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Good News for Good Communities - Serving Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2016

SANTA CLAUS CAME TO TOWN



Back Row L to R is Santa's "Half-Helper", Santa Claus and Santa's "Favorite Elf" Front Row: Morgan

Santa Claus rode into Grabill on Saturday, December 17 on the back of the old Fire Department Truck. This year Santa and his helpers gave away Snickers

and oranges from the Grabill Chamber of Commerce and books from the Allen County Public Library. All of this took place in front of the Grabill Hardware.

ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOL PURCHASES NEW VAN



Antwerp Local School recently purchased a new 9 passenger Ford Transit Van to replace the 16 year old Chevy Astro Van. The new van will be used to transport students to academic and athletic events as well as pull band equipment to performances. The van was purchased

from Mark Moats Ford in Defiance, and identification lettering was added by West Bend Printing & Publishing, Inc., located in Antwerp, Ohio. Pictured with the van are Antwerp Local Superintendent Dr. Martin Miller and Elementary Principal Mr. Tim Manz.

SCAMS TARGET PAULDING PUTNAM ELECTRIC MEMBERS

Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op (PPEC) wants you to

be aware of a few scams that have surfaced in the area. The first incident occurred in the Monroeville, Indiana area where a person pretending to

(Continued to Page 2)

POSTAL SERVICE DELIVERS HOLIDAY CHEER

The U.S. Postal Service is ready to deliver a lot of cheer — in the form of roughly 16 billion cards, letters and packages — this holiday season. The Postal Service, the largest e-commerce deliverer, is projecting about 750 million packages will be delivered this holiday season, a 12-percent increase in volume compared to last year.

USPS Tracking provides door-to-door tracking of packages, customers can give delivery instructions so the carrier knows where to leave the package if the customer isn't home, the customer can receive text alerts on their phone and customers can text the tracking number to 2USPS (28777) to check on the status of a package.

While the Postal Service already delivers packages on Sunday in most major cities, following the success of past holiday seasons, it will expand Sunday delivery operations to all locations with high package volumes. More than five million packages are expected to be delivered each Sunday in December. Mail carriers will also deliver packages on Christmas Day in select locations.

Skip the lines and ship online or use Self-Service Kiosks

Consumers can avoid holiday hassles by visiting usps.com — the Postal Service's website that will help make mailing and shipping easier. Take advantage of convenient online shipping this holiday season by using Click-N-Ship on usps.com. It allows customers to order free Priority Mail boxes, print shipping labels, purchase postage and even request free next-day Package Pickup when the letter carrier delivers your mail.

Self-Service Kiosks, available at over 2,800 locations nationwide provide quick access for postal products and services just as ATMs provide for banking customers. There is no extra fee. Using credit and debit cards, the kiosk enables customers to weigh

(Continued to Page 6)

OPEN HOUSE CELEBRATED AT GENESIS HOUSE



At the Genesis House Ribbon Cutting: Kurt Smith, Lynda Rude-Grzych, Cindy Yenser, Sue Woods, Tony Langham, Kay Langham, Stephanie Foreman, and Angel Steiner

A new restaurant and coffee shop came along in Antwerp, Ohio called the Genesis House and opened up in October of this year. This past week Genesis House had carriage rides from Rosewood Carriage of Hometown, IN for all of those wanting a ride in the beautiful snow.

Earlier this year, The Agora on Waldo's Hill had shut down in the summer and many people didn't know where to get their specialty coffees and sandwiches.

The new shop is known for its specialty coffees and will continue to offer some

of the same food as before and even more. Coffee is still a treat that many people look forward to every morning to get their day started right, and evening when they get home from work to relax.

Now at lunchtime delicious sandwiches are available, too. Over 30 items are available. From soups, sandwiches, salads, and pastries there is something for everyone!

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday, December 13 had a ribbon-cutting for this new business, welcoming it into the economic structure of the town.

After two months of being open, they are ready to do this for the public permanently.

The owners, Cindy Yenser and Sue Woods, have worked hard and put in many hours to get the diner back open again.

If you would like to keep up with all that is going on at the Genesis House, be sure to like their Facebook page "Genesis House".

While you doing that remember that the hours are 7am-5pm, M-Sat.

Right now there are five employees who work to make this possible.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

The Herman Hesselshardt department of the Marine Corps League and radio station 98.1 WDFM reports another successful year with its now-concluded Christmas For Kids program. In addition to a record number of toys, the 22-year old program has raised over \$260,000 in funds, bringing its cumulative total to over \$3 million since its beginning in 1994.

Christmas For Kids helps to provide a merry Christmas to over 5,000 children across the six-county area.

Rick Small of WDFM was one of the founders of the program, stating that it started in the conference room of the ra-

dio station's old headquarters in downtown Defiance. "We wanted something that benefits children," he said simply.

Those involved with Christmas For Kids have nothing against Toys For Tots, which had been around for years in the area beforehand; however, they wanted to try something slightly different in the way such a program was run. The advertising costs of the older organization, for example, are not an issue here.

"I said, 'we could do that without even paying for it,'" Small recalled.

To demonstrate how much the program has grown in the past two decades, year one of Christmas For Kids raised

(Continued to Page 5)

Merry Christmas From, The West Bend News!



THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, December 26th We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, Dec. 27th

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OBITUARIES



GROVER HILL, OH: Darwin W. "Hook" McClure age 81 passed away on December 9th, 2016 at Manatee Memorial Hospital, Bradenton, Florida, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born on July 9th, 1935 in Paulding County. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and love of his life, Sharon (Hartzog) whom he married on August 7, 1955.

He is survived by his two children, Robin (Phil) Farris and Terry (Lisa) McClure; grandchildren, Chris (Ashley) Farris, Ryan (Nikki) McClure, Melissa Farris (Brendan Webber, Fiance), Alison (Josiah) Stoller, and Madison McClure; and great grandchildren, Kaylee Hobbs, Keagan, Kasen, Kendrix Farris, Caleb, Drew, Brianna, Emily McClure, and Callen and Maylee Stoller; and brothers Roger (Rosalie) McClure and Gary (Vicki) McClure; and sister-in-law, Lenore DeMeo Hartzog.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Elma (Michael) McClure and his brother-in-law, Doyle (Ruthie) Hartzog.

He was a fourth generation lifetime Paulding County farmer who began his farming career with his father and later enjoyed many years of farming with his son and grandson. He was a former co-owner of Grover Hill Grain Company. He was also past president and director of Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative.

He was a lifetime member of Middle Creek United Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday School for many years, while holding other positions within the church. While wintering in Florida, he attended West Bradenton Baptist Church, and the PathFinders Sunday School Class.

His services were 11 AM Friday, December 16, 2016 at Middle Creek United Methodist Church, Grover Hill, Ohio with Pastor Eileen Kochensparger officiating. Burial will follow in Middle Creek Cemetery.

Visitation was 2 - 8 PM Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, Ohio. There will also be visitation from 10 AM until time of services at the

church on Friday.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hook's Fund for Young Farmers c/o Paulding County Area Foundation.

Online condolences may be sent to www.denherderfh.com



PAULDING, OH: James Eugene Stanton, 53 of Paulding went to be with the Lord on Friday morning, Dec. 16, 2016 at Park View Nursing Center, Edgerton after a lengthy illness.

James is preceded in death by his father, Kenneth. Survived by his wife, Trisha (Dooley); mother, Mary (Busch) siblings, Kent (Nikki) & Joyce and niece, Kenna.

He was a graduate of Wayne Trace High School and Defiance College. He was an avid sports card collector & fan of the Wayne Trace Raiders & Pittsburgh Steelers. He was also a history buff and enjoyed researching family ancestry.

Viewing is at the Payne Church of the Nazarene, Monday, 5 - 8 pm and one hour prior to his 11 am funeral service on Tuesday at the church.

He will be laid to rest at Paulding Memorial Cemetery.

James loved his family & friends and was loved by many. The family requests that memorial gifts be given to the Payne Church of the Nazarene or Park View Nursing Center.

His family was assisted by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp & Payne.

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

ANTWERP, OH M. Verlaine Bute, 73, of Antwerp, passed away at home on Sunday, December 18, 2016.

Verlaine was born in Van Wert on September 23, 1943, a daughter of the late Pauline (Shoemaker) and Verlyn Pollock.

She worked at Franke Plating & O.N.E. Verlaine was one of the Antwerp Archer's most enthusiastic fans. She rarely missed a game and worked tirelessly for the Antwerp Athletic Boosters. She was also known to coach Ohio State football from her favorite chair. However, she was more content showing unconditional love to her family and making sure they had plenty of her cookies and ooey gooey but-

ter cakes! Her legacy will live on in the lives of those she touched during her incredible journey of life.

She will be sadly missed by her husband, Lynn, whom she married Nov. 24, 1962; her children, Marcia (Steve) Bennett, Melissa (Andre Walters) Copsey & Michael (Jennifer) Bute; grandchildren, Tiffany (Justin) Reichley, Tanner (Loni Walk) & Trenton (Carli Ayers) Copsey, Justin (Brooke Zuber) & Jarett (Gabrielle Zuber) Bute; step grandchildren, Steve (Jennifer) Bennett & Kohen Walters & great grandsons, Landon Bennett & Andrew "AJ" Reichley.

Her sister, Starley Kohler also preceded her in death.

Service is Thursday, 11 am with viewing 10 - 10:45 am at Antwerp United Methodist Church, 202 E. River Street.

Viewing is also Wednesday, 2-4 & 6-8 pm at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp.

She will be laid to rest in Maumee Cemetery.

Memorials are to Southern Care Hospice, 6545 West Central Ave, Suite 103, Toledo, Ohio 43617.

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

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DINING CENTER MENU 12/21 - 12/27

12/21 - Pork chop, scalloped potatoes, glazed carrots, mixed fruit, dinner roll, rice krispie treat, milk

12/22 - Hamburger gravy, mashed potatoes, wax beans, hot apples, w.w. bread, jello, milk

12/23 - Seasoned veal cutlet, parsley potatoes, green beans w/bacon, apple juice, cherry fruit crisp, dinner roll, milk

12/26 - Closed for Christmas

12/27 - Chicken & broccoli casserole, warm applesauce, biscuit, grape juice, milk

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES 12/21 - 12/27

12/21 - Birthday & Anniversary Celebration; Crafts at 12:30 p.m.; Grocery shopping at 1:30 p.m.

