, a quarrel, a distraction, a joke, hysteria, outlandish, mindless, a side show, meaningless, absurd, charade, a travesty. It has become a one man show, and he wants the television people to pay him because people tune in to watch him make a fool of himself. He talks the whole 60 minutes, while the others wait for their turn

If a sleazy politician gets elected, nearly half the people still hate him. He goes to Washington and immediately forgets all of his promises to his own area, but he can't fulfill his promises anyhow unless his party agrees with it.

"There is many a slip between the cup and the lip."

Politicians have broken promises since time immemorial, when Mark Anthony said, "I came to bury Caesar, not to praise him." He stated, "Caesar, thrice on the Rubicon, said he would help them people and he never did."

And God promised the men, that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth. Then He made world round and laughed and laughed and laughed.

See Ya!

**CABIN NUMBER 21 AT VALLEY FORGE**

**By: Stan Jordan**

The winter of 1778 was miserable for both the English and American soldiers.

The war slowed down to about a draw. The English stayed up to the north and the Americans were sent down

**ANTWERP BOY SCOUT TROOP 17**



This picture of the Antwerp Boy Scout Troop 17, taken in 1942, was lent to us by Tony Seslar. If you can help us with the names of the other two boys, please let us know. **First Row: (L to R) Bud Lichty, Tom Schmunk, Rex Jenkins, Narz Samaha, Knight Kuhn, (unknown), Max Woodcox. Second Row: (L to R) Dick McCalla, Jim Vail, (unknown), Carey Miller, Jerry Noll, Ken Zuber, Dick Friend, Max Billman**

to Valley Forge sort of a disbanded army camp on the outskirts of Philadelphia, backed up against a woods full of game and close to a little settlement.

The camp was disbanded a few months ago and was empty now. George Washington had to find winter quarters for his troops. They had no boots or winter clothes and had not been paid for about five months, moral was very low and things couldn't be worse. The boys had been told that the post bakery had to be remodeled and the fires lit and it would be a few day before they were furnished with fresh bread and to fend for themselves.

This is a semi-true story about cabin 21.

Sgt. Baker was a good leader, he had been in the army since it had been formed about ten years ago. He could always see the good side of everything. The cabin was an empty building with no cots or bed clothes. He told the boys, "We are very lucky, this is one of the new buildings. It has a door at each end, a fire place at each end, it has a good roof, good foundation, and we are close to the forrest full of wild game and right on the edge of a settlement. If you want to be in this squad you will have to work and do your share or we are in trouble. The woods is full of wild game and we will have plenty of fresh meat, but not much else until the bakery gets going. There is plenty of good, dry wood to burn and we should be warm in the cabin. I know some of you don't have boots or even warm winter clothes so, we will have to work around that. We will have to do the best we can with what we got. You boys with good clothes, I want you to go down to the settlement and ask for any bed clothes and things we can borrow until spring, when we will be called up again. We will work for anything that they lend us."

That worked out pretty good. We got 3 bear-skinned rugs, quite a few comforters and blankets, some candles, cooking utensils and a lot of sassafras tea roots, quite a bit of salt and 3 deer hide that could be cut and used.

"Now you fellows without good boots, take some deer hide and make a pair of boots with leggings, wrap your feet with that rag carpeting and string that deer skin around

your feet and half way up your legs and tie them with long strips of deer skin, called whang leather, and then you will be able to cut and haul firewood and hunt and bring meat for the table."

We have to cut a lot of wood first.  
See ya!

**WESTERN BUCKEYE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTER GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES 12/16/15**

The Western Buckeye ESC Governing Board held its regular monthly Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 16, 2015 at the Paulding ESC office. Board President Mr. Billy Poe II welcomed Board members and school personnel to the meeting. Treasurer Kim Jones reviewed the current financial reports, investments and the monthly expenditures with the Board.

Superintendent Brian Gerber updated the Board on Legislative Issues, Personnel items, and ESC activities. He informed the Board there seems to be an increase in the number of primary age students who have a need for therapy services. It appears the numbers are exploding in the districts we serve. We conduct Early Intervention Screenings throughout the year and the number of students who require therapy is increasing. It has been a trend the past few years. These students have an increased need for speech therapy, physical therapy, and occupational therapy as early as three years of age. We have a duty to provide those therapies because the goal is prepare these students for Kindergarten curriculum. Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade curriculum has changed considerably. The rigor that we place on these students and teachers has intensified over the past several years. High stakes standardized testing has put an incredible amount of

pressure on these teachers and students. I do not agree with all the testing. Quite frankly, we are over testing our students. I think all the standardized testing is ridiculous. For the record, I am in favor of accountability, but all the standardized testing is too much and it's taking all the instructional creativity out of the teachers' hands. Teachers have a tremendous amount of creativity to offer their students, but they do not have time to teach creativity because they are bogged down in preparing their students for standardized testing. I think this will go full circle at some point. It's impossible to predict how long it will take common sense to kick in. The higher-ups at the state level who have instituted this entire standardized testing process have never spent a day teaching in their life, but somehow they think they are experts when it comes to curriculum. Nonetheless, we will continue to address the needs of our students and serve them to our fullest capacity. Fortunately, for us, we have high quality therapists in our two counties who do a great job and will continue to do a great job in meeting the needs of our students.

**Consent Items - WBESC**

A. Motion to approve budget revision to the FY16 21st Century Grants-due to changes in personnel and program.

B. Motion to approve the resignation of Deanna Wann effective November 30, 2015.

C. Motion to approve renewed membership with OSBA Legal Assistance Fund for 2016 at a cost of \$250.00 and to approve OSBA Annual Membership for 2015 at a cost of \$2528.00

D. Motion to approve Allen County Paraprofessional, Brittaney Cunningham, to temporary reassignment to Classroom Teacher. Rate set as presented.

The December 16, 2015 Board meeting adjourned with no additional Board action. The next regular Governing Board meeting of the Western Buckeye Educational Service Center will be on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 starting at 6:00 p.m. at the Van Wert ESC office.

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# RAIDERS MONOPOLIZE COURT OVER PIRATES



Getting points under the basket it what we saw Wayne Trace senior Justin Speice doing in this game. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Pirates of Continental high school ventured west to compete in the Palace of the Wayne Trace Raiders on Tuesday, December 22nd. The Raiders started the game strong leading in the first quarter 17-10. The Pirates battled back in the 2nd half topping 9 points by the half time buzzer while Wayne Trace only ticked off 8. That was all she wrote for any chance of a Pirate upset though as the Raiders came out of the half time gate adding 18 in the 3rd quarter and an additional 12 by the end of the game. Final score racked up another win for the Raider record: 55-39.

Score by the Quarter:  
Wayne Trace - 17 8 18 12=55  
Continental - 10 9 11 9=39

Scorers of the Game:  
Wayne Trace - Linder 22, Speice 8, Sinn 7, Vest 7, Miller 6, Stabler 5  
Continental - Williams 9, Stauffer 9, Olds 8, Williamson 8, Brecht 3, Krendl 2

Rebounds - Wayne Trace 26, Continental 21  
Turnovers - Wayne Trace 10, Continental 22  
For more pictures, visit westbendnews.net



Junior Ethan Linder stealthily slides through to drop in a layup. More pictures at westbendnews.net

## LIVEWIRES 4-H CLUB NEWS

The Livewires 4-H Club held their first meeting for the 2016 4-H year on November 15 at the Grover Hill VFW. Officers were elected as follows: President-Blake Miller; Vice President-Levi Priest, Secretary-Faith Meraz, Treasurer-Fred Hoagland, Communications-Libby Meraz,

Health/Safety Officer-Anna Meraz, and Recreation-Joy Moran. Officer training for President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer is on November 23 at the Extension Office. Enrollment forms and family guides were passed out. The family fee for the year has been changed to \$10.

The 12th meeting of the Livewires 4-H Club was held on December 6 at the fair-



Brady Stabler adds two points to the Raider score in this jumpshot. More pictures at westbendnews.net

grounds. Enrollment forms were turned in by members who had them ready. The club constitution was reviewed and amended. Members were reminded that enrollment forms are due January 7th for returning members and new members need to be enrolled by February 4, 2016. After the meeting the club decorated the gazebo area at the fairgrounds for the Christmas Light Display that took place on December 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, and 20. The next meeting will be at the Grover Hill VFW on January 10, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

## WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES 12/17/15

The following members were present: Mr. Pat Baumle, Mrs. Lisa McClure, Mr. Duane Sinn, Mr. Perry Sinn, Mr. Dick Swary

6:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Hearing of the Public for the purpose of gathering public input concerning the 2016-2017 school calendar.

6:15 p.m. Roll call was taken by Treasurer, Lori Davis

Correspondence, Recognition of Guests, Hearing of the Public\*

\*Thirty minutes of public participation will be permitted. Each person addressing the Board will give their name and address. If several people wish to speak, each person will be allotted 3 minutes until the total of 30 minutes is used. During that period no person may speak twice until all who desire to speak have the opportunity to do so.

\*All statements should be directed to the presiding officer; no person may address or question Board members individually.

Guests: Maureen Sorensen, Intervention Specialist-JH/HS; Wendy Baker, Instructor-Grover Hill;

Kathy Sinn, Instructor-Grover Hill

Report of the Treasurer  
There was board discussion on what day to hold the Organizational meeting.

Consent Agenda Items:  
One resolution passed by the Board to approve the following consent agenda items:

Motion by: Mrs. McClure  
Seconded by: Mr. Duane Sinn

A. to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2015 Board meeting;

B. to approve the investment report and payment of bills as presented by the treasurer;

C. to approve the cash reconciliation for November 2015;

D. to approve the Goals for the Assistant Treasurer position;

E. to establish January 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the High School Lecture Room as the date, time, and place of the 2016 Organizational meeting and to appoint Mr. Dick Swary as President Pro-Tem at the January 7, 2016 Organizational Meeting until such time that a president of the Board is elected that evening; once all the officers have been elected and sworn in, the regular meeting will proceed at 6:00 p.m., with the newly elected president presiding. (Note: The organizational meeting must take place within the first 15 days of January.)