12/22 - Euchre at 9:45 a.m.; Euchre at 12:15 p.m.;

12/23 - Bible study 10:00 a.m.; Craft store open at 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Bingo with VanCrest at 12:00 p.m.

12/26 - Closed for Christmas Holiday

12/27 - Euchre at 9:45 a.m.; Euchre at 12:15 p.m.; Trivia with Nicole at 12:00 p.m.

(Continued from Page 1)

be a PPEC worker, requested payment for tree trimming services. Unfortunately, an elderly person ended up making a payment of \$150. PPEC wants to remind you, we do not charge for tree trimming services.

The second instance happened near Wetzell, Ohio, where a person pretended to be a PPEC contractor and asked to

come into a residence. This person had a West Virginia license plate. Luckily, the homeowner refused this person coming into his home and called PPEC to verify him immediately.

We want our members to know, if you have suspicions about a person, please do not hesitate to call our office and verify. Our number is 1-800-686-2357. However, if you feel at all in danger, contact police first.

NATIONAL GLAUCOMA MONTH

Glaucoma and How It Affects Vision

Glaucoma is caused by high intraocular pressure (high pressure of fluid inside the eye) and can decrease vision without warning. Glaucoma is one of the most common illnesses affecting the optic nerve. The optic nerve's job is to transfer visual information to the brain, so when high intraocular pressure occurs, the optic nerve compresses, causing cells to die and vision to permanently decline.

Diagnosing Glaucoma

Glaucoma is known as "the sneak thief of sight" because there are virtually no symptoms before vision loss occurs. Regular eye exams are the best way to protect your eyesight from glaucoma and other diseases affecting your eyes. Vision loss begins with peripheral (side vision) loss, so you may not notice anything until significant vision loss. Although there is not yet a cure for glaucoma, it can be treated through medication or surgery by stopping the progression if diagnosed.

Types of Glaucoma

There are many types of glaucoma, but the two main types are open-angle and angle-closure.

Open-Angle Glaucoma

The most common form of glaucoma (about 90%); caused by slow clogging of drainage canals, resulting in increased eye pressure; has symptoms and damage that may go unnoticed; lifelong condition

Angle-Closure Glaucoma

Caused by blocked drainage canals, resulting in sudden rise in intraocular pressure; demands immediate medical attention; has symptoms that are usually very noticeable.

Who Does Glaucoma Affect?

Glaucoma can affect people of all ages, but most commonly affects middle-aged and older adults. It tends to be inherited, so knowing your family medical history is important. Other risk factors that put individuals at higher risk include: diabetes, nearsightedness, previous eye injury, extremely high or low blood pressure, and regular, long-term steroid/cortisone usage.

How Can Therapy Help?

Occupational Therapists (OTs) and Occupational Therapy Assistants (COTAs) play a significant role in helping individuals with low vision (resulting from glaucoma and other eye issues). Occupational therapy for someone with low vision may include altering daily tasks, assisting with eye drops and other medications, removing/ altering safety hazards in the home, etc. to help maintain their independence. If you or someone you know has low vision, ask your doctor if therapy could benefit you.

National Glaucoma Month... Did You Know?

Over 3 million Americans have glaucoma but only half know they have it. Glaucoma can cause blindness if left untreated.

Golden Years Homestead, 8300 Maysville Road | Fort

SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

"And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven" Luke 1:76-78

Wayne, IN 46815, 260-749-4624 www.GoldenYearsHome.org

OHIO'S FIRST MAJOR WINTER WEATHER EVENT WARRANTS EXTRA ATTENTION FOR OLDER ADULTS

Plan ahead, check on neighbors as temperatures and wintry precipitation fall.

"Remember, extremely cold temperatures equal severe weather," said Stephanie M. Loucka, director of the department. "Older adults' bodies tend to adjust more slowly to adverse conditions, which places many elders at increased risk for serious injury and illness when the temperatures drop. A little preparation and regular checks can make them safer."

Be prepared

All Ohioans should have a winter preparedness plan that enables them to remain in place for three days if they become unable to leave their homes due to weather conditions. Each household should have an emergency kit that contains, at a minimum, a battery operated radio, flashlight, extra batteries, a loud whistle or bell, food you can open and prepare easily, water (one gallon per person per day), extra blankets and a first aid kit.

Older adults may have a few additional considerations:

A backup supply of daily medicines and the means to store them properly;

Ready access to medical equipment and assistive devices (e.g., canes, walkers, wheelchairs, lifts, oxygen tanks, etc.) as well as spare batteries and non-powered options.

A safe place to go if it becomes unsafe to stay in your home (e.g., public shelter, friend's or neighbor's house) and a plan for getting there.

Instructions for rescue personnel to help you relocate safely and quickly in an emergency.

Your preparation should also include a plan for safely keeping the temperature in your home comfortable. Use only space heaters that have been tested and certified to the latest safety standards, and do not leave a space heater unattended. Never use a kitchen stove or any other appliance not designed to heat your home for that purpose.

Wintry precipitation, such as snow and freezing rain, also increases the risk of a potentially life-changing fall for older Ohioans. If you must go out in wintry conditions, wear

boots or shoes that fit properly and have good traction. Bundle up to stay warm, but make sure you can see and move freely. Slow down and give yourself extra time to get where you're going. Try to walk only on surfaces that have been cleared and treated for ice and snow. Use handrails whenever possible. When in doubt, ask for help.

Check on your neighbors

Before, during and after severe winter conditions, check in on older loved ones, friends and neighbors to ensure that they are okay and have the resources they need to remain safe and healthy.

Do they need medical attention? Have they fallen? Are they staying warm enough? Are they taking their medicines as prescribed?

Do they have safe food and water? Are they eating and drinking regularly?

Is the temperature in their home comfortable? Do they have safe means to heat the home if temperatures continue to fall?

Whom will they call if they need help? Do they have access to a phone that will work without a power or landline service?

Be aware that confusion, disorientation and irritability can be symptoms of conditions such as dehydration, stress and fatigue. If someone appears ill or is injured, call 9-1-1 immediately.

Find help in your community

The 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.

More emergency preparedness advice and resources are available on the department's website: www.aging.ohio.gov/information/emergency-preparedness/

Follow the Ohio Department of Aging on Facebook and Twitter for more winter safety information and resources all winter long.

The Department of Aging is a proud member of the Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness. Visit www.weather-safety.ohio.gov for information on winter safety and severe

Knowing the families in our community, we understand that quality service and cost are both important.

We pride ourselves on combining caring service at a cost you can afford. You will find it's only one of the things we do best.

Antwerp 419-258-5684
Payne 419-263-0000
www.dooleyfuneralhome.com

Burial & Cremation Ceremonies

FROM THE FAMILY OF DENNIS MCMICHAEL

The Family of Dennis McMichael would like to express their deepest and heartfelt gratitude for the overwhelming kindness, generosity, and sympathy that we have received over the past several weeks.

We extend our hearts in thank you for your support during one of the most difficult times in our lives.

Denny meant so much to us as and it was deeply heartwarming to see that he had a loving impact on the lives of so many.

We would especially like to thank the dedicated employees of Van Crest of Antwerp (Manor House), the patient staff at Essen House Restaurant, Tomi Meyer of Hospice, the Antwerp EMS for their care during Denny's many transports, and to the staff at Community Memorial Hospital. A special thank you to Pastor Max Bagley for his words of remembrance, and to the Antwerp Baptist Church and Pastor Todd Murry for providing the funeral meal.

We also want to thank the many friends, neighbors, co-workers, and acquaintances who took the time to call, send food, visit, and offer their condolences. We appreciate, and are honored, that you took the time to share your memories of Denny with us.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to the residents of Van Crest, Antwerp, who for the past two years, were the closest friends and neighbors to Denny. You welcomed him with open arms and open hearts and did your very best to help him feel at home. You were very special to him and we cannot thank you enough.

These are difficult times, but we are blessed to have a community of family and friends to help us through.

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you.

weather preparedness.

About ODA - The Ohio Department of Aging works to ensure that our elders are respected as vital members of our society who continue to grow, thrive and contribute. We collaborate with state agencies and community partners, including area agencies on aging, to help integrate aging needs into local plans and ensure that aging Ohioans have access to a wide array of high-quality services and supports that are person-centered in policy and practice. Our programs include the PASSPORT Medicaid waiver, caregiver support, the long-term care ombudsman program, the Golden Buckeye Card and more. Visit www.aging.ohio.gov

ADULTS CITE DRUG USE, INSURANCE AS OHIO'S TOP HEALTH PROBLEMS

Many people in Ohio worry about health issues. The 2016 Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP), sponsored by Interact for Health, asked Ohio adults how they feel about health in the state overall and about their personal health. When asked the most urgent health problem facing the state (respondents could provide any answer), the most frequent responses were drug use (21 percent) and problems with health insurance (18 percent). Concerns about health insurance included cost, coverage gaps when insured, accessibility to all groups and general concerns about the Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare.

About 1 in 10 Ohio adults said cancer (11 percent) or obesity (7 percent) was the top health problem in the state. Other responses included heart disease, problems with health care, care for the elderly, mental health issues and diabetes. OHIP's findings are similar to national surveys.

"These results help us determine the issues Ohio adults are facing and how to best focus our efforts to serve their needs," says O'dell M. Owens, M.D., M.P.H., President/CEO of Interact for Health. "The Board and staff of Interact for Health are pleased to provide these data so that we may keep our neighbors informed of these issues."

Self-rated health stable, varies by income, education

OHIP also asks adults to rate their general health. Research has found a powerful link between people's response to this question and the predicted length and quality of their lives. In 2016, half of Ohio adults (48 percent) reported that their health was excellent or very good. More than 3 in 10 adults (34 percent) said their health was good. Almost 2 in 10 adults (18 percent) said their health

was fair or poor. This is about the same as in 2015.

Adults with higher incomes were more likely to have better self-reported health. Among those earning more than 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), nearly 6 in 10 (58 percent) reported excellent or very good health. That compares with fewer than 4 in 10 adults earning 200 percent FPL or less (36 percent). This gap has been consistent over the past decade. "These findings match national and international work that has identified economic stability as one of the key social factors that influence health," says Susan Sprigg, Research Officer, Interact for Health.

Education is another factor that influences health. Six in 10 college graduates (61 percent) reported excellent or very good health. This compares with 5 in 10 adults with some college (51 percent), and only 4 in 10 adults with a high school diploma (39 percent) or less education (41 percent).

"These results highlight the connection between education, income, and health, and call us all to focus on addressing the social determinants of health," says Ross Meyer, Vice President, Community Impact, United Way of Greater Cincinnati.

Adds Amy Rohling McGee, President, Health Policy Institute of Ohio: "Despite federal and state policy decisions in recent years that have increased access to health insurance coverage, it is clear that many Ohioans are still concerned about having access to quality, affordable health care. In addition, it's important to remember that access to care alone is not sufficient to address all of the health concerns of Ohioans. There are many factors that contribute to improved health, most of which take place outside of what is typically considered the health care system."

More information about Ohioans' opinions on urgent health problems, and other topics, is available at www.interactforhealth.org/ohio-health-issues-poll.

About the Ohio Health Issues Poll

The 2016 Ohio Health Issues Poll (OHIP) is funded by Interact for Health. OHIP was conducted July 14 - Aug. 5, 2016, by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati. A random sample of 863 adults from throughout Ohio was interviewed by telephone. This included 439 landline telephone interviews and 424 cell phone interviews. In 95 of 100 cases, statewide estimates will be accurate to ± 3.3%. There are other sources of variation inherent in public opinion studies, such as non-re-

sponse, question wording or context effects that can introduce error or bias. For more information about the Ohio Health Issues Poll, please visit www.interactforhealth.org/ohio-health-issues-poll.

About Interact for Health Interact for Health is building healthy communities for all people. We serve as a catalyst for health and wellness by promoting healthy living through grants, education, research, policy and engagement. Interact for Health is an independent foundation that serves 20 counties in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. More information is available on our website, www.interactforhealth.org.

PARTNERSHIP SEEKING INPUT FOR PROJECTS TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DEFENSE AND PRESERVE WORKING LANDS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) joined the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the Department of Defense (DoD) to announce the Sentinel Landscapes Federal Coordinating Committee will now accept applications for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Sentinel Landscape designation process. Established in 2013, the Sentinel Landscape Partnership is a nationwide Federal, local and private collaboration dedicated to promoting natural resource sustainability and the preservation of agricultural and conservation land uses in areas surrounding military installations.

"Together with our partners, USDA investments in the Sentinel Landscape Partnership are already having an impact, demonstrating that restoration of wildlife habitat and improving water quality can go hand in hand with productive working forests and ranches," said Robert Bonnie, USDA Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment. "We've seen great progress so far, and USDA looks forward to participating in additional landscapes."

USDA, DOI, and DoD also released an accomplishment report for the six existing Sentinel Landscapes projects: Fort Huachuca in Arizona; Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington, Camp Ripley in Minnesota; Avon Park in Florida; Eastern North Carolina in North Carolina; and Middle Chesapeake in Delaware, Maryland and Virginia. The report shows that Sentinel Landscapes projects are already promoting the recovery of threatened and endangered species, and conserving vital habitats.

The Joint Base Lewis-McChord Sentinel Landscape partners are engaging in multiple efforts to reverse the trend of habitat and species loss, land use conversion, and training restrictions, with more than 1,000 acres of ranch lands protected through USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) easement programs and an additional 14,000 acres enrolled by landowners in restoration and conservation technical assistance programs. NRCS and the U.S. Forest Service have invested more than \$11 million in the Fort Huachuca partnership, which tackles critical regional issues of water quantity and quality, long-term agri-

D.A.R.E. GRADUATION AT PAULDING ELEMENTARY



The Paulding County Sheriff's Office D.A.R.E. program held its graduation for Paulding Elementary fifth graders on December 5, 2016. Each student was required to write an essay before they could graduate. D.A.R.E. program consist of 12 lessons and the essay gives the students a chance to reflect back on the lessons.

Essays describe what they learned and how the D.A.R.E. program can help them make safe, responsible choices. "Once I receive all the essays, winners are selected and they receive a prize. This year the three essay winners were Joshua Funez, Ella Gorrell and Maci Kauser," says D.A.R.E. Deputy Mendez, "I am proud of each and every student and hope they will always be safe and responsible." Each 5th grader who completed the essay received a Certificate of Completion at graduation as well.

"I truly appreciate our Paulding County Commissioners assisting the D.A.R.E. program and covering majority of the costs beyond grant monies and donations," said Sheriff Jason K. Landers.

Following are the Essay winners:

D.A.R.E.

By: Maci Kauser

Maybe you haven't heard of D.A.R.E.? Maybe you're not sure of what D.A.R.E. is? Well, D.A.R.E. is when an officer from your county comes and talks to you about being responsible, how to not be a bully, taking risks will always follow with a consequence, and staying away from drugs. In the future, I plan to go to a good college and become an adult. When you go to college and become an adult you have to remember to make responsible and safe choices. During D.A.R.E. my classmates and I learned a lot about responsibility. Being responsible is a big thing in life because you have to remember to feed your pets, get up in the morning and get ready for school, and be at activities on time. Being responsible can also

cultural viability, native habitat restoration, and military mission protection.

Entities that are eligible to submit an application include Federal agencies; state and local governments; American Indian tribes; for-profit and not-for-profit organizations or associations with conservation, agricultural, or silvicultural missions; municipal water treatment entities; and water irrigation districts.

Applications must be submitted electronically using the application portal located at: <http://sentinel-landscapes.org/application>.

mean, avoiding the situation, like when you know where people are doing drugs, avoid that area and make a good choice and walk away. You also want to hang around with the people in your school or county that are nonusers of drugs. If one of your friends ever tell you that he or she found alcohol or cigarettes somewhere and they ask you if you want to go smoke or go drink, say no and walk away. Or, you can also say no and give a reason like, my parents will ground me for the rest of my life. Or, you can also change the subject when they ask if you want to go smoke or drink, like saying, let's go play soccer instead. Also in D.A.R.E., my classmates and I learned about the D.A.R.E. Decision Making Model. In the D.A.R.E. Decision Making Model, the D stands for Define, the A stands for Assess, the R stands for Respond, and the E stands for Evaluate. Define means to describe the problem, Assess means to think of what your choices are, Respond means to make your choice and use information and facts that you have gathered, and Evaluate means to think if you made a good choice. I have used the D.A.R.E. Decision Making Model when I'm at a gymnastics meet. If I had gotten a bad score then on the next event I think of how I can do better and get a better score. I plan to use what I have learned during D.A.R.E. to say no to drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. Also, to not bully someone just because they are different than me. I also learned, that reporting someone who is bullying isn't the same as tattling on someone. When somebody is talking to you, you should respond, not give a head nod or not say anything at all.

My opinion on D.A.R.E. is it taught me how to use the D.A.R.E. Model to make me a better person. The D.A.R.E. program is mostly about having responsibility for your actions. My classmates and I thought that learning about D.A.R.E. was fun and

we learned a lot. We enjoyed having Officer Mendez in our classroom and at recess.

D.A.R.E. Essay

By: Joshua Funez

When the teacher said that we are going to have D.A.R.E. this year I thought it was not going to not be fun. It turns out that D.A.R.E. was cool and fun. A police officer came in every Monday to teach us about D.A.R.E. I am going to tell you what we learned about D.A.R.E.

In lesson 1 we learned about what D.A.R.E. means to define, assess, respond and evaluate. In lesson 2 we learned about what can drugs do to your body in many ways. In lesson 3 we learned to make safe and responsible choices in good ways. In lesson 4 we learned save ways to avoid drugs like walking away or changing the subject. In lesson 5 we learned about signs of stress like a red face or if you have sweaty hands. In lesson 6 we learned about one communication style. One of them is confident communication. In lesson 7 we learned about communicating effectively. In lesson 8 we learned about what to do when there is bully in the school. In lesson 9 we learned on how to stop a bully from being mean. In lesson 10 we learned about being a helper or getting help.

Forget about saying that D.A.R.E. being boring because it is cool. I wish D.A.R.E. class was a hour long instead of thirty minutes. But still it is still good to have D.A.R.E. in class. D.A.R.E. is cool so you have to have D.A.R.E. sometime.

My D.A.R.E. Report

By: Ella Gorrell

Imagine being able to stop abuse or being able to help people resist drugs. You can just do that if you follow the word D.A.R.E. D.A.R.E. means Drug Abuse Resistance Education.

That is not all D.A.R.E. is. D.A.R.E. is making the right choices and responding positively to pressure. D.A.R.E. is knowing how to tell if people are stressed or ways to relieve stress. It is communication styles, responding to bullying. It is being able to resist drugs, alcohol, tobacco and smoking.

I use the D.A.R.E. making model all the time for example sometimes when my friends want to do things I stop and think. Do I really want to do it? How will it affect me? Will I get in trouble? Sometimes I say no I don't want to do that because, it would be a bad decision.

That is how you can use the word D.A.R.E. It helps me a lot. If I were you I would try to use the word D.A.R.E.

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH HOLDS CHRISTMAS/STYLE SHOW



The Church Basement Ladies of Christ Lutheran Church, Woodburn IN. recently held their Christmas/Style Show party on December 3rd.

Approximately 72 ladies were in attendance enjoying the afternoon of fellowship and fun.

All attending were able to view some amazing vintage items. What a blessing it was for our committee to witness such fellowship among those attending.

We ask God to bless and guide our group in all future endeavors.

RIVERSIDE CHRISTIAN CHURCH HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Riverside Christian Church is moving its weekly worship gathering from Sunday on the week of Christmas and New Years to Thursdays.

The church gathering for the week of Christmas and New Years will take place on Thursday, December 22 and Thursday, December 29 at 6:30 p.m. So to end out this year, worship gatherings were this past Sunday at 10:30 a.m., and will be Thursday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m. and Thursday, December 29 at 6:30 p.m.. We will be back to Sunday mornings on January 8.

FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY, KNOX NEEDS CELEBRATE SUCCESS

Food For The Hungry of Knox County received just over \$220,000 in donations and 24 trucks of food to benefit the Salvation Army and Interchurch Social Services and other Knox County food assistance agencies during the collection at the 35th annual drive on Saturday, December 10, 2016.

A group of over 30 Mount Vernon Nazarene University faculty, staff, students, and alumni participated in the live broadcast and collection from Mount Vernon City Hall.