\*Before we pass the consent resolution, are there any items you would like to move from the consent agenda to the discussion agenda for further discussion and/or for separate voting purposes?

Roll call vote: Mrs. McClure, Mr. Duane Sinn, Mr. Baumle, Mr. Perry Sinn, and Mr. Swary, aye.

Nay, none.  
Motion passed.

Vantage Report - Mr. Pat Baumle updated the board on Vantage activities.

Report of the Building Principals

Committee Reports - Mr. Perry Sinn updated the board on the Cafeteria and Transportation Department.

Superintendent's Report  
A. Curriculum  
B. Personnel  
C. Buildings and Grounds  
D. Events  
E. Operations  
I. Consent Agenda Items

One resolution passed by the Board to approve the following consent agenda items:

Letter B removed due to the person not accepting employment.

Motion by: Mr. Baumle  
Seconded by: Mrs. McClure

A. to approve the retirement resignation of Roxana Lytle, effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year, and to thank her for sixteen years of service to the Wayne Trace School District;

B. upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and Transportation Director, to offer Mary Glass a one-year limited contract as a bus driver, beginning January 4, 2016, with placement on salary schedule to be determined;

C. upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, JH/HS Principal, and Athletic Director, to offer one-year supplemental contracts for the 2015-2016 school year to the following classified personnel:

Jeff Morman - JV Baseball

D. to commend music teachers Miss Sharon Spinner, Mrs. Ann Wieland, Mr. Kaleb O'Donnell, and Mrs. Joni Wenninger for coordinating and directing outstanding Christmas programs at their respective buildings;

E. to commend Mrs. Karen Wagonrod and the family and consumer science students for coordinating this year's Senior Citizens luncheon. Also, to commend Mrs. Susie Johnson; Mrs. Angie Stokes and the art department; Mrs. Rose Ann Hall and JH/HS cafeteria staff; Miss Sharon Spinner, Mrs. Joni Wenninger, and the music department; and NHS and FFA students for their important roles in making this a nice event;

F. to commend junior high student Gage Tinlin for winning this year's JH spelling bee;

G. to commend junior high student Ryan Wenninger for winning this year's JH geography bee;

H. to commend the newest members of the Wayne Trace National Honor Society and Vantage Career Center National Technical Honor Society. New NHS members include Ethan Dunham, Sarah Dyson, Brooke Lelonek, Joe Schmidt, Korene Shelton, Brady Stabler, and Emil Stoller. Our new NTHS member is Brenna Baker. Thanks also go out to

NHS advisors Mrs. Heather Hatcher and Miss Joni Klopfenstein for coordinating a nice induction ceremony;

I. upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and JH/HS Principal, to formally recognize the JH/HS art club as a school-sponsored event under the volunteer direction of the JH/HS art teacher, Mrs. Angie Stokes.

Roll call vote: Mr. Baumle, Mrs. McClure, Mr. Duane Sinn, Mr. Perry Sinn, and Mr. Swary, aye.

Nay, none.  
Motion passed.

Outside Consent Agenda

Motion by: Mr. Perry Sinn

Seconded by: Mr. Baumle  
A. appoint the Superintendent as the BOE representative on the Wayne Trace

Performing Arts Campaign Committee;

Roll call vote: Mr. Perry Sinn, Mr. Baumle, Mrs. McClure, Mr. Duane Sinn, and Mr. Swary, aye.

Nay, none.  
Motion passed.

Motion by: Mr. Duane Sinn

Seconded by: Mr. Baumle

B. authorize the superintendent to sign and deliver a quit claim deed from Wayne Trace Local Schools to Brian E. Ruble and Debra E. Ruble for the one acre of land outlined in the resolution presented.

Roll call vote: Mr. Duane Sinn, Mr. Baumle, Mrs. McClure, Mr. Perry Sinn, and Mr. Swary, aye.

Nay, none.  
Motion passed.

7:12 p.m. Executive Session

Motion by: Mr. Baumle

Seconded by: Mrs. McClure

"Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1), a motion to adjourn to executive session for the purpose of considering the employment of an employee of the School District."

Roll call vote: Mr. Baumle, Mrs. McClure, Mr. Duane Sinn, Mr. Perry Sinn, and Mr. Swary, aye.

Nay, none.  
Board in executive session.

7:40 p.m. Regular session called back to order.

Adjournment

Motion by: Mr. Baumle

Seconded by: Mrs. McClure

To adjourn the meeting.  
All in favor.

Meeting adjourned.

The next regular meeting will be January 7, 2016 following the Organizational meeting that is set for 6:00 p.m. in the Wayne Trace High School Lecture Room.

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**ANTWERP CRUSHES EDGERTON IN ROUTE 49 TOURNEY**



**Peyton Short blocks the throw, keeping Lady Bulldog Autumn Gruver from passing. More pictures at westbendnews.net**

It was Monday, December 21 when Antwerp took on Edgerton at the Edon Route 49 Girls basketball tournament site. The game proved Antwerp can be ultra-aggressive on defense, not letting the Bulldogs have a chance. From the beginning Antwerp was proving offensive and defensive skills taught by Coaches Scott McMichael and Jon Short. Peyton Short lead scoring in the first half with 10 points, while Rachel Williamson, Kiana Recker and Audrie Longardner all had baskets. The Lady Archers stole the ball numerous times and had a great first half with all the points.

The second half was even better for the Archers than the first. Scoring 14 points in each of the 3rd and 4th periods added another 28 points to the already large lead they gathered prior. Antwerp ended this first game of tournament in victory: 46-26

Score by the Quarter:  
 Antwerp — 8 10 14 14=46  
 Edgerton — 6 3 10 7=26  
 Scorers of the Game:  
 Antwerp — Williamson 13, Short 11, Recker 6, Smith 6, Cline 2, Longardner 2  
 Edgerton — Whitman 11, Schroeder 5, Gruver 3, Roth 2, Landel 2

The Varsity Girls lost in the Championship game of



**Rachel Williamson aggressively holds on to the ball in a struggle against Edgerton in the Route 49 Tourney. More pictures at westbendnews.net**



**Two more points added to the Archers score when Peyton Short scored this layup. More pictures at westbendnews.net**

the 49 tournament Tuesday night, December 22nd to Hicksville: 42-35

Scorers of the Game for Antwerp:  
 Williamson 15, Recker 13, Longardner 3, Smith 2, Short 2

For more pictures, visit westbendnews.net

**MVNU INTRODUCES SUMMER ACADEMIC PROGRAM FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Mount Vernon Nazarene University will launch a summer academic program for high school students in 2016. Dr. Brett Wiley will be leading the two-week course titled, "Star Wars, Silentó, and the Super Bowl: Engaging Popular Culture."

The course is scheduled for July 17-30 and will allow high school students to earn college credit for "Public Speaking (COM1023)" by discussing, writing, and presenting on popular culture.

MVNU's goal for this summer academic program is to show that MVNU is strong academically and offers serious academic options for higher achieving high school students. Few of MVNU's direct competitors offer a similar program.

To apply, high school students must have completed their sophomore year, be 15 years of age or older, and have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. There are 30 spots available.

For more information visit <http://www.mvnu.edu/news/PressReleases/1516/SAP.asp>.

**SECRETARY HUSTED REMINDS OHIOANS THAT EVERY VOTE MATTERS**

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted announced that 23 local races and issues were decided by a single vote or tied during the 2015 General Election on November 3, 2015. A total of 98 Ohio races have tied or been decided by a one-vote margin

since the General Election in 2013.

"This shows, once again, that one person and one vote can make a difference. Saying one vote is important is more than just a catchy saying, it's a reality," said Secretary Husted.

Those races and issues decided by a single vote or tied include 14 local races and 9 local issues. In fact, three Township Trustees from Gallia, Trumbull and Scioto Counties were chosen by the outcome of a coin flip.

Since taking office, Secretary Husted has focused on making it easy to vote and hard to cheat in the State of Ohio by creating an on-line change of address system, maintaining accurate and up-to-date voter rolls, setting uniform, statewide hours for in-person absentee voting to ensure all voters are treated equally and addressing voter fraud and suppression.

To ensure each voter has the opportunity to cast a ballot, Secretary Husted has urged the legislature to pass an address confidentiality bill protecting victims of domestic violence, human trafficking and stalking by removing their personal address from the public voter rolls. He has also advocated for the authorization of an online voter registration system in Ohio which would create significant cost savings for local governments and be more accurate.

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**WINTER IS HERE, GOLDEN BUCKEYES! ARE YOU READY?**



Are you ready for another Ohio winter?

*\*\*The following article originally printed in issue 1 of West Bend News 2015\*\**

After a mild December, January is bringing winter weather to Ohio, with a blast of snow and cold temperatures forecasted for most of the state over the next few days. Because older adults are at increased risk of complications from cold and snow, the Ohio Department of Aging encourages all Golden Buckeyes to have a plan to stay warm and injury-free.

"As we age, our bodies react differently to extreme conditions, in part because we lose body heat more quickly and also because we are more likely to take medications that affect our ability to regulate body temperature," said Bonnie K. Burman, director of the department.

It's not too late to prepare. Create a plan today that will allow you to remain in place for at least three days should you be unable to leave your home due to weather conditions:

- Create an emergency kit that contains a battery operated radio, a flashlight, extra batteries, a loud whistle or bell, food that you can open and prepare easily, water (one gallon per person per day), extra blankets and a first aid kit.

- Keep a backup supply of the medications you take every day. Have an ice chest on hand and keep ice packs in the freezer for medications that need to be kept cool.

- Make sure your medical equipment and assistive devices (such as canes, walkers, wheelchairs, lifts, oxygen tanks, etc.) are easy to locate in an emergency. Have spare batteries or non-powered options for any equipment that will not work if there is no electricity.

- Designate a safe place to go (such as a friend or neighbor's house or shelter) and have a plan for getting there if it becomes unsafe to stay in your home.

- Be prepared to quickly

explain to rescue personnel how to move you or help you move safely and rapidly (e.g., "take my oxygen tank," "get my insulin from the refrigerator").