Time Warner Cable and WMVO hosted the live simulcast, while MVNU hosted the live video stream and WNZR gave updates several times an hour. Students from WNZR Radio, WNZR.TV, and MVNU's Student Government Association provided support to the broadcast by doing on-air hosting, running cameras and cables, floor directing, editing, photography, food collection, and greeting guests. Faculty and staff participants included Marcy Rinehart, Joe Rine-

hart, Christa Adams, Stephen Metcalfe, and Dean Abbott.

Catie Hayes and Rochel Furniss presented MVNU's Knox Needs check for just over \$6,547. MVNU also presented John Feltman, Principal at the Knox County Career Center, with this year's Zelkowitz Memorial Award. WNZR and SGA also teamed up for the annual shopping cart derby and "Food For The Hungry Games."

MVNU also sponsored a table at the annual FFTH Snowflake Gala and Auction, hosted by Kenyon College on Friday, December 2, 2016, which raised around \$60,000.

For more updates on the 2016 Food For The Hungry drive visit www.foodforthehungrycares.org and watch the archive of the broadcast at mvnu.tv, and select on demand.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University is a private, four-year, intentionally Christian teaching university for traditional age students, graduate students, and working adults. With a 327-acre main campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio, and several convenient Graduate and Professional Studies locations throughout the state, MVNU emphasizes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and service to community and church. MVNU offers an affordable education to more than 2,200 students from 28 states and 17 countries/U.S. territories.

DOUBTING JOHN

By: Rev. Gerry Weesner, Maples United Methodist Church

"When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples to ask him, 'Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?' Jesus replied, 'Go back and report to John what you hear and see: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy

are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me.'" Matthew 11:2-6 (NIV).

John the Baptist boldly proclaimed God's message with a blazing faith and certainty that God was going to act. His was "the voice of one crying out in the wilderness," to prepare the way for the Messiah. When Jesus came to be baptized by him, John knew that Jesus was the one.

John demanded that people repent of their sins and return to God, or else. There was no ambiguity about him, no "maybe." He was sure about what God was doing. His certainty had gotten him thrown into prison, and finally would get him killed, because he denounced the sins of Herod, the ruler of Galilee.

Initially, John had no doubts at all. He knew that he had been sent to get people ready for God's decisive act of salvation. When he was standing on the banks of the Jordan, telling the crowds to repent of their sins or face the fire of God's judgment, he meant what he said. When Jesus came to him to be baptized, John fully believed that he, Jesus, was the greater one he, John, had proclaimed.

Then he was certain but now he sat in a cold, dark prison day after day and night after night, and doubts came to him. John perhaps thought as others did that Jesus was a conquering Messiah, that he would overthrow Rome and that

Israel would be the dominant nation in the world. John did not understand then that the servant ministry of Christ had to come first.

Jesus responds to John's question, but he doesn't point to events of the distant past. Instead Jesus directs John to what he has just been doing in his ministry; giving sight to the blind, enabling the lame to walk and the deaf to hear and doing other works of restoration and renewal. The point is not just that those are amazing works, but that they are the kinds of works expected of the Messiah. The report of John's disciples reassured him. Jesus was doing what the Scriptures foretold that Messiah would do. They are proof that God's promises through the prophets are coming true.

When we doubt, we feel guilty, because doubt can lead to disbelief and sin. John the Baptist's faith wasn't perfect and neither is ours. Faith does not mean simply believing that certain things are true, but most importantly, it means placing our ultimate trust in God.

BETHEL CHRISTMAS DINNER

On Christmas Day the Bethel United Methodist Church, on the corner of roads 192 and 73 (Forder's Bridge), will be hosting a dinner at 1:00 p.m. for those that have no family gathering and would like to share a meal with others on Christmas Day. If you would like to bring a dish to share, that would be great but not necessary. Anyone can attend, just RSVP to Joyce Hootman at 419-542-7317 or Darlene Zielke at 419-258-2867. Please come and share our meal and be blessed!

BIBLE QUESTIONS

By: James Potter, Oakwood Church of Christ

- 1st John 3:5; What does "take away" mean?
- 1st John 3:5; To whom does "He was manifested" talking of?
- 1st John 3:5; How much sin was in Jesus life?
- Discussion: Can man take away or forgive sin as some tell us today? Yes or no.
- 1st John 3:6; He who does not practice sin abides with whom?
- 1st John 3:6; Can someone who deliberately sin be in Christ? Yes or no?
- 1st John 3:7; Can a person who practices righteousness be righteous? Yes or no;
- Discussion: Must we show both character and conduct before we can be righteous?
- Discussion: Which comes, first character or conduct?
- 1st John 3:8; For those who live in and practice sin, who is their master?

Comments, Questions, need help in studying the Bible let us know.

James Potter can be reached at 419-393-4775 or e-mail jspl1941@yahoo.com also there is Lonnie Lambert at 419-399-5022. Jesus loves all of you and wants you as His brothers and sisters and so does the church of Christ.

Answers to today's questionst:

1. Remove completely;
2. Jesus;
3. None;
4. No;
5. Christ;
6. No;
7. Yes;
8. Yes;
9. character;
10. Satan.

Today, let's look at a disagreement agreed. Loved ones, there was a disagreement between two friends. One heard of what the other had accused him. He went to him and said, "Will you be kind enough to tell me my faults that I may learn and rid myself of them?" The other said, "I will do it." The first one then said, "Before you begin, let us kneel and pray that my eyes may be opened to see my faults. Will you lead the prayer?"

When the prayer was over, the man said, "Now, what have you noticed wrong in my conduct?" the other answered, "after praying over it, it looks so little that it is not worth talking about. I realize I should not have talked about it, and have need that you pray for me and forgive me the wrong I have done you." The disagreement was dissolved between the two that hour. "Ol' Baldy says bye for now, but continue to pray, to read and to study God's written word to us the Bible. "Luv Ya!

CHILDLIKE STRESS RELIEVERS - ADULT COLORING

By: Angel Steiner, Kap-Wellness Connect

Coloring - the monotonous exercise of rubbing the end of a pencil, crayon or marker over a surface of newsprint or copy paper to make an alluring array of colors evolve on the page. This simple activity is usually thought of for children on rainy days or days when an outside activity is not convenient. Sometimes kids color to stave off boredom at the bequest of their parents. The colors and pictures involved create an original work of art that is priceless to the recipient of such a piece of newsprint paper. Over the past couple of years, it has hit the adult scene to engage in this most innocent of enterprises. Coloring has become for adults exactly what they intended it to do for children - calm the senses, focus the

MCCULLOUGH 20TH ANNIVERSARY



David and Stephanie (Shipman) McCullough were married December 22, 1996 at Payne, OH.

They are the parents of Eric (Nicole) Jordan and Jessi (Denny) Getrost and they have been blessed with two amazing grandchildren: Zeb and Jaidis

thoughts, inspire the psyche. There are even clubs and parties for this newest of fads.

Journalist, Mr. Ha, reported that coloring book sales jumped from 1 million units in 2014 to 12 million units in 2015 (2016). This trend has stayed constant as 2016 quickly draws to a close as there are more and more books displayed at department, big box and craft stores as the holiday season carries on. So, what is the draw to this illusive child-like endeavor? According to another journalist writer, Mr. Roston, some therapists have concluded that coloring is a way for over-worked stressed out adults to tune out the current cares of their lives just for a while and be mindful of their self-care (2016). Some art therapists will refute that coloring is art therapy, but will concede that coloring is definitely therapeutic.

Coloring for adults is a great way to calm down an anxious mind. With the mindfulness theory in place, coloring allows all other thoughts to go to the back burner, while the present mind focuses on the colors and patterns to be used for the particular subject chosen for coloring. However, as Mr. Ha points out, coloring should not be used as a substitute if professional help is needed

for a person's psychological health (2015). It has also been suggested that it could hinder the creativity of the developing minds of young children. They have not seen the world or experienced its evils, so a child's creativity may be diminished if only given the option of coloring pre-determined pictures as an outlet instead of embracing all of the creative realm of drawing as well (Ha, 2015).

Mr. Roston claimed that many adults find the allure to coloring because it brings back the simpler days of their childhood (2016). Remembering back to my childhood days, I remember some classmates who could not stand coloring... in fact one of my children thinks coloring is the most stressful activity! To each his own, I say, but it is definitely beneficial for busy adults to have something like coloring to relieve all the stresses of the day in a positive way. How long will this newest craze last? Who knows... there is always one more flower to color or owl's design to map out.

References:
Ha, Thu-Huong. (2016, April 24). America's obsession with adult coloring is a cry for help. Retrieved from <http://qz.com/650378/the-sad-reason-american-adults-are-so-obsessed-with-coloring-books/>
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BOOK AND PAJAMA DRIVE



The fourth grade at Grover Hill Elementary participated in a pajama drive sponsored by Scholastic Book Club. As a group, the class donated over 62 pajamas. The Pajama Program is a non-profit organization who provides new pajamas and new books to children in need. All pajamas donated during this drive will stay in the Paulding County community. The Pajama drive is organized by fourth grade teacher Mrs. Elyse Boyer.

BAGS OF CHRISTMAS SPIRIT GIVEN BY CHRIST'S STARFISH FOUNDATION FOR PATIENTS AT LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Friday, December 16th at 2:00 p.m., Christmas bags packed full of gifts were generously given to Lutheran Children's Hospital from Christ's Starfish Foundation. In preparation for Santa's visit to Lutheran Children's Hospital on Christmas morning, the gift bags were delivered a little early so every pediatric patient in the hospital on or near Christmas day will receive a gift bag. "We do what we do in obedience to our Lord's call on our lives to help these children and their families," said Carldon Lahey, founder and president, Christ's Starfish Foundation.

Christ's Starfish Foundation worked with Lutheran's social workers and child life specialists to determine the patient and family's needs to provide for 150 children.

The Christ's Starfish Foundation began nine years ago and it has expanded to give to Lutheran Children's Hospital and two other hospitals in Indiana for the first time this year. The organization is based in Jacksonville, Fla., however, they are expanding nationwide. They mainly focus on meeting needs of families with chronic, non-cancer issues or those in need.

Patients at Lutheran Children's Hospital benefit year-round from the outpouring of kindness, especially during the holidays. Each December, there are multiple opportunities to capture the goodwill of the season through the donation of time, talent and treasure. LCH appreciates the one-time visits and the long-term support for its patients from supporters throughout northeastern Indiana and beyond.