(Adapted from "Emergency Management Be-Prepared Kit," available at [www.disabilityrightsohio.org](http://www.disabilityrightsohio.org))

The Ohio Department of Aging works with the state's 12 area agencies on aging to make sure that each community has a plan for assisting older adults during weather emergencies. Your area agency can also help you identify resources, such as energy assistance, chore service and minor home repairs that can help you stay warm and safe this winter. Call 1-866-243-5678 to be connected to the agency serving your community, or visit [www.aging.ohio.gov](http://www.aging.ohio.gov) for local contacts.

"Snow, ice and inactivity can also increase the risk of falling for older adults during winter," Burman added. "Falls are the leading cause of injury-related hospitalizations and deaths in older Ohioans and the risk goes up with ice and snow."

To prevent falls, the STEADY U Ohio initiative encourages you to "Win Winter!"

- Dress warmly, but be sure you can still see in all directions and move easily and freely.

- Wear sturdy shoes or boots with good treads.

- Allow extra time to get to where you're going.

- Keep sidewalks and stairs outside your home clean of ice and snow.

- Carry a cell phone and designate someone to call for help if you need it.

For more winter falls prevention tips, visit [www.steady.ohio.gov](http://www.steady.ohio.gov).

The department encourages all Ohioans to check on their older loved ones and neighbors during extreme weather conditions. Call or visit to ensure they have what they need to stay warm and healthy. Things to check in-

clude:

- Are they staying warm? Is their heating system working properly and set at reasonable temperature? Are they using portable heaters safely? Do they have an adequate supply of fuel, if appropriate?

- Do they need medical attention? Do they have symptoms of cold-related illness (e.g., shivering, exhaustion, confusion, memory loss, slurred speech or white/grayish skin color)? Do they depend on oxygen? Are they out of or running low on any medications or medical supplies? Have they fallen?

- Do they have an adequate food supply and a safe way to prepare meals? Do they have non-perishable food that can be prepared without electricity? Do they have plenty of clean drinking water?

- Can they get help if they need it? Do they have access to a phone that works, even if the power goes out? Do they know who they will contact if they need assistance?

Remember: Confusion and disorientation can be symptoms of hypothermia, dehydration or stress, and may have nothing to do with the person's age. If someone seems ill, call 9-1-1.

Follow the Ohio Department of Aging on Facebook and Twitter for more cold-weather safety information all winter long. The Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness has information and resources about winter weather at [www.weathersafety.ohio.gov](http://www.weathersafety.ohio.gov).

**PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES 11/30/15**

This 30th day of November, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present:

Roy Klopfenstein, Tony Zartman, Mark Holtzberry, and Nola Ginter, Clerk

**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:**  
Warrants documented as 220889 through 220937 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment.

**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING 'THEN AND NOW' PURCHASE ORDERS AND PAYMENTS:**

The Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claim on November 25, 2015, Warrants numbered 220844 through 220862 in the amount of \$29,301.28; and it is certified that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the County Auditor is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance; and pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code §5705.41(D)(1), these purchases must be approved by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. Now, therefore the Paulding County Commissioners approve the Then and Now Purchase Orders as submitted by the Auditor; and it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of County Commissioners, County of Paulding, State of Ohio concerning the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of County Commissioners, and that all deliberations of this Board of County Commissioners and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including Section §121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**Meeting Notes of Appointments:**

- Bill Edwards, Paulding County Health Department - Mr. Edwards met with the Commissioners to discuss budgetary issues. He first thanked the Commissioners for their funding in the past. He then reported the Health Department's employees' insurance premiums increased by 25% for 2016. Mr. Edwards commented

**STRANGE WEATHER CAPS 2015**



It's a little strange this year, the only accumulative snowfall seen in this area was in November for this year. It appears that we may not see anymore until January 1st or even later. One of the mildest winter seasons follows a summer that had very few hot days, which also came after one of wettest springs and early summers in quite a while.

Strange to say the least, even for the old-timers who've known the last 80 or

more years of this area's expectations. Late December has flood warnings on the major rivers going through the northwest Ohio and northeast Indiana while sunny New Mexico just finished with record levels of 2-3 feet of snow and over 300 miles of I-40 closed. It makes you giggle when you see people leave here to go there to get away from the snow!

This is the last issue of the West Bend News for 2015 and the year came in with a bang

but goes out with a whimper. I write this now while hearing a little bit of wintery mix hitting the windows. It will probably get a little slippery, but not too much. Normally by now we have seen several 4-8" snow accumulations with snow plows knocking the mail box down at least once.

What do you think the weather will be like for 2016? Will it continue in the mild fashion or finally turn wintery?

that though the Health Department's responsibilities have greatly increase over the last several years, their operating revenue has not. He noted they have operated on the same millage for years. They have been forced to decrease staff due to rising costs. He has already reduced hours for the remaining staff in an effort to stay within budget. However, with the increase in immunizations and other wellness services, personnel are spread pretty thin. The Commissioners encouraged Mr. Edwards and the Health Department Board to aggressively seek an operating levy. They reminded Mr. Edwards December 16 is the due date to have a levy on the spring ballot.

- Judge Suzanne Rister, Coun-

ty Court - Judge Rister reported the automatic door opener for handicapped accessibility will be installed tomorrow at the County Court annex. She noted a state grant was secured to fund the project. The grant also purchased a plastic card machine, which is used to create wallet-sized cards for probationers to present indicating they have driving privileges or to show they have a civil protection order. Typically, licenses are suspended for 90 days to 6 months. Driving privilege cards are renewable every 30 days and are issued contingent upon passing a drug screening. Judge Rister reported civil cases are down from 2014. Criminal cases seem to be leveled. Bankruptcy and traffic cases are

up. Traffic cases totaled 3,618 for 2014. Judge Rister reported there are 3,795 so far in 2015 with the month of December ahead of us. Ms. Rister reported the Probation Department is making great strides in getting back on track.

- Brenda Crawford, Board of Election - Ms. Crawford reported the ramp at the OSU Extension building polling site will need to be re-worked. The slope of the ramp does not meet requirements. A couple of the signage posts will need to be re-positioned as well. The contractor will call OUPS to make sure no lines are underground and leading into the building at the site.

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*\*\*SMOOTH PAN FOR PANCAKES, ETC\*\**  
*\*\*\*ITEM IN PAN THE SIZE OF A HAMBURGER\*\*\**



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**BIPARTISAN GROUP OF FORMER AGRICULTURE SECRETARIES URGES CONGRESS TO PASS TRADE PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP**

A bipartisan group of former U.S. Agriculture Secretaries, issued an open letter urging Congress to pass the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP). The former secretaries note that opening new markets for exports is critical for farmers and rural communities. Agricultural exports provide 20 percent of farm income and support more than 1 million jobs, many of them in rural communities. TPP is a new trade deal that will create new opportunities for American-grown and American-made products in the dynamic Asia-Pacific region. By opening new markets in Japan, Vietnam, and other countries, we are giving our producers access to new customers and expanding their sales. These sales will generate more farm production, and related activities, that will grow the U.S. economy.

**The letter from the former secretaries follows:**

As former Secretaries of Agriculture, we have been personally invested in the negotiation of every major U.S. trade agreement of the past 40 years. We know from experience how important such agreements are to the economic well-being of our farmers and ranchers. In every negotiation where agriculture has been on the agenda these negotiations have expanded our markets, boosted farm incomes, and in the process created new jobs, both on-farm and off-farm, in rural America. The recently concluded Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations are in that same mold. TPP, a high-standard, 12-country agreement, represents this nation's "rebalance toward Asia," which fits American agriculture perfectly. That's where populations are increasing, as is purchasing power, and that's what dramatically enhances the demand for our food. We will in the future benefit significantly from increased access to those markets.

We have long had aspirations to sell more of our products to Japan, and we'll now have that enhanced opportunity. But TPP also opens up new markets in the growing economies of Vietnam and Malaysia. And

it even provides additional access to Canada's poultry, egg and dairy markets.

TPP is a 21st-century agreement that sets enforceable "rules of the road" for trade throughout the region, and with countries currently representing over 40 percent of the global economy. But it is also meant to be an open platform for other countries to potentially join, over time, if they are willing to meet the high standards set forth in the agreement, and if we and the other TPP members—and our own Congress—confirm they can meet that bar. That means potential future agricultural export opportunities could open up within the region.

In addition, we should recognize that it is far better to be "on the inside" of agreements like TPP, than "on the outside" looking in. Being an insider gives all TPP participants an inherent competitive advantage over those countries which were not involved.

TPP obviously has non-economic benefits too. It will solidify our working relationship with the participating Asian (and South American) countries, and that has both foreign policy and national security implications. And "beyond the border" provisions such as enforceable labor and environmental provisions in developing countries—beyond mere tariff reductions—also help level the playing field for U.S. businesses and American exports, including agricultural products.

No trade agreement ever negotiated—TPP included—is perfect. But we should never let perfection be the enemy of the good, and this is a very good trade agreement. In addition to its market access benefits, it will establish the rules of the game for international trade – and help drive up standards for the entire world – for years to come. That is especially invaluable to a country like the United States, which tries to follow the rules of the global marketplace, whereas others often do not. TPP represents solid, committed leadership by the U.S. in international trade, and in one of the most dynamic, fastest-growing regions of the world.

For American agriculture there is no downside to TPP, and there is substantial upside. Hence, we strongly support a vote of approval by the U.S. Congress.

**WREN FIRE DEPARTMENT GETS NEW FREIGHTLINER TANKER/PUMP**



Wren Fire Department took ownership of a 2016 Freightliner Tanker/Pumper which was manufactured by Midwest Fire in Luverne, Minnesota. The vehicle was made possible by a FEMA grant. The vehicle was driven by Tom Acheson and Mike Marchek from the factory and it arrived in Wren Saturday night. The vehicle can transport and dump up to 3,000 gallons of water, using either a chute in the center rear of the tank or two 36

inch telescoping chutes located on the street side and curb side of the truck. The truck can be used as a pumper in extreme situations where extra fire suppression is needed. The Wren Fire Department and truck design committee comprised of Mike Marchek, Rick High, Tom Acheson, Andy O'Hagan, Chris High, and Craig "Gep" Meyer, will begin training on this tanker so it can be placed in service as soon as possible.