LUTHERAN ADDING THIRD HELICOPTER TO COVER GROWING AIR MEDICAL TRANSPORT NEEDS IN NORTHWESTERN INDIANA

To further expand patient access to critical and specialty care, a third Lutheran Air helicopter is being added to Lutheran Hospital's critical care transport fleet. Beginning Thursday, December 15th, the home base for Lutheran Air III will be Starke County Airport in Knox. The helicopter went into service at 7:30 a.m. CST.

The arrival of Lutheran Air III in northwestern Indiana will provide patients, hospitals and first responders in the region with greater access to the lifesaving care a medical helicopter and its crew can facilitate. Included in that list of beneficiaries are Lutheran's sister facilities Starke Hospital in Knox, La Porte Hospital, Porter Regional Hospital in Valparaiso and Kosciusko Community Hospital in Warsaw.

"We are happy to deliver this type of service to communities that need the quality and consistency we're able to provide," said Brian Bauer, chief executive officer, Lutheran Health Network. "The addition of a third Lutheran Air helicopter is a reflection of how quickly our program has grown over the past 13 years - something that would not have been possible without the dedication of our team and the support of first responders all across northern Indiana."

The Lutheran Air III crew will be stationed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year in a new 1,500-square-foot office and its adjoining hangar at the airport. Like the other aircraft in the Lutheran fleet, Lutheran Air III will be an EC135. The helicopter's addition has led to the creation of

16 new positions on Lutheran's critical care transport team, including pilots, flight mechanics and medical crew members. Several of the new positions were filled by professionals from the Starke County area.

"Lutheran Air's choice of our airport for its newest helicopter is a huge win for the health of all who live and work in this area, and another example of the importance of aviation to Starke County and its businesses," said James R. Long, president, Starke County Airport Authority.

The Lutheran Air flight program is based at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne. Lutheran Air I flies out of Portland Municipal Airport and Lutheran Air II flies out of Wabash Municipal Airport. The location of each helicopter in Lutheran's fleet is determined in part by identifying areas in northern Indiana and western Ohio where there are gaps in the availability of immediate air medical transport. Starke County Airport, 1795 N 200 E, is located approximately 95 miles northwest of Fort Wayne and approximately 83 miles southeast of Chicago.

"We are very pleased to see this project come to fruition, and to have the investment of a leading-edge critical care transport service right here in our own community," said Jeff Vice, interim CEO of Starke Hospital and COO of La Porte Hospital. "Being able to connect Starke and its surrounding counties to highly advanced medical care is part of our mission to improve the health of our patients and the region. We are now able to provide faster access to critical services like heart and kidney transplant programs, major trauma centers, and more."

Although Lutheran Air is primarily known for transporting seriously injured patients from the scene of an accident or burn patients, another important service of the flight program is to quickly transport patients who are in need of various other forms of advanced care. The Lutheran Air program is part of a full spectrum of critical and specialty services offered by Lutheran Health Network. They include level II adult and pediatric trauma centers at Lutheran Hospital, the St. Joseph Regional Burn Center and prehospital EMS coverage in Fulton, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash and Whitley counties.

In addition to Lutheran Air helicopters, Lutheran's critical care transport fleet includes more than 25 ambulances located throughout northern Indiana.

Lutheran contracts with Air Methods to provide the aircraft, pilots and flight mechanics. Air Methods was the first helicopter and EMS operator in the country to reach Level 4 of the voluntary Safety Management System program overseen by the Federal Aviation Administration. Currently, Air Methods is in transition to conform to the next level of the FAA's voluntary SMS program.

(Continued from Page 1)

\$1,200 and a collection of mostly used toys. "Now we get a quarter of a million each year in cash donations," said Small.

With so many toys being donated, why is cash so important? "Most of the toys that are donated are from ages 9 to zero," he said, noting that money raised is used to purchase gifts for ages 10-18, as well as clothing and bedding.

"We rely on donations from pre-kindergarten to big corporations," he said. "We love the big corporations, but I get a bigger charge out of preschool kids giving us their piggy banks. We had a 6-year old give us \$320 that he raised from making cookies with grandma."

Small believe the success of this year's live drive was more remarkable than usual this year, largely due to unusually warm weather that was the norm when the effort began. "We were wearing T-shirts and shorts for our first remotes," he quipped. "I don't know if my legs scared the donors off."

Plans are to continue Christmas For Kids as usual next year and keep the one simple, basic goal in mind while doing so. "We truly do God's work," he said, "and it's the best work possible."

PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Paulding High School has selected their December Students of the Month for their House initiative: Left to right: House Palmarium-Eugene Hemenway, House Excellencia-Fletcher Cook, House Vinco Vici Victum-Lexie Beckman, and House Stupendum- Kalyn Strahley.

ATTENTION ANTWERP VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Snow & Ice on Sidewalks

No owner or occupant of lots or lands abutting any sidewalk shall fail to keep the sidewalks free from snow, ice or any nuisance, and to remove from such sidewalks all snow and ice accumulated thereon within a reasonable times, which will ordinarily not exceed twelve (12) hours after any storm during which snow or ice is accumulated.

The Village was able to completed sidewalks from the center of town to Antwerp School through a grant from Safe Routes to School. This project was meant to keep students off of the roads and out of harms way. Unfortunately, with this last snow, only a handful of sidewalks were cleared.

The Village would remind residents to keep snow and ice removed from their property so students and residents can safely walk to

their destination. The ordinance will be enforced.

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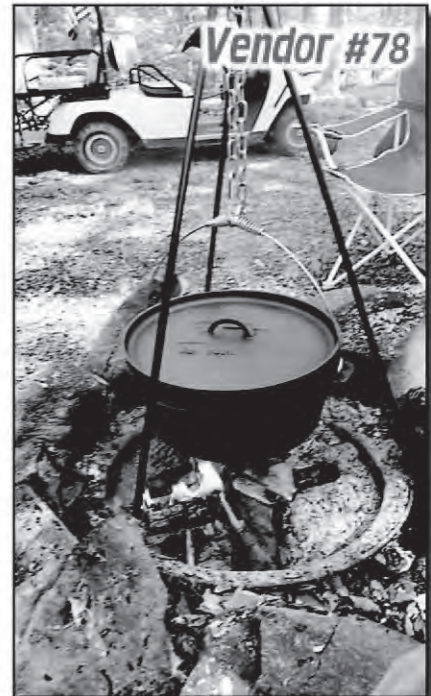
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GOOD NEIGHBORS

By: Stan Jordan
Yesterday was Sunday, December 11th and it snowed most of Saturday night and all day Sunday, a total of 7 1/2 inches.

I was awakened at 4:32 a.m. on Monday, that is today. My neighbor, Kenny Hahn was plowing out my driveway. The Ohio State Highway Department had worked all night and St. Rt 49 is in good driving conditions.

We have so many things to be thankful for.
See ya!

COUGARS IN NORTHERN INDIANA

By: Stan Jordan
The rumors about cougars in northern Indiana are prevalent again.

I wrote a few lines about that a few months ago, but rumors are back again.

Now let me say again, these are just rumors, but I have talked to some people that I respect and they tell me there is some truth to the subject.

Some of the people figure that the DNR of Indiana has brought in a couple of cougars to maybe get rid of the deer population. Now that might be one way of doing the job. Everyone agrees there are too many white tail deer in the area. If you know of any truth to this rumor please let me know.
See ya!

THE EAGLES NEST

By: Stan Jordan
Our local eagles nest here in Antwerp blew down in a vicious wind storm on the night of November 28th.

My work mate, Crystal, has gotten me some information on the eagle nest building, so I will tell you what I found out.

The bald eagle builds the largest nest of any North American bird. Sometimes up to 13 feet wide and weighs as much as a ton. Of course they just keep adding to it each year.

The landscape provides the basic needs, water to drink, fish to eat, forrest trees for shelter, place to raise their young and perches for hunting and resting.

They prefer a place where the water is not deep. Here in Antwerp, the Maumee River gets to down about ankle deep, an ideal place to get fish.

Some pairs need to rebuild their nest almost from scratch if the winds or bad weather

have damaged it. This nesting starts three months before the female lays her eggs.

Bald eagles are very territorial birds and most breeding pairs return to the same nest year after year. They may use the same nest for 35 years, or they may move or build or another nest in the area and then control them both.

Not all eagles migrate, some stay in the north all year, some stay in the south all year.

Eagles nests are constructed with large sticks and may be lined with moss, grass, plant stalks, lickens, seaweed or sod.

I don't know if our eagles will rebuild their nest or just leave. We will just have to wait and see, but we all hope they will remain here, they have been here eleven years and we sure like to see them.
See ya!



SAM RIVERS, INDIAN AGENT CHAPTER 12: THE GARDEN AT THE LAKOTA CAMP

By: Stan Jordan

The old native that is in charge of gardening is called Half Moon. He is quite elderly but he is tough as nails, he's been around a long time. He knows the soil and elements and he is as proud as he is good.

He and the soldier called Farmer went down to the garden area which is a pretty good sized area. There are 35 wiki-ups in camp and about 164 natives, so they use a lot of food in a year's time.

Actually, the farmer and Half Moon could talk pretty good together, lots of pointing and arm gestures but they understood each other.

The site was on a little bit of a rise from the river and no shade trees close by. That made it easier to keep animals out of the garden.

The farmer told Half Moon that we would plow the garden today and plant it tomorrow and he agreed to that.

So, Farmer got started early and the team and the new plow caused quite a commotion. There were people watching all around.

Farmer made round after round and the team rested every little bit, but the ground was not packed down and the horses moved right along with a furrow plow, called a working plow.

It was like a holiday with the whole tribe watching the soldier boy plow up the whole garden. The sun was going down in the west when Farmer and Half Moon called it a

day. Half Moon said that was a little more garden then they ever had before and he nodded a good job.

The squaws had a good meal in the cook out area. They knew that tomorrow they would be working all day planting and they would be too tired for a big meal.

We all sat around the fire and by golly we understand each other pretty good. It seems that all distrust is gone.

While Elk moved Half Moon up beside Farmer and Limping Buffalo and those fellows talked a lot about tomorrow. Half Moon stood up and looked at the sky and declared tomorrow no rain and a nice warm day.

We all slept in our wagons and the natives went back to their tepees. We didn't even post a guard for the night. The Lakota people are a trusting, respectful and honorable tribe.

We were up at first light and had a good breakfast of pancakes and coffee. We had asked Half Moon to come to breakfast and he did. He brought along a grandson named Pony that Walks. He tasted his pancake and had his first taste of coffee. We enjoyed having him around. He caught on to English pretty quickly. In fact, he will soon be a good interpreter.

The Farmer took his team and his drag and worked the garden down in fine shape. After noon, Half Moon marked the garden off into spots or sections, one for each family. It was theirs to plant and take care of.

Half Moon marked off about three quarters of the plowed ground to family plots. The rest of the area was saved for potatoes and corn. He had a few young braves to plant the potatoes and corn.

Most everyone worked right up until dark, but nearly all were finished planting.

Nearly everyone slept in a little today. It was nearly 8:00 our time when Half Moon came around for coffee. You see, Indians don't keep time of day, like the white eyes do. They go by the position of the sun.

Half Moon talked to Farmer about a tool he has made that has a lot of sharp pegs in the rows and it scratches the soil up and we will broadcast wheat into the cracks and runs. They always do this on a small scale and it works okay.

So both of those fellows drove the team both ways over the ground and got it ready. Half Moon wanted to sow the seed himself, and it was all right by us.

We ended up at the campfire that night, we smoked the pipe a couple times and Half Moon talked a lot to Farmer about working up some more ground like he did for the wheat.

Farmer looked at me and I agreed for him to do it. We are really not on any schedule. The soldiers are to go back to Kearney when I am finished with them. It was plenty dark when we turned in that night.

What Half Moon wanted to do was plow up a few acres both ways and broadcast some hay seed like he did the wheat.

He showed some to me and it looked like some hay that back east was known as timothy. It is good for cattle in the winter. So, Farmer worked up a few more acres and Half Moon broadcast the seed.

I guess it was late in the

morning when Farmer and Half Moon finished planting the hay field. The other boys and I had loaded all of our gear into the wagons and harnessed up the teams. We shook hands all around and said our good byes.

Limping Buffalo came forward and gave Farmer a good luck charm for all the hard work and knowledge that he imparted during the gardening. It is like the charm they gave to Billy Metzger some time ago. He is allowed to wear it on his Army uniform.

I guess it was about high noon when we headed south back to the agency at Broken Arrow.

See ya!

I DON'T LIKE WHAT'S GOING ON IN WASHINGTON

By: Stan Jordan

The morning news was full of innuendos and name calling between Russia and the United States and that is bad news. We have to stop this crap at once. There is way too much at stake here. This idea of the Russians throwing the election is hog wash. How could they do that? The election is over so everybody go home. Like it or not Trump has been elected our next president.

In my way of thinking, we can not afford to alienate the Russians. Some words or remarks can lead to other charges.

If we run into trouble with Russia, China, who is also communist, will join them and so will feisty little North Korea.

China could bring America to rock and ruin with the use of a ball point pen. America business men have moved a lot of their manufacturing companies to China because of the lower labor wages.

But if China wants to, they can federalize or take over and run all of the American owned plants. You think not? Well Castro done that in Cuba fifty years ago. Russia took over all farms and businesses and the owner gets \$20.00 per month. Therefore, a lot of CEO's will take a lesson, and the country will go down the drain in a hurry. Something to think about.

(Continued from Page 1)

and mail letters and parcels as well as purchase stamps. It also dispenses postage in any amount for Priority Express Mail, Priority Mail, First-Class and Standard Post services. The kiosk provides mailing information such as ZIP Code lookup and accepts post office box renewals. Postal technology also delivers a Spanish-language option at USPS self-service kiosks. To find a kiosk near you, use the Find Locations tool at www.usps.com.

Mailing Tips

- Print addresses clearly and include all address elements, such as apartment numbers and directional information (ex: 123 S Main St. Apt. 2B)
- Remove batteries from toys. Wrap and place them next to the toys in the mailing box. Customers should include the new batteries in the original packaging.
- Place a card inside the package that contains the delivery and return address. This ensures the package can be delivered or returned should the mailing label become damaged or fall off.

ANTWERP BASKETBALL IN 1918



By: Stan Jordan
This picture was loaned to me by Douglas C. Michael of Edon, Ohio. There were nine ladies in this photo but he only knew the one lady.

The lady in the rear is Emma Wesner, a sister of Tom Foster, who was one of Antwerp's early business men. He owned and operated a clothing store on the corner where West Bend News sits.

He sold that store and it was torn down in 1930. Then he owned a men's clothing store on East River Street,

managed by Howard Thomas. It ceased operations in the late 1940's.

Now this was not an Antwerp High School ladies basketball team, as I understand, it was more like a sandlot get together ball club.

Emma Foster graduated from Antwerp High School in 1914 and then became a registered nurse at a school in Toledo.

She was a very caring person and loved to help people all her life.
See Ya!

• Never guess a ZIP Code. NO ZIP is better than a WRONG ZIP. Look up a ZIP Code at usps.com under Quick Tools.

• Include both "to" and "from" information on packages – and only on one side.

• Do NOT reuse mailing boxes – they weaken in the shipping process.

• Select a box that is strong enough to protect the contents. Priority Mail and Priority Express boxes are free at the local post office.

• Leave space for cushioning inside.

• Stuff glass and fragile, hollow items, like vases, with newspaper or packing material to avoid damage. When mailing framed photographs, take the glass out of the frame and wrap it separately.

Busiest Mailing and Delivery Days

The Postal Service predicts that Monday, December 19, will be the busiest mailing and shipping day for holiday packages, letters and cards. The busiest mailing day also is expected to be the Postal Service's busiest day online with more than 7 million customers predicted to visit usps.com.

Thursday, December 22, is expected to be the busiest delivery day for holiday packages, cards and letters. The Postal Service anticipates that more than 30 million packages will be delivered on that delivery day alone.

The Postal Service recommends the following holiday mail-by-dates to ensure your gift arrives on time:

Tuesday, December 20, First-Class mail; Wednesday, December 21, Priority mail; Friday, December 23, Priority Mail Express

TEN WAYS TO PROTECT MAIL & PACKAGES

1. Avoid sending cash by mail.
Checks and money orders are safer than cash and may be cancelled or reissued in the event of theft.
2. Don't leave delivered mail and packages unattended.
Just as wallets and purses shouldn't be left on the front seat of an unlocked car overnight, mail and packages shouldn't be left uncollected in mailboxes or front porches for any length of time.
3. Consider an alternate shipping address.
Customers can arrange to have packages delivered to neighbors who are home during the day or get packages delivered at work, if permitted.
4. Change the package's ad-

dress—while it's in transit!

Customers who know they won't be home when their package is delivered can try USPS Package Intercept. Prior to delivery, most domestic package shipments can be redirected back to the sender, to a new address or to the Post Office to be held for pickup.

5. Customize the delivery.

If the package doesn't fit in the mail box and the customer won't be home to receive it, they can provide delivery instructions online and authorize their carrier to leave it in a specified location. Visit usps.com, enter tracking number and select Delivery Instructions. Customers can also request the package be left with a neighbor or held at a Post Office for pickup.

6. Plan ahead. Ship using Hold for Pickup.

When shipping packages, customers can choose the Hold for Pickup option and the recipient can collect the package at their local post office. For customers receiving packages, they can redirect incoming packages to their local Post Office by selecting Hold for Pickup using USPS Package Intercept.

7. Going out of town? Hold mail at the local Post Office.

Instead of risking leaving a package unattended for an extended period of time, customers planning on being away from home for a few days are encouraged to take advantage of the Request Hold Mail service. Letters and packages will be held securely at the local Post Office until they return.

8. Secure the shipment using USPS Signature Services.

Signature Services help ensure the package ends up in the right hands by requiring a signature at the time of delivery.

9. Choose the most secure form of delivery.

For the most valuable packages, customers can opt for Registered Mail service. Registered Mail receives special-handling from the time it's mailed until it's delivered, documenting the chain of custody.

10. PO Boxes might be the answer.

Customers concerned about the security of their mail can consider renting a Post Office Box at their local Post Office. The mail remains secure within the Post Office, accessible only when using the right key or combination. Many Post Office lobbies are open 24/7, allowing customers to retrieve mail on their schedule.

Happy Holidays & a Happy New Year!
- From the Stan Jordan Family

ANTWERP ELEMENTARY SPELLING BEE WINNER



Antwerp Elementary School held its spelling bee on Thursday, December 15th. Ten fourth and fifth graders competed in over 20 rounds. Fourth grader Madisyn Peters (pictured on left) won the bee by spelling the word “digestive” correctly. Peters will represent Antwerp Elementary School at the Paulding County Spelling Bee on January 30, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at Paulding Middle School. In the event that she cannot attend, runner-up Leila Spyker (fifth grade) will take her place.

ANTWERP MIDDLE SCHOOL SPELLING BEE



Antwerp Middle School held its spelling bee on Friday, December 16th. Sixteen students in grades 6th - 8th competed in 23 rounds of spelling. Congratulations to three eighth graders who were the final contestants: winner Aaron Hawley (middle) and runners-up Mallory Ehrhart (left) and Joshua Timbrook (right). It was tough competition at the end with Hawley spelling “constabulary” and then “eucalyptus” correctly. Hawley will represent Antwerp Middle School at the Paulding County Spelling Bee on January 30th at 7:00 p.m.