**WOODLAN FFA MEMBER PARTICIPATES IN STATE FFA CHOIR**



Allison Knepp, FFA State Choir Secretary, and Woodlan FFA member assembled with other State FFA Chorus members and the Indiana FFA State Officers from across the state of Indiana to perform at the Indianapolis Zoo. The FFA State Chorus was invited to the Indianapolis Zoo to sing Christmas Carols to

visitors attending the zoo activities as part of the "Christmas at the Indianapolis Zoo" program. The performance took place at Dean's Area located inside the zoo near Santa's Sweet Shop. The Carmel High School Chorus followed the State FFA Chorus performance.

**PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES 12/9/15**

This 9th day of December, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present:

Roy Klopfenstein, Tony Zartman, Mark Holtsberry, and Nola Ginter, Clerk

**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:** Warrants documented as 2209738 through 221105 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

A motion was made by Mr. Mark Holtsberry to go into executive session at 8:06 a.m. with the Paulding County Prosecuting Attorney to discuss legal matters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tony Zartman. All members voting yea.

At 8:43 a.m. all members present agreed to adjourn the executive session and go into regular session.

**IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 021):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby direct the County Auditor to amend the 2015 Annual Appropriation by appropriating the following in the Unclaimed Monies Fund (Fund 021): 021-001-00001/Unclaimed Monies/Unclaimed Monies AMOUNT: \$715.36

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 015):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer

funds in the Auditor-Estate Tax Fund (Fund 015):

FROM: 015-001-00001/Auditor-Estate Tax/Salaries-Official TO: 015-001-00003/Auditor-Estate Tax/PERS

AMOUNT: \$ 5.44 015-001-00006/Auditor-Estate Tax/Medicare AMOUNT: \$22.00

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-011):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:

FROM: 001-011-00004/General Fund/Probate Court/Equipment

TO: 001-011-00010/General Fund/Probate Court/PERS

AMOUNT: \$474.13 001-011-00013/General Fund/Probate/Medicare

AMOUNT: \$55.00

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-013):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:

FROM: 001-013-00008/General Fund/Coroner/Workers' Comp

TO: 001-013-00007/General Fund/Coroner/PERS

AMOUNT: \$0.04

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 046):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer

funds in the Felony Del Care & Custody Fund (Fund 046):

FROM: 046-001-00005/Felony Del Care/Insurance

TO: 046-001-00003/Felony Del Care/PERS

AMOUNT: \$425.60

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 081):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the WMEA Fund (Fund 081):

FROM: 081-001-00008/WMEA/Workers' Comp

TO: 081-001-00007/WMEA/PERS

AMOUNT: \$125.88

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 164):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the DRETAC/Prosecutor Fund (Fund 164):

FROM: 164-001-00003/DRETAC/Prosecutor/Workers' Comp

TO: 164-001-00002/DRETAC/Prosecutor/PERS

AMOUNT: \$0.06

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 052-002):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the Senior Center Fund (Fund 052):

FROM: 052-002-00003/Senior Center/Workers' Comp

TO: 052-002-00004/Senior Center/PERS

AMOUNT: \$427.51

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 255):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the IDEP Grant Fund (Fund 255):

FROM: 255-001-00005/IDEP Grant/Education

TO: 255-001-00002/IDEP Grant/PERS

AMOUNT: \$521.61

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 256):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the STEP Grant Fund (Fund 256):

FROM: 256-001-00004/STEP Grant/Workers' Comp

TO: 256-001-00002/STEP Grant/PERS

AMOUNT: \$24.31

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-010):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:

FROM: 001-010-00006/General Fund/Juvenile Court/Child Support

TO: 001-010-00010/General Fund/Juvenile Court/PERS

AMOUNT: \$3,077.60

**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 068):**

The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the Sheriff's Reserve Fund (Fund 068):

FROM: 068-001-00006/Sheriff's Reserve/Equipment

TO: 068-001-00002/Sheriff's Reserve/PERS

AMOUNT: \$390.33

**MEETING NOTES OF APPOINTMENTS:**

• Jason Landers, Paulding County Sheriff – Sheriff Landers met with the Commissioners for his regularly scheduled monthly update. The topic of discussion was the consideration of making strides to re-open the jail. Sheriff Landers explained the facility currently houses adult probation offices, DARE and K-9 offices, carry conceal and sex offender-registrar offices. The Sheriff noted the conceal/carry training participants has grown to over 800 permits having been issued. The permits are good for a 5-year period and classes are \$70.00, with \$50.00 renewal fee every five years. Although Sheriff Landers would love to see the jail open again for inmate housing purposes, he realizes space would be an issue. Additional office space would be needed for the various offices and for storage of records. With that in mind, it is still more cost effective to house our inmates in a facility out of county. In lieu of recent events, the Commissioners suggested another ALICE training for the Courthouse employees. Sheriff Landers stated his staff will be conducting an ALICE training for Cooper's in Van Wert and for the Paulding County Hospital in the near future.

• Claudia Fickel, County Auditor – Ms. Fickel reported all the General Fund and Special Fund budgets have been completed and returned to her office. The Commissioners will review them and approve them next week.

• Marsha Yeutter, Senior Center – Ms. Yeutter reported the Senior Center prepared and delivers 150 meals per day. She also noted they average 27 congregant meals are served daily. She anticipates receiving the NGA (Notification of Grant Approval) soon and asked that we inform her if this office receives the forms. Ms. Yeutter would like to reimburse her volunteer drivers if they exceed the number of miles paid by RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program). The RSVP pays 14 cents per mile to anyone 67 years or older who volunteer to deliver meals to seniors. Many of her drivers exceed the allowable miles.

• Lou Ann Wannemacher, County Treasurer – Ms. Wannemacher presented a depository agreement with Fifth/Third Bank. She will be utilizing Fifth/Third for brokerage CDs on the County's behalf. The Commissioners and Ms. Wannemacher then discussed employee pay increases and the 2016 budgets.

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# ANTWERP STUDENT COUNCIL DONATES TO LOCAL CHARITIES



The Antwerp middle and high school student council just concluded the Flamingo Flocking fundraiser and the Straight Outta Antwerp tee shirt fundraiser. They put all of the money to good use. Along with the Antwerp NHS/NJHS, they were able to adopt six local families to

help at Christmastime. They purchased clothes, shoes, toys and more for these six families. Additional money was used to contribute to the Christmas For Kids drive and to provide Antwerp staff members with a small thank you gift for the holiday season.



## THE DANES SAVE MORE THAN 7,000 JEWS... WOULD WE?

By: Rivera Sun

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it," said philosopher George Santayana, and in a time when presidential candidates are repeating the behaviors of Hitler and Nazi Germany, we would be wise to study the profound examples of resistance to intolerance and extremism. There are many notable examples, and among them, Danish resistance shines.

The Danish resistance to Nazi occupation contains many chapters, each with

dazzling tactics and creative solutions. There is none more jaw-dropping, however, than the Danish people's rescue of 7,220 of their 7,800 Jews. On September 28th, 1943, Nazi occupation forces intended to arrest the entire Jewish population of Denmark and transport them to concentration camps. Word of the plan leaked, however, and thousands of Danes hid the Jews in their homes. Fishermen ferried the Jews across the ocean to nearby Sweden, saving all but a few hundred people.

The rescue was facilitated by a few factors: a German diplomat, Georg Ferdinand Duckwitz, not only leaked the warning of the round-up, he had also attempted

earlier to secure asylum for the Danish Jews in Sweden. Also, the Jewish population of Denmark was held in high regard, and fully integrated into society. The Nazis' earlier attempts to discriminate against the Jews had been roundly rebuffed by the Danes. When the orders of the round-up occurred, Danish citizens saw it as an affront to all Danes, and mobilized to protect their fellow countrymen and women.

The question this raises for us, as American citizens, is would we do the same? During World War II, we allowed our fellow citizens of Japanese descent to be interred in camps. We allow our political figures to spout anti-Muslim rhetoric and threaten to put all Muslims and refugees in camps. When our turn comes, will we stand up with organized nonviolent action and protect our fellow human beings? Do we have in our hearts, the greatness of spirit demonstrated by the Danes?

And if not, let us begin the work of changing our culture. Let us assert the values of human dignity, our shared humanity, human rights and civil rights. In conversation, writing, on the radio, and in our actions, we must put forth the values for which we stand. Only then, when the moment of crisis comes, can we be assured that our populace will respond in a way that will withstand the critique of history.

Learn more about Danish Resistance to Nazi occupation: <http://nvdatabase.swarthmore.edu/content/danish-citizens-resist-nazis-1940-1945>

Author/Activist Rivera Sun, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is the author of *The Dandelion Insurrection*, and other books. She is a trainer and social media coordinator for Campaign Nonviolence. (This essay was originally part of a longer essay addressing five stories of nonviolent resistance to the Nazis and the parallels that can be applied to current events in the United States.)

# ASK ME Miss C!

It's Time for Another Edition of Unsolicited Advice from Miss C!

Have you ever noticed that when a year comes to an end, we tend to get a little introspective? Sometimes this is a good thing because it gives us a chance to reflect on the many and often forgotten blessings from the year. Other times, eh... not so much. Sadly, I think that too often, the end of the year brings melancholy while we are reminded of goals not reached, losses, or disappointments. Both, however, inspire what we call "New Year's Resolutions!" Some of the most popular resolutions are weight loss, healthy lifestyle, no more procrastinating (oh wait, that would be my list;) Either way, resolutions are created to guide and inspire a new hope and determination for great things in the coming year... well for

about a week anyway. After that week more resolutions are dropped than continued. So, when you sit down to make your resolution list... STOP! Don't do it!! I am serious... don't do it! It sounds like I am telling you not to set goals doesn't it? I am not. Goals are very important, but they are important every day (not just January 1st) and should be tracked and accounted through the whole year. Do you want to know why we fail to keep our resolutions? They are not very specific. Just saying, "I want to be healthy this year" or "I want to lose weight this year," isn't enough. How are you going to do that? What is your plan? Sometimes our resolutions are just unrealistic because they are based solely on our own willpower, not a system and a plan. We set ourselves up for failure, and the more we fail at our resolutions, the more

helplessness we feel. Heck! We even start to distrust ourselves and wonder if there is any point at all!

So, as this year comes to an end, do yourself a favor and throw out the resolutions. Then do yourself an even bigger favor and visualize where you want to be one year from today. Now, think backwards... what small steps are needed to make that vision happen? And finally, map out those small steps as a path to your vision goal. Hold yourself accountable; or find a buddy to help each other be accountable. Hmm, that reminds me of one of my favorite Confucian quotes: A journey of thousands miles begins with a single step. Or from Proverbs... even the longest and most difficult ventures have a starting point.

Blessings,

—Miss C

## OBAMA ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES COMPETITION FINAL ROUND OF PROMISE ZONES

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that communities may now apply to be designated a Promise Zone under the third and final round competition. Read the new notice seeking Promise Zone applications.

Promise Zones are high-poverty communities where the federal government partners with local leaders to increase economic activity, improve educational opportunities, leverage private investment, reduce violent crime, enhance public health and address other priorities identified by the community. Through the Promise Zone designation, communities will work directly with federal, state and local agencies to give local leaders proven tools to improve the quality of life in some of the country's most vulnerable areas. Read more about the Promise Zones Initiative.

"Promise Zones are transforming communities through targeted investments and the breaking down of government siloes to make a real difference in people's lives," said HUD Secretary Julián Castro. "We believe where you live shouldn't determine what you can achieve. This initiative will be part of the lasting legacy from the Obama Administration and we look forward to witnessing these neighborhoods of opportunity grow in the years and decades ahead."

"This initiative is bringing much-needed, targeted investments and creating ladders of economic opportunity in impoverished rural and tribal areas that have the greatest needs," said USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The success of our work in these Promise Zones is predicated upon public-private partnerships that will lay the groundwork for a more sustainable

future for children and families in rural areas."

Any community meeting the eligibility criteria which includes having a contiguous boundary, a high poverty rate and a population within the area not exceeding 200,000 residents, can apply for a designation. HUD and USDA will designate 7 Promise Zones across urban, rural and tribal communities for the final round. The deadline for submitting Promise Zone applications is Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Announcements will be made in the Spring of 2016.

Each urban, rural, and tribal Promise Zone applicant will be asked to put together a clear description of how the Promise Zone designation would accelerate and strengthen the community's own efforts at comprehensive community revitalization. Once designated, each Promise Zone will be coordinated by a lead community based organization in partnership with the Obama Administration. HUD will be the federal lead for the urban designees, while USDA will serve as the lead federal partner to the tribal and rural Promise Zones.

All Promise Zones will receive priority access to federal investments that further their

strategic plans, federal staff on the ground to help them implement their goals, and five full-time AmeriCorps VISTA members to recruit and manage volunteers and strengthen the capacity of the Promise Zone initiatives.

Communities with an existing Promise Zone designation are: San Antonio, TX, Los Angeles, CA, Philadelphia, PA; Southeastern Kentucky Highlands; The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma; Minneapolis, MN; Sacramento, CA, Indianapolis, IN; Camden, NJ; Hartford, CT; St. Louis, MO; Pine Ridge, SD; and Low Country of South Carolina.

To provide additional details and answer questions from communities interested in applying, HUD and USDA will host three separate webcasts for urban, rural, and tribal communities in January and February. The schedule for the webcasts is as follows:

### Rural Webcast:

January 13, 2016, 1:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

### Tribal Webcast:

January 13, 2016, 3:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

### Urban Webcasts:

January 13, 2016, 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time

February 1, 2016, 2:30 p.m. Eastern Standard Time

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# DOOR PRIZES

Grand Prize = 525 1st (Husq) trimmer

2nd Prize = Battery Trimmer (Core)

3rd Prize = Makita Skill Saw

\*\*\*Enter your name for every \$25.00 spent from now till Sat., Jan. 9th\*\*\*

\*Refreshments will be served on Sat., Jan. 9th\*

\*Husqvarna-Dolmar-Makita  
Subaru-Generac-Briggs&Stratton\*  
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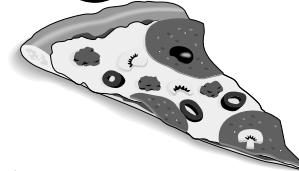
Sat., Jan. 9th (20lb Tanks)



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SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

General Code, Section 11681
Revised Code, Section 2329.26
THE STATE OF OHIO, PAULDING COUNTY: THE STATE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, Plaintiff, vs. JAMES J. WOODRING, ET AL., Defendants, Case No. CI 15 130.

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

General Code, Section 11681
Revised Code, Section 2329.26
THE STATE OF OHIO, PAULDING COUNTY: WRIGHT-PATT CREDIT UNION, INC., Plaintiff, vs. ZACHARY N. LITZENBERG aka ZACHARY NEIL LITZENBERG, ET AL., Defendants, Case No. CI 15 162.

SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

General Code, Section 11681
Revised Code, Section 2329.26
THE STATE OF OHIO, PAULDING COUNTY: CHARLES B. ROSE, EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF THOMAS J. LUDEMANN, DECEASED, Plaintiff, vs. JAMES D. MCNEELY, ET AL., Defendants, Case No. CI 15 023.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

Paulding County Sheriff Jason K. Landers has been authorized by the Paulding County Commissioners to sell Three (3) vehicles acquired by the Sheriff's Office.

THE WEST BEND NEWS Answers on Page 15 Sudoku Puzzle

9x9 Sudoku grid with numbers 1-9 in various positions.

PC COURT REPORTS

Criminal Dispositions
Donald Collins, Grover Hill, OH; Disorderly conduct, Pled not guilty, Found not guilty; Defendant is found not guilty of disorderly conduct, A minor misdemeanor; Costs waived

Sidney A. Huth, Lebanon, OH; Marked lanes, Pled guilty, found guilty; Case waived by defendant
Joshua J. Schmidt, Grover Hill, OH; Fail control, Pled no contest, found guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 2/26/16 or will be sent to collections

Blake A. Myers, Convoy, OH; Off Inv Under; Dismiss; Case dismissed per state; with prejudice; costs waived
Jesus Cruz, Statesville, NC; Following close; Pled guilty, found guilty; Case waived by defendant

ing, OH; Driv under susp; Pled guilty, found guilty; Defendant to provide proof of financial responsibility bu 12/30/15; Has a POC date of 12/16/16; Shall pay \$25.00 per month commencing 9/30/16; Complete 60 hrs of community service
Lucas Allen Hyre, Paulding, OH; O.V.I.; Dismiss; Count A dismissed at states request

Casey Lynn Thomas, Cecil, OH; Stop sch bus; Pled no contest, found guilty; Pay all costs day of court
James E. Groover II, Antwerp, OH; Crim trespass, Pled guilty, found not guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Shall maintain good behavior; Shall have no contact with given address

NOTICE
In pursuance of law (R.C. Section 323.08) I, Lou Ann Wannemacher, Treasurer of Paulding County, Ohio hereby give notice the 2015 Rate of Taxation forms are on file at the Treasurer's Office in the Court House.

The West Bend News is published weekly for residents of northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio. The publication is wholly owned by West Bend Printing & Publishing Inc.

Paulding County 2015 Tax Rate Summary

Table with columns: DIST, TAXING DISTRICT, FULL RATE, TAX CREDIT AGR/RES, TAX CREDIT OTHER. Lists 33 districts and their respective tax rates.

Stanley L. Newsome, Oakwood, OH; Domestic violence, Pled guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Evaluation at Westwood and complete such counseling; 20 hrs community service; Shall complete the Hands Down Program; Granted one time trip to retrieve personal belongings with law; Placed on probation

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Carryall Township Trustees will hold their organizational and appropriations meeting on Monday, December 28, 2015 - 7:00pm at 1445 Road 204, Antwerp, OH 45813

Eric S. Garza, Antwerp, OH; Driv/FRA susp; Pled no contest, found guilty; Fines and costs to be taken from the bond. Warrant and warrant block rescinded
Darrell E. Nichols Jr., Paulding, OH; FRA susp; Pled not contest, found guilty; Proof of insurance not provided, to be provided by the end of business 12/23/15; Pay all fines and costs by 6/24/16 or will be sent to collections.

VILLAGE OF ANTWERP PUBLIC NOTICES

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed ORDINANCE NO. 2015-31 on December 21, 2015, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2 OF ORDINANCE NO. 2007-21 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF ANTWERP TO UTILIZE A CONTRACT FOR UTILITY SERVICES PROVIDED TO PROPERTY OWNERS THAT RENT SAID PROPERTY TO TENANTS IN THE VILLAGE OF ANTWERP, OHIO."

**iAB FINANCIAL BANK PROMOTES JORDAN ARNOLD TO BUSINESS BANKING OFFICER**



iAB Financial Bank is pleased to announce Jordan R. Arnold has been promoted to Business Banking Officer. Arnold graduated Magna Cum Laude and received his Bachelor of Science in Finance from Indiana Wesleyan University. He has been with iAB for over a year and has gained valuable experience working as a credit analyst.

Arnold is actively involved in his community, and has worked with Forgotten Children Worldwide including a mission trip this past summer to visit with orphan ministries in Uganda and Malawi. Additionally, he is also on the leadership team for the college aged ministry with Hope Missionary Church in Bluffton. In any spare time, he enjoys supporting Indiana teams, playing sports and spending time with his family and friends.

iAB Financial Bank, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Independent Alliance Banks, Inc., is one of the largest locally-owned community banks in the area and employs approximately 290 people throughout Allen, Huntington, Marshall and Wells counties.

**PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 12/14/15**

This 14th day of December, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners met in regular session with the following members present: Roy Klopfenstein, Tony Zartman, Mark Holtsberry, and Nola Ginter, Clerk  
**ALLOWANCE OF CLAIMS:**  
Warrants documented as 221138 through 221277 for County Bills were approved and certified to the County Auditor for payment.  
**IN THE MATTER OF APPROVING "THEN AND NOW" PURCHASE ORDERS AND PAYMENTS:**  
The Paulding County Auditor has certified the following "Then and Now" purchase order numbers and payments included in the Allowance of Claim on

December 9, 2015, Warrants numbered 221019 through 221085 in the amount of \$89,700.97; and it is certified that both at the time that the contract or order was made ("then"), and at the time that the County Auditor is completing the certification ("now"), that sufficient funds were available or in the process of collection, to the credit of a proper fund, properly appropriated and free from any previous encumbrance; and pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code §5705.41(D)(1), these purchases must be approved by resolution of the Board of County Commissioners. Now, therefore the Paulding County Commissioners approve the Then and Now Purchase Orders as submitted by the Auditor; and it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Board of County Commissioners, County of Paulding, State of Ohio concerning the adoption of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Board of County Commissioners, and that all deliberations of this Board of County Commissioners and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including Section §121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.  
**IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 021):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby direct the County Auditor to amend the 2015 Annual Appropriation by appropriating the following in the Unclaimed Monies Fund (Fund 021):  
021-001-00001/Unclaimed Monies/Unclaimed Monies  
AMOUNT: \$39,075.91  
**IN THE MATTER OF AMENDING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 177):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby direct the County Auditor to amend the 2015 Annual Appropriation by appropriating the following in the SVAA Fund (Fund 177):  
177-001-20121/SVAA/Salaries  
AMOUNT: \$395.43  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-017):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:  
FROM: 001-017-00002/General Fund/Sheriff/Salaries, Employees-Sheriff  
TO: 001-017-00008/General Fund/Sheriff/Equipment-Sheriff  
AMOUNT: \$9,500.00  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-017):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:  
FROM: 001-017-00011/General Fund/Sheriff-Contracts/Services  
TO: 001-017-00008/General Fund/Sheriff/Equipment-Sheriff  
AMOUNT: \$2,420.00  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-017):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:  
FROM: 001-017-00015/General Fund/Sheriff/PERS  
TO: 001-017-00008/General Fund/Sheriff/Equipment-Sheriff  
AMOUNT: \$19,000.00  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-017):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds:  
FROM: 001-017-00016/General Fund/Sheriff/Workers' Comp  
TO: 001-017-00008/General Fund/Sheriff/Equipment-Sheriff  
AMOUNT: \$7,289.74  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 001-017):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer

fund:  
FROM: 001-017-00018/General Fund/Sheriff/Medicare  
TO: 001-017-00008/General Fund/Sheriff/Equipment/Sheriff  
AMOUNT: \$1,400.00  
**IN THE MATTER OF DESIGNATING THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND ALTERNATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' ASSOCIATION OF OHIO IN 2016:**  
Article IV, Section 6, of the Code of Regulations of the County Commissioners of Ohio requires each member county to, for the purpose of voting at any annual or special meeting of the Association, designate an Official Representative and Alternate; and the designation of the Official Representative and Alternate for a county organized under the statutory form of county government shall be by resolution of the board of county commissioners; and in designating to Official Representative and Alternate only a member of the board of county commissioners is eligible to be designated as the Official Representative and Alternate. Now, therefore Mr. Roy Klopfenstein is designated as the Official Voting Representative of Paulding County; and Mr. Mark Holtsberry is designated as the Alternate Voting Representative of Paulding County.  
**IN THE MATTER OF ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT WITH STATE BANK FOR COUNTY BUSINESS VISA CARDS:**  
The Board of County Commissioners of Paulding, Ohio, does hereby enter into a contract with The State Bank and Trust Company, 220 North Main Street, Paulding OH, for County Visa Business Cards in compliance with the guidelines set forth in ORC § 301.27.  
**IN THE MATTER OF MODIFYING THE 2015 ANNUAL APPROPRIATION (FUND 009):**  
The Board of County Commissioners does hereby modify the 2015 Annual Appropriation and hereby directs the Paulding County Auditor to transfer funds in the Engineer-Gas Tax Fund (Fund 009):  
FROM: 009-001-00006/Engineer-Gas Tax/Laborers  
TO: 009-001-00033/Engineer-Gas Tax/Medicare  
AMOUNT: \$850.00  
**MEETING NOTES OF APPOINTMENTS:**  
• Ed Bohn, EMA - Paulding County EMA Director Ed Bohn met with the Commissioners to update them on the EMA activity. He introduced Ashley Smith, a nursing intern, who is shadowing him to learn about first responder on-site medical services. Mr. Bohn recently attended a state EMPG meeting and noted there were concerns about reimbursement for warrants written to the Commissioners for EMA's portion of the telephone and internet bills. The Commissioners agreed to provide a written explanation in the form of a resolution, explaining the 'blanket' contract they hold for county entities' telephone and internet services. Mr. Bohn said he appreciates the Commissioners' cooperation in providing the resolution, as there is more competition among the states to obtain federal grant dollars for EMA agencies. He noted, there is 'more need to show the need' and that documentation is the key to secure federal grants, dollars. Mr. Bohn also explained that, while rent for an EMA office is an allowable reimbursement, if the office occupies a county-owned facility, the 'going rate' cannot be charged for grant reimbursement. The charge must be based on actual cost to maintain the building. A portion of rent on a third party building is reimbursable through the EMPG grant. Mr. Bohn also noted that clerical assistance, while reimbursable, must be documented/logged by the hour. His position, as director, requires a minimum of 20 hours a week to be eligible for 50% grant reimbursement. Mr. Bohn emphasized accountability is required for grant eligibility. Policies and plans must be in place and must be followed.  
• Brion Hanenkraft, E-911 - Mr. Hanenkraft reported the radio upgrade project is on hold for now. He has notified the school superintendents they will revisit the radio system at a future date. He also discussed the tower located across from the fairground, stating the accessibility to the tower needs to be closer monitored. He strongly suggested changing locks on the fence and designating the Sheriff's Office as the keeper

or for sale, including auctions and swap meets. Throughout the nationwide outbreak, the department worked closely with Ohio's poultry producers and the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to provide training and to closely monitor the health of poultry in the state.  
"Ohio is voting to more than 50 million domestic birds which makes our state particularly vulnerable to an outbreak. Thankfully, the disease never took hold here. I believe this is a justification of the steps taken by our producers and exhibitors to mitigate the risk of an outbreak," said Director Daniels.

The avian flu is an extremely contagious virus that primarily affects domestic poultry and is likely spread by wild, migrating birds. The USDA first confirmed the virus in the U.S. beginning in late 2014. While there were no confirmed cases of the disease in Ohio, throughout the spring and summer of 2015 more than 48 million birds nationally were affected. On November 18, the World Organization for Animal Health (known as the OIE) issued its final report on the deadly avian flu outbreaks which declared that the outbreaks in all affected states are now final, closed, and resolved. This now makes the United States free of avian influenza for the time being.

One of the ways avian influenza spreads is by direct contact with contaminated materials coming from other infected birds. Exhibitions, auctions and swap meets where birds are co-mingling pose a high risk of unintentionally spreading disease. While the intention is to allow bird exhibitions to be held next year, an outbreak in Ohio or nearby states may require the reinstatement or even an extension of the ban.  
"I would like to extend a sincere thank you to OSU Extension and the youth exhibitors for their understanding and to their advisors for turning this unfortunate outbreak into an important educational moment. As I travelled around the state this summer, I was overwhelmed with the maturity and understanding of the disappointed but supportive young people I spoke with who were unable to bring their poultry projects to the fair. It's a real testament to the strength and importance our 4H and FFA programs in Ohio," said Director Daniels.

Ohio is the second largest egg producer in the country and home to 28 million laying chickens, 12 million broilers, 8.5 million pullets and 2 million turkeys. Ohio's egg, chicken and turkey farms create more than 14,600 jobs and contribute \$2.3 billion to the state's economy.

**AGRICULTURE SECRETARY VILSACK APPOINTS NEW NAREEE ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced the appointment of nine individuals to serve on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board.  
The NAREEE Advisory Board advises the Secretary of Agriculture and land-grant

colleges and universities on top national priorities and policies for food and agricultural research, education, extension, and economics. The NAREEE Advisory Board's main objective is to contribute to effective federal agricultural research, education and economics programs through broad stakeholder feedback and sound science in its ongoing role as advisor to the Secretary of Agriculture.

**The following members have been appointed to a 3-year term expiring September 30, 2018:**  
*Category A. National Farm Organization* - Mr. Don Villwock, Farmer, Villwock Farms and President of the Indiana Farm Bureau, Edwardsport, Ind.  
*Category C. Food Animal Commodity Producer* - Ms. Wathina Luthi, Farmer/Rancher of Luthi Farms, Gage, Okla.  
*Category I. National Human Health Association* - Dr. Patsy Brannon, Professor and Nutritionist at Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.  
*Category N. Non-Land Grant College or University to Research in Food and Agriculture* - Dr. Annette Levi, Professor and Chair, Agricultural Business Department at California State University-Fresno, Fresno, Calif.  
*Category O. Hispanic-Research Institutions* - Dr. Agnes Mojica, Chancellor at the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico  
*Category Q. Transportation of Food and Agricultural Products to domestic and foreign markets* - Robert Fay, Vice President of Seminole Gulf Railway LP, Fort Myers,

Dashlyn Schweinsberg, Scarlett Neff, Levi Athy, Alain Reinhart and Mason Gutierrez. These children attend preschool in the class of four and young five year olds.

**ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM AT THE GARDENS OF PAULDING**



Ann's Bright Beginnings recently held their Christmas program at the Gardens of Paulding. The songs were enjoyed by parents and residents alike! Shown here from the left are: Taylor McKeen,

Dashlyn Schweinsberg, Scarlett Neff, Levi Athy, Alain Reinhart and Mason Gutierrez. These children attend preschool in the class of four and young five year olds.

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Fla.

*Category R. Food Retailing and Marketing Interests* - Dr. Molly McAdams, President and Co-Founder of Om3, San Antonio, Texas  
*Category S. Food and Fiber Processors* - Julia Sabin, Vice President of Industry and Government Affairs of The J.M. Smucker Company, Orville, Ohio  
*Category X. Private Sector Organization involved in International Development* - Richard Tracy, Vice President of International Programs, Global Cold Chain Alliance, Alexandria, Va.