WOODLAN TAKES DOWN ANGOLA

By: Jeff Abbott

Angola held the lead over Woodlan for the first 10 minutes of the game, but the Warriors used a 14-4 run late in the second quarter to take the lead over the Hornets and the home team hung on to win 51-48. Angola used a 9-0 run early in the third period to tie the game as the Warriors had a scoring drought for 5½ minutes. Aaron Hahn hit a three-pointer and a foul shot to end the scoring drought and the Warriors surged ahead to a 6 point lead at the end of the third. Angola cut the lead to 1 in the fourth, but Woodlan held off the visitors down the stretch for the win. Deontae Biggs had 10 points for Woodlan and Aaron Hahn added 18 points. Woodlan fell to the Hornets in the reserve game, 49-45. Ben Reidy and Trevor Wiedenhoef each had 12 points and Matthew Elias added 11 points

13, Turner 7, Miller 4, Hart 4, Duvendack 3

Woodlan Hahn 18, Biggs 10, Fancher 10, Robbins 5, McCarter 4, Gerig 3, Rhoades 1

WOODLAN GIRLS TOPPLE ADAMS CENTRAL

By: Jeff Abbott

A 20-0 second quarter by Woodlan led to a 67-31 pasting of Adams Central in ACAC girls’ basketball. The Warriors led just 14-11 after the first period, then the Warriors broke out with a 20-0 run. Woodlan continued the hot shooting and strong defensive effort in the third quarter to seal the game, outscoring the Jets 25-5. Addison Bayman led the Warriors with 23 points, Samantha Houser had 12 points, and Rain Hinton added 10 points. Woodlan won the reserve game 38-29 with Kate Mendenhall getting 9 points and Katelyn Dyer adding 8 points in the win

Adams Central 11 0 5 15 - 31

Woodlan 14 20 25

8 - 67

Adams Central: Smith 10, Salway 6, Sheets 4, Bebout 4, Bard 2, Holly 3, Lotter 2

Woodlan: Bayman 23, Houser 12, Hinton 10, Kayser 6, Reidenbach 4, Voors 4, Fisher 4, McGettigan 2, Bowers 2

WOODLAN DOWNS JAY COUNTY

By: Jeff Abbott

Jay Houck scored the first 10 points and 15 of the first 17 for the Patriots, but Woodlan spread the offense around and the Warriors downed Jay County 58-53 in ACAC boys’ basketball. It was the first conference loss for the Patriots since joining the conference in 2012. Woodlan led throughout the game, leading by as many as 9 points. Aaron Hahn had 21 points for the home team, Deontae Biggs put in 18 points, and Austin Fancher finished with 15 points. The Warriors won the reserve game, 58-53, with Trevor Wiedenhoef getting 23 points and Aiden Baymen scoring 14 points

Jay County 13 12 12 16 - 53

Woodlan 12 20 12 16 - 60

Jay County: Houck 33, Schlosser 10, Schlechty 4, Stigleman 4, Calvert 2

Woodlan: Hahn 21, Biggs 16, Fancher 15, McCarter 4, Howard 2, Gerig 2

WOODLAN OVERTAKES BLUFFTON

By: Jeff Abbott

Woodlan pulled away from Bluffton in the second half as the Warriors beat the Tigers 56-44 in an ACAC girls’ basketball game. Woodlan trailed by 2 at the end of the first quarter 11-9 and 20-18 at the half. Woodlan outscored the half team 38-24 over the final 16 minutes to seal the victory.

Woodlan 9 9 18 20 - 56

Bluffton 11 9 11 13 - 44

WOODLAN WRESTLING

By: Jeff Abbott

It came down to the final match of the evening, as both teams had 36 points on the scoreboard, and Woodlan’s Trevor Wallace came up with a 16-10 decision win at 182 pounds to give the home team a 39-36 win over Eastside. Tucker Wallace had a pin for Woodlan at 160 pounds and Shawn Roemer added one at 145 pounds for the Warriors

195 Erwin (E) pin Keller (W) 4:53; 0-6
220 Miller (E) forfeit; 0-12
285 C Leeper (E) pin Murray (W) 1:09; 0-18
106 Kissinger (E) pin M Hoot (W) 1:41; 0-24
113 Ch Schuller (W) forfeit; 6-24
120 Miller (W) forfeit; 12-24
126 A Schuller (W) forfeit; 18-24
132 Burns (E) dec. G Hoot (W) 6-3; 18-27
138 A Roemer (W) injury def. Ca Leeper (E); 24-27
145 S Roemer (W) pin Munsey (E) 1:12; 30-27
152 Hand (E) dec. Martz (W) 7-0; 30-30
160 Tu Wallace (W) pin Rowe (E) 1:35; 36-30
170 Minnick (E) pin Lewis (W) 3:08; 36-36
182 Tr Wallace (W) dec Davis (E) 16-10; 39-36

2016-2017 WOODLAN WRESTLING SENIOR RECOGNITION

Alyssa Schuller (126), daughter of Samuel & Amy O’Campo. Alyssa was a member of the Warriors wrestling team and part of the Woodlan Service Club. She plans to attend MacMurray College and wrestle with future plans to become a nurse practitioner

Ged Hoot (132), son of Marvin & April Hoot. Ged was part of the Spirit of Woodlan band and the Warriors’ wrestling team. He plans to attend Ball State University

Austin Roemer (138), son of Joe & Sherri Roemer. Austin wrestled for 4 years for Woodlan, was a 2 time regional qualifier and a 2016 semi-state qualifier. His future plans are undecided.

Shawn Roemer (145), son of Sherri & Joe Roemer. Shawn wrestled for the Warriors for 4 years and is undecided on his future plans

Zack Zink (152), son of Jess & Jennifer Zink. Zach played for years of football, 4 years of wrestling, 1 year of track, and 2 years on the National Honor Society. He plans to attend Purdue University and study athletic training

Tucker Wallace (160), son on Stacie Wallace. Tucker played baseball for the Warriors as well as wrestled. He plans to attend Stanford University to study for neurosurgery

Rylee Lewis (170) wrestled for the Warriors and played football. He was a 2016 semi-state qualifier at 195 lbs. His future plans are undecided

Malik Murray (285), son of Angela Householder. Malik played 4 years of football and named to the All-State team. He wrestled for 2 seasons, played baseball for 1 season, and was part of the FFA for 1 year. He plans to attend Trine University and play football for the Thunder

LADY PANTHERS ADD WIN!

Paulding defeated Ada on Thursday, December 15. The game took place at the Panther court. The Paulding girls knew what they were doing on this night as they started the game taking the first quarter. Coach mentioned Bri Townley as having double digit points and rebounds (21 pts/10 reb.) for the evening. The Lady Panther basketball team did a great job of spreading the points around with Skyler McCullough and Cassidy Posey also earning 10 each.

Three point baskets were made by Allison Arend, Audrey Manz, and two by Skyler McCullough.

The game finished with Paulding winning by 15 points 64-49.

Score by Quarter:

Paulding: 14 18 15 17 = 64

Ada: 12 9 18 10 = 49

Score by Player: Sydney McCullough 2; Faith Vogel 5; Allison Arend 9; Audrey Manz 5; Kaylen Hale 2; Skyler McCullough 10; Brianna Townley 21; Cassidy Posey 10.

After this match Paulding varsity is now 2-4 for the season.

RAIDERS STILL UNDEFEATED

The Raiders travelled to Liberty Center on Friday, December 16. The Raiders shot down the Tigers in this game

PAYNE SPELLING BEE WINNERS



Fifth grade student Tori Stoller (left in photo) won the Payne Elementary spelling bee. The winning word was veins. Tori is the daughter of Corbin and Katie Stoller. Melanie Dunham, the daughter of Jason and Sheila Dunham was runner-up (right in photo).

when they finished with a 20-point win. Brady Stabler was hitting three point baskets left and right from the beginning of this match and clearly his points were a big help here. On the other side, Blake Graber was also hitting three point baskets quite well. The Raiders took an early lead in the first period and this set the tone for the rest of the match.

By half time the Raiders were in the lead 48-31. Earlier in the season it appeared the team might be depending a little too much on Ethan Linder but several players have come around to significantly add balance to the team now.

The game finished with Wayne Trace winning by a 20 point margin—82-62.

Score by Quarter:

Wayne Trace: 25 23 17 17 = 82

Liberty Center: 17 14 19 12 = 62

Score by player:

Wayne Trace: Brady Stabler 15; Eli Sinn 7; Josh Kuhn 5; Jon Sinn 4; Blaine Jerome 5; Trae Sinn 2; Ethan Linder 30; Jake Kuhn 14.

Liberty Center: Conner Sonnenberg 5; Thomas Speit 2; Christian Chamber 7; Austin Like 7; Cody Spradlin 8; Blake Graber 18; Zach Carpenter 8; Jarrett Krugh 7.

After this match Wayne Trace was 4-0.

The Wayne Trace JV game was won by the Raiders 35-26.

LADY RAIDERS WIN CLOSE MATCH

On Monday, December 12 the Wayne Trace Lady Raiders travelled to the Liberty Center Gym for the basketball game. Both teams—LC and WT were quite evenly matched. The competitiveness was impressive when both teams ended up at 12-13 in the first period. In the second set, the Raiders gained a little bit only to be back to just about even at the end of the third quarter. Brooke Sinn and Claire Sinn both added 3 point field goals to the Raider score. Liberty Center’s Meghan Skeens had 3 - 3 point baskets of her own.

In the end, the Lady Raiders took the game when they stopped the home team from scoring, making the score 49-43.

Score by Quarter:

Wayne Trace: 12 15 11 11 = 49

Liberty Center: 13 9 14 7 = 43

Wayne Trace Score by Player: Claire Sinn 13; Sadie Sinn 3; Kaylee Shepherd 12; Gracie Gudakunst 8; Danae Myers 8; Brooke Sinn 5.

Liberty Center player scores: Olivia Leatherman 5; Peyton Spieth 13; Sydney Altman 4; Emma Babcock 2; Kenzie Detmer 4; Meghan Skeens 13; Hannah Detmer 2.

The Raiders won the JV game 38 - 21.

TWO OHIO COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS RECOGNIZED BY U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted commended the boards of elections in both Franklin and Hamilton Counties on their awards in the Election Worker Best Practices Competition overseen by the U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC). The Franklin and Hamilton County Boards of Elections were two of only five counties nationwide chosen for the prestigious award.

“The 2016 Presidential Election in Ohio was not only one of the most well-run systems in the nation, it was also one of the most efficient and strong performances our state has seen in many years and that is due to the innovative and diligent work of the people are our 88 county boards of elections,” Secretary Husted said.

The Franklin County Board of Elections was recognized for their program “Champions of Democracy,” a campaign that partners with local businesses in order to help recruit and train new poll workers to ensure voters have positive experiences while casting their ballots on Election Day.

The Hamilton County Board of Elections was honored for both their “Youth at the Booth” and “Partners in Democracy” initiatives. Youth at Booth is an innovative that pairs younger poll workers with their elders to recruit new generations of election officials while ensuring a group of people with diverse backgrounds and skills working the polls on election day. Partners in Democracy encourages business and agencies to give their employees a “day off for democracy” so they can serve as poll workers.