Each of the 25 NAREEE Advisory Board members represents a specific category of U.S. agricultural stakeholders as outlined in the 2008 Food, Energy, and Conservation Act. These areas include farming or ranching, food production and processing, forestry research, crop and animal science, land-grant institutions, non-land grant college or university with a historic commitment to research in the food and agricultural sciences, food retailing and marketing, rural economic development, and natural resource and consumer interest groups, among many others. Each member serves a 2-3 year appointment. Terms for members overlap so that approximately one-third of the Board is replaced and/or reappointed each year.

The NAREEE Advisory Board will meet on December 16-18, 2015, in Beltsville, Md., to discuss the food safety and human nutrition programs in the Research, Education, and Economics mission area of USDA. The Board will also hear updates from the REE agencies.

**NEW YEARS DAY AUCTION**  
Jan. 1st, 2016 • 1:00PM  
GUNS - OLD BIKES - ANTIQUES - COINS  
SEE DETAILS & PHOTOS @ AUCTIONZIP.COM  
Auction City  
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419-594-3364 • CKA@TDS.NET

With the no confirmed cases in Ohio and no immediate threat of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (avian flu) outbreak, Ohio Agriculture Director David T. Daniels and State Veterinarian Dr. Tony Forshey today rescinded the order prohibiting bird shows in Ohio. Officials urge poultry and bird owners, however, to remain vigilant and cautious in order to protect the health of their flocks during migration seasons. Please see the department's fact sheet on precautions that can be done to prevent the spread of avian flu (click here).

**OHIO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIFTS BIRD EXHIBITION BAN**

The order, issued on June 2, 2015, was originally intended to remain in place until April 2016. The ban included county and independent fairs, the Ohio State Fair, and all other gatherings of birds for show

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**Land Auction**  
30+ ACRES  
SEC. 7, CRANE TWP., PAULDING CO.  
SAT., JAN. 23 @ 10:00 A.M.  
Farm Location: 2 mi north of Antwerp, OH on Rt. 49 to C-220; then east on C-220 for 3 1/2 mi. to Rd C-63; then north on Rd 63 1/4 mi --- located in Sec. 7, Crane Twp (watch for auction signs)....30.588+ acres offered in one parcel - buyer farms it in 2016 .... FSA indicates 30+ tillable acres....mostly Latty & Nappanee soils....Call for survey, soil maps, aerial maps & auction information....Terms: \$3,000 earnest money day of auction with closing on or before Feb. 23, 2016...Auction Location: Gorrell Bros. Office & Auction Facility @ 1201 N. Williams St., Paulding, OH....Seller: Bradbury Farms, Floyd Ramsier Attorney .... Gorrell Bros. Auctioneers & Real Estate; Larry D. Gorrell, Broker; Don Gorrell - Aaron Timm - Nolan Shisler - Auctioneers

**Special Land AUCTION**  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16 • 10:00 AM  
AUCTION SITE: Promise Lutheran Church, 7323 Schwartz Rd., Fort Wayne. Approx. 1/3 mi. south of the property & approx. 1/4 mi. north of St. Joe Center Rd.  
PROPERTY DIRECTIONS: From the jct. of St. Joseph Center Rd. & Hwy. #37, jog north on Schwartz Rd. to the property located at 8306 Schwartz Rd. on the east side.  
**124± contiguous acres**  
OFFERED IN 5 TRACTS from 2.1± to 77.6± Acres  
**A rare opportunity in this location!**  
INSTRUCTION DATES:  
Thursday, January 7, 5-7PM  
Saturday, January 9, 1-5PM  
SELLERS: GLORIA (DECEASED) & DONALD FISHER; Thomas Fisher, guardian  
Auction Manager: Dennis Bennett, AARE, CES, MPAA, (260) 433-2159  
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**VANTAGE DECEMBER BOARD MEETING HELD 12/3/15**

The Vantage Board of Education held the December Board meeting on Thursday, December 3, 2015 in the District Conference room. The minutes from the November 5, 2015 regular board meeting were approved along with financial statements for the month of October, 2015.

Superintendent Staci Kaufman updated the Board on the comparative percentages of Vantage's 2010 and 2015 levy renewals. Every county's results continued to increase the passage rate, with the following increases: Paulding county, up 7.47% in "yes" votes; Putnam County, up 10.06%, Mercer County, up 5.25%, and Van Wert county, up 3.5%, again making it the district's highest passage rate, at 74.24%. Superintendent Kaufman expressed the staff's appreciation for the school's continued support districtwide, and gave credit to the staff for doing a fine job. She announced that the school's revised Emergency Management Plan has been approved by the Department of Homeland Security. She also noted that Vantage is one of 16 Ohio career centers who are submitting one collaborative grant application for the third round of Straight A grants by the state, for the purpose of adding certain equipment and training to provide Fanuc, Motoman, and other industry certifications for students. If awarded, Vantage will advance in robotics training as part of the RAMTEC training network, and offer robotics camp in the summers for youth.

Board:

• Employed the following list, as Adult Education instructors, as needed, as scheduled: Christal Ankney and Dillon Staas

• Appointed Lonnie Nedderman as President Pro-tem for the January 2016 Organizational meeting

• Allow individuals to enroll in Ohio Technical Career (Adult Education) "fulltime skill training programs" who are eligible to participate in the Ohio Adult Diploma Program

• Accept the revised job description of the Ohio Technical Career (Adult Education) Instructional Leader/Coordinator

• Approved the purchase of the Weeke Vantech 480 CNC at the quoted price of \$88,653.00 from Mueller Woodworking Machinery Tooling and Supplies, Cincinnati, OH, to be used in the Carpentry program

• Had the first reading of NEOLA new & revised policies:

- 1130 Administration Conflict of Interest
- 1630.01 Administration FMLA Leave
- 2461 Program Recording of Meetings
- 3113 Professional Staff Conflict of Interest
- 3430.01 Professional Staff FMLA Leave
- 4113 Classified Staff Conflict of Interest
- 4430.01 Classified Staff FMLA Leave
- 7510 Property Use of District
- 8420 Operations Emergency Situations at School
- 8452 Operations Automatic External Defibrillators (AED)
- 8500 Operations Food Services

• The Board adjourned to executive session for the purpose of considering the employment of an employee or official of the School District.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016, with the organizational meeting at 7:00 p.m., followed by the regular meeting in the District Conference Room.

Missing pictures? We have a stack of pictures here at West Bend News from previous publications.

**CLASSIFIED ADS Sell it in the Classifieds!**

Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and \$.15 for each additional word. **Bold is \$1.00 additional.** Ph: (419) 258-2000 • Email: info@westbendnews.net P.O. Box 1008, Antwerp, OH 45813 Deadline for classified ads is Mondays at 12 Noon. **Classifieds MUST be paid up front!!**

**HELP WANTED: Construction worker needed to work with construction crew. Please call 260-417-2651.**

**RAIN TECH Seamless Gutters, 419-258-1818.**

**CULLER CONSTRUCTION LLC: Mike Culler. New Construction - Remodel - Decks - Painting - Complete Home or Office. 35 years experience. Home: 419-258-2243. Cell: 419-258-0372**

**GRAVES TREE EXPERT:** Tree trimming, tree removal, dead limb removal, storm damage, clean up, stump removal, free estimates. Call Paul, 260-341-7255.

**WANTED TO BUY: Buying military items, old photographs, old photo albums, old postcards, old toys, antiques, etc. 419-393-2107.** WANT WINDOW COVERINGS that look great for years? Drapes, valances, verticals, shades, etc. Measured and installed. Call Judy McCalla, Hicksville, 419-542-6182.

**FT. DEFIANCE Antiques. Find your treasures at our over 4,000 sq. ft. location at 402 Clinton Street, Defiance. Hours: Mon-Sat 10-5. Phone: 419-782-6003.**

**DEADLINE FOR THE CLASSIFIEDS IS MONDAYS AT 12 NOON!!**

**LATTA VOTES TO STRENGTHEN VISA WAIVER PROGRAM, PROTECT NATIONAL SECURITY**

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) voted in support of H.R. 158, the Visa Waiver Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act. The bill, cosponsored by Latta, was written to assist the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) identify and stop terrorists with Western passports from entering the United States.

"The first responsibility of our Federal Government is to keep Americans safe. It is imperative we take measures to prevent Americans from being placed in harm's way, and addressing the vulnerabilities in our Visa Waiver Program is one of these measures," said Latta. "We must ensure the American people are protected from the evolving threat of radical Islamic terrorism. ISIS has made it clear they intend to continue to target the United States and other Western countries. As the 9/11 Commission noted, 'for terrorists, travel documents are as important as weapons.' With terrorist organizations like ISIS recruiting from around the world, this bill improves American security by denying the ability for those who pose a risk to this country to enter our borders."

Democrats and Republicans in both the House and Senate worked to tighten the program, which currently allows foreign citizens of 38 countries to enter the U.S. for as long as 90 days with-

out a visa, and is used by over 20 million people per year.

"This legislation has broad, bipartisan support because it strengthens the waiver program, and provides an additional level of security by mandating sharing of terrorism and foreign traveler data. This is an important step in reducing the risk of a future terrorist attack on American soil."

**Key provisions of the Visa Waiver Improvement and Terrorist Travel Prevention Act:**

• Requires countries participating in our Visa Waiver Program to continually share terrorism and foreign traveler data with the United States and requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to suspend their participation if they do not meet this requirement. (Currently, the Secretary can only suspend VWP participation for imminent national security threats.)

• Requires countries participating in our Visa Waiver Program to utilize INTERPOL's criminal and law enforcement databases by requiring countries to report lost and stolen passports within 24 hours and screen all passengers against all INTERPOL databases and notices, and requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to suspend their participation if they do not meet this INTERPOL requirement. (Currently, with respect to INTERPOL, the Secretary can only suspend a country's participation if they are not sharing lost and stolen passport data with INTERPOL or in emergency situations.)

• Requires all Visa Waiver Program travelers to use Electronic Passports or "e-passports" with biometric enabled chips by April 1, 2016. Furthermore, VWP countries will be required to have in place mechanisms to validate e-passports. (Currently, Visa Waiver Program countries issue e-passports, but not all eligible travelers hold an e-passport.)

• Directs DHS to report to Congress, within 30 days, on steps to strengthen Electronic System for Travel Authorization in order to better secure the United States and prevent terrorists from

exploiting the Visa Waiver Program.

• Requires dual nationals and individuals who have traveled since March 1, 2011 to certain countries of concern and State Sponsors of Terrorism - including Syria, Iraq, and Iran - to obtain a visa before coming to the United States.

• Requires an annual national security threat assessment for "high-risk" countries and allows the Secretary of Homeland Security to suspend a country's participation if it is deemed "high-risk."

**Help Needed**

**Health Information Management Director**

Responsible for directing, planning, coordinating, and administering the medical records program. Responsible for supervising and managing department operations, and managing the function as required. Work is performed in accordance with the hospital rules and regulations, the Joint Commission, the State Board of Health, State and Federal Statutes.

Requirements: Associate degree in Health Information Management or related field. RHIT certification. Must meet required continuing education hours for the AHIMA and maintain accreditation status. Previous experience in a Medical Records Department. The ideal candidate will be experienced in transcription and coding with strong managerial skills.

Preferred Qualifications: Bachelor Degree, RHIA, 5 years of Medical Records experience, and prior management experience.

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



**FOLTZ REALTY**

Don K. Foltz II - Broker • Paulding, OH • 106 N. Williams St. 45879  
Call Maurice Wannemacher: 419-769-9090 for any of these listings below!

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**#2899 "A Masterpiece Of Elegance"** All Hickory Cabinetry, New Dbl Ovens, Granite Top Island w/gas range, new floor in Kitchen. All Oak trim thru out, with 6 panel doors, new roof, lovely bay window, Lg 95% Eff. Fireplace that will heat entire home. w/c Bard Heat Pump. 3 Big Bedrooms w/closets, 2 1/2 Bathrooms, Lg. Great Room w/ Fireplace, all like new Pella Windows, central vac, central air, Dbl. pantry, 2 car att. Fin. Garage w/ cupboards, Plus 23x25 unattached garage.

Landscaping is beautiful! Fenced in Garden, Pond with fountain, stocked, deer, turkey, 2 decks, rustic fence, flag pole, 12 acres, \$239,900 - CALL MAURIE 419-769-9090

**PERFECT FAMILY SETTING**



**#2894 - "Perfect Family Setting"** with all the amenities, large all modern home in the country, completely remodeled, 2240 sq. ft. 4 or 5 BR's with 2 Bath's, perfect for a growing family. Then for room, a sweet "Galley Kitchen" with lots of oak cupboards and counter tops. All up to date flooring, plus, an all carpeted dining room for family dinners, yes! we have a cozy, all carpeted, family room with lots of room for the entire family, and company too. Dad will love that all the windows have been replaced, all aluminum siding with shutters, new roof plus, a 42x32 Morton Building. NOTE: Natural Gas Line runs in front of property. Just 3 South of SR 613 on SR 127 and just 1/4 mile past the Wayne Trace High School. See sign! \$129,900

**REDUCED ALL LIMESTONE**



**#2888 2660 Rd. 250A, Antwerp. Diamond in the Rough!** All Limestone, all metal roof. Finished basement. Central A/C. Enclosed porch. Priced RIGHT! \$36,500 - Great Price, Call Maurie 419-769-9090

**PRICED REDUCED**



**#2887 303 W. Merrin St. Payne. "Standing Proud"** Completely remodeled with all new vinyl siding, all replacement windows, 3 dimensional roof. 4 Bedrooms, 2 Bathrooms, beautiful white stairway, all new carpeting and flooring throughout. Oak kitchen cabinetry, high definition laminate countertops. Laminate kitchen floor, eat-in kitchen. Walk in closet. All updates within last 2 years. Call Maurie @ 419-769-9090 Cell or 419-263-2523. \$88,000

**FOR ANY ABOVE LISTING... CALL MAURIE WANNEMACHER - Realtor 419-769-9090 (CELL) OR 419-263-2523**

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Provide care in the homes of the elderly in your community. Join our personal care aide staff! CNA/STNA a plus, not required. Perfect for retirees, college students - flexible scheduling. Comprehensive, nonprofit agency offering stability, competitive wages, great work environment.

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www.ComHealthPro.org

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

315 Oak Payne - \$84,900  
Beautiful 4-5 Bedroom home. Updated kitchen, lots of great space, fresh paint, and new deck.

2774 Rd 17 Payne  
Charming home with great updates. Move in ready!

201 W. Merrin Payne  
5 bedroom, spacious home. Inviting patio with above ground pool. Great for entertaining!

**GREAT HOME W/ LOTS OF UPDATES!**

10718 Rd. 192 Cecil - \$132,900  
Rare, historical farm home with awesome updates and outbuildings!

411 N. Main Payne - \$89,500  
Beautiful woodwork, large closets, & awesome garage!

316 N. First Oakwood - \$19,900  
Great home with a total of 2 lots. Has great potential!

**SOLD**

**SOLD**

**EDP DONATION MAKES GRAND NEW YEAR FOR BB**



From left to right: Tony Zartman, Rhonda Smalley, Rose Munger, Dora Laney, Donna Pieper, Chris Brooks, Karen Deatrck, Elaine Gress, Sharon Johanns, and Lisa McClure

The Paulding Hospital and the community has been greatly blessed by the Bargain Bin of Paulding County. The Hospital Auxiliary has been working hard on the third location since it's original opening in 1962. Currently, the facility is housed at 118 Perry St. near the corner of Cherry Street in Paulding, Ohio. The Bargain Bin has focused on serving the community through the continuous circle of collecting donations of clothing and other items, sorting, then and reselling to people at great prices.

EDP Renewables is one of the companies with power generating windmill farms serving the region around Paulding County. They have been donating from their profits to local organizations who make the community better. EDP Renewables, represented by Chris Brooks from Chicago, presented a check to the

board members on an icy, cold and rainy day, Monday, December 28, 2015.

Around \$50,000 is left to collect out of the original \$250,000 goal. These members have clearly worked hard to make this a reality! If you would like to become a member of the Auxiliary, they would love to have you join! The easiest way is to stop in on Mondays and start volunteering. There is a minuscule yearly fee to join, but they would love your help. They are open on Fridays and Saturdays to sell to the community at great prices!

"It's wonderful to have this opportunity to donate to such a good cause!" continued Chris, "This is a small token compared to the time that all of you have spent making this a reality."

You could see the excitement in all of the workers' eyes when Chris arrived—they knew their work had

not been in vain. Rhonda Smalley, President said, "This time of year we have received quite a few gifts, but this large gift will greatly help us get closer to our goal."

Paulding County Commissioner, Tony Zartman, stated, "Back when EDP decided to move into Paulding County, they committed to me to being a good corporate neighbor and this is just another example of that commitment, and with this attitude it should be this way for years to come."

Lisa McClure of the Area Foundation is still collecting funds. If you would like more information contact her at: 101 E. Perry Street, Paulding, OH 45879 or call 419-399-8296.

Over the years the Bargain Bin has been able to give over \$1,000,000 to the hospital for new therapy equipment and with the new building to be completed

next summer, it will be able to do even more for local healthcare.

The Bargain Bin hours are 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. on Saturday. The work day is usually Monday from 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Currently, there is a building at the back to drop off donations if no one is around. Large items are not accepted at this time, but hopefully this will change when the new building is finished.

**NEW ANTWERP PROVIDERS COMING IN JANUARY**



Nicholas Pflgebraar, D.O. will be starting in January at the Antwerp site of Primary Care Associates of Paulding. Dr. Pflgebraar was active in the honors program as a pre-med student at Bowling Green State where he graduated Cum Laude. He went on to earn his degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

He completed clinical rotations at St. Vincent Mercy Medical Center in Toledo. He completed his residency in Family Medicine at Firelands Regional Medical Center in Sandusky, Ohio. Dr. Pflgebraar is proudly certified with the American Osteopathic Board of Family Physicians and serves as President of the Northwest Ohio Osteopathic Association.

He brings his personal touch to the profession of medicine by providing patients with the opportunity to experience a fresh approach to healthcare. He educates his patients about their health in a manner to which they can relate and understand. Dr. Pflgebraar medically cares for each individual patient as if they were family. He practices evidence-based medicine with a focus on prevention.

Kelley Peters, Family Nurse Practitioner joins Dr. Pflgebraar and Janet Zeedyk, Physician Assistant at the Antwerp office. She earned her undergraduate degree at Bowling Green State University. Following her initial education she worked in the emergency setting utilizing many advanced skills as a flight nurse.

Kelley is a familiar face to Paulding County Hospital where she previously served in the Emergency Department as a Registered Nurse while pursuing her degree as an Advanced Practice Nurse at Ball State University where she graduated with honors. Most recently she has been managing hospitalized patients as a hospitalist.

Appointments can be made with any of the three providers by calling 419.258.5641.

**ODOT ISSUES TRAFFIC ADVISORY**

**Van Wert County:**  
U.S. 224 exit ramp to westbound U.S. 30 near Van Wert will be closed during the day on Tuesday for pavement work. Traffic will be detoured onto U.S. 30 eastbound to the U.S. 127 interchange back to U.S. 30 westbound. Work is being performed by the ODOT Van Wert County maintenance garage.

**SECRETARY HUSTED APPOINTS CHARLES HARTLEY TO THE CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Secretary of State Jon Husted has appointed Charles D. Hartley as a member of the Clark County Board of Elections. Mr. Hartley will fill the unexpired term of Dale Henry.

State law requires bipartisan representation on each of Ohio's 88 county boards of elections. Each board is made up of two Republican members and two Democratic members, all of whom must be qualified electors in the counties for which they serve. The Secretary of State makes appointments to boards of elections based on the recommendations of the executive committees of the respective county political parties.

Charles Hartley was recommended by the Clark County Democratic Executive Committee.

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

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