Winners of the Election Worker Best Practices Award were judged by the EAC based off of their innovativeness, effectiveness, sustainability, cost effectiveness and potential for replication.

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RAIDER GRAPPLERS 2ND, GOELTZENLEUCHTER MOW AT ARCADIA



Ruger Goeltzenleuchter takes down his opponent.

Wayne Trace Wrestling would square off in their first tournament of the season at the Arcadia Invitational on December 10th. Coach Clemens took his young squad east not sure how they would

respond in their first tournament action of the season. This year's edition of the red, white, and blue is a little low on numbers and experience, but is anchored by senior Ruger Goeltzenleuchter, a return-

ing state placer. Wayne Trace would field only 9 wrestlers: a senior, a junior, a freshman, and 6 sophomores, but would not take long for this team to respond in a big way. In the first round, only one Raider would suffer a loss and in the second round, no Raider would suffer a loss. In fact, Wayne Trace would lead this tournament for most of the day and garner bonus points via tech falls and pins in most of their wins. As the final points were added for place finishers, the Raiders would fall behind Van Buren merely due to less placers to add to their score. They would lose Caleb Baughman to an injury and with only eight wrestlers capturing placement points, they would still out distance all other teams to be runners up. Van Buren would capture the title with 229

points, WT 194.5, Montpelier 192.5, and Elmwood with 182 would round out the top four teams. Individually, 126# Caleb Baughman and HWY Noah Rell would both finish in 6th place. 138# Austin Smith, 3-2, would capture a fourth place finish. Finishing third would be 106# Daniel Ruiz, 3-1, and 152# Kameron Bevis, 4-1. 120# Tyler Bauer, 4-1, and 145# Wyatt Stabler, 3-1, would both be runners up for the day. Hunter Showalter would find himself a top the podium as the 160# champion. He would go 4-0 on the day with three pins and a major decision. He would upset the #2 seed on the day, and would be one of two Raider champions at the tournament.

132# Ruger Goeltzenleuchter would run the table at Arcadia and find himself the Arcadia tournament champion and the MOW, most outstanding wrestler, as voted on by the coaches. Ruger would control all matches and would post three tech fall wins by take-down only.

Ruger would post an astonishing 43 takedowns in this tournament as he sets his sights on achieving his goal for the year of breaking the historical single season takedown record for the state of Ohio. "He is very capable of attaining his goal for takedowns and is on pace to achieve that. He put together an amazing performance today," commented Coach Clemens. "Overall, I am so proud of this young team. Ruger comes out and wrestles like the wrestler he is and you know what Ruger is going to give you, but for the rest of this team to come out and battle the way they did was exciting to see. We are young, but we wrestle hard, and there is no quit in this group." Coach Clemens concluded with, "I am very satisfied finishing in second place today with a smaller and young team." Wayne Trace hosted senior night on Thursday, December 15th at Wayne Trace hosting Ayersville and Tinora.

LADY WARRIORS TAKE OUT PATRIOTS



Woodlan's Katelyn Bowers reaches up to block Monica Scott's under-the-basket shot. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Lady Patriots braved the icy roads on Saturday, December 17 to take on the Warrior basketball team. Woodlan has performed just above average this year and is right at 7-7 before this game. Tip off started with Rain Hinton tapping it back to the Lady Warriors. On the first drive forward they were able to score the first basket of the game. It wasn't long before Woodlan had a good amount on the board. Both Sammy Voors and Rain Hinton did a good job of adding points to their side. Before the end of the first period, Heritage had a comeback, tying the first period at 8, then in the second period, at the beginning, they were tied at 12. Coach Cobb wasn't going to have that. He had a talk and sent his team back out and soon they nearly doubled the Patriots' score. By half time the score was 15-

22 with Woodlan in the lead. The second half, the lady Warriors continued their path to victory. In fact, both teams pretty much performed about the same. Neveah Feasby was able to score the only 3 point goal for the Lady Patriots while Samantha Houser and Sammy Voors were both able to tap into 3 point goals for the home team. The final score of the game was 47-34 with the home team adding to their wins. score by quarter: Heritage: 8 7 10 9 = 34 Woodlan: 8 14 12 13 = 47 Score by Player: Heritage: Neveah Feasby 3; Rozlynn Everhart 14; Sidnie Bienz 8; Bree Dossen 7; Monica Scott 2 Woodlan: Sam Houser 5; Ellie Kayser 3; Sammy Voors 13; Rain Hinton 26; More pictures at westbendnews.net



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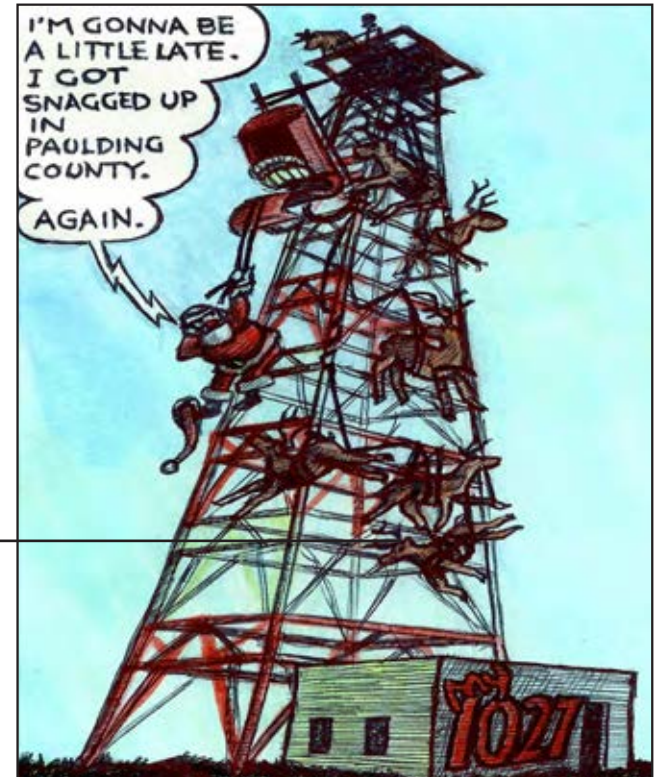
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ARCHERS HOSTS TIGERS

On December 15, 2016, the Antwerp 7th grade boys basketball team hosted the Tigers from Holgate. The Archers started off somewhat slow in the first half, but brought out their tenacious defense in the second half and won the contest 42-15. Converting turnovers into points allowed this team to pull away from the Tigers in the scoring column.

Leading the Archers to victory in scoring were Luke Krouse with 11 points, Hunter Sproles scored 10 followed by Jagger Landers with 6. Tucker Franklin, Kaden Recker and Gaige McMichael

each scored 4 points. Kaden Phares and Stephon Walker rounded out the scoring with 2 points for Phares and 1 free throw for Walker. This was another great example of team basketball!!!



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115 North Williams Street, Paulding, OHIO 45879



Age	Sex	Spay / Neut	Color									Hair (S/M/L)	Breed	Rabies #	Term 1-3-P	Fee Paid	Penalty	Office Use		
			BL	WH	GR	BD	TA	BR	YE	RE	2016 License #							2017 License #		
YRs	MOs	(M/F)																		

Vet/Clinic: _____ A penalty in an amount equal to the registration fee shall be assessed if Dog License is not secured on or before January 31, or within 30 days after the dog becomes 3 months of age, is acquired, or is brought from outside the state. ORC Sec 955.01, 05.
The undersigned says that the facts indicated above ARE TRUE.

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RAIDERS DEFEAT LADY PANTHERS



Wayne Trace's Claire Sinn and Paulding's Faith Vogel both for the rebound. More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Girls Basketball contest between local rivals Paulding and Wayne Trace took place this year at the

Palace on December 13. The game started well for Paulding when they outscored the home team by quite a



Gracie Gudakunst shoots and scores for Wayne Trace. More pictures at westbendnews.net

bit, but the second quarter changed everything for the Raiders when they took back the game in short order. The lady Panthers were only able to score 2 more

points on top of the 11 they nailed the first quarter. The half finished 13 to 25.

Periods 3 and 4 continued in the pattern of the second quarter. Claire Sinn, Sadie Sinn, and Gracie Gudakunst were all able to score 3 point baskets for the home team. Danae Myers was on fire scoring 72% of her field goal attempts.

Top scorer for Paulding was Briana Townley, having more than half of the Paulding points. Sydney McCullough scored 50% of her free throws.

Score by quarter:
Paulding: 11 2 6 2 = 21
Wayne Trace: 8 17 16 10 = 51

Paulding player points: Sydney McCullough 6; Allison Arend 2; Briana Townley 13.

Wayne Trace Player Points: Clair Sinn 7; Miriam Sinn 2; Sadie Sinn 5; Kaylee Shepherd 6; Gracie Gudakunst 7; Danae Myers 18; Brooke Sinn 6.

After this game Paulding was 1-4 while the Raiders were 5-0. The JV team finished with Wayne Trace winning 49-15.

More pictures at westbendnews.net

ANTWERP WRESTLERS EARN CAREER MILESTONES OVER THE WEEK-END

Both the junior high and high school wrestling squads for Antwerp competed over the weekend on Saturday, December 10, 2016. The junior high wrestlers competed in the Bryan Invitational and came away with 1 placer. 7th grader Trace Lengacher earned the first tournament placing of his young career by finishing 2nd on the day with a 1-1 record with his 1 win coming by way of pin.

Meanwhile, over at the Lancer Invitational, all 3 of the Antwerp High school wrestlers placed in the top 3 of their respective weight classes. Placing 3rd at 120 pounds was freshman Randall Mills. Mills finished the day with 3 wins and 2 losses with 1 pin and 1 technical fall. This also marks the first time Randall has placed at a tournament in his high school career. Also finishing 3rd on the day was junior Owen Miller at 126 pounds. Miller also compiled a record of 3 wins and 2 losses with all of his wins coming by pin. Like Mills, this also marks the first time that Miller was able to place at a tournament in his career. Earning a 1st place finish for the Archers on Saturday was senior Logan Shaner at 170 pounds. Shaner amassed a

5-0 record on the day with all 5 wins coming by pin. After finishing 2nd twice last season Shaner broke through early this year to capture his first individual tournament championship of the young season. Congratulations to all of the Antwerp wrestlers for their accomplishments over the weekend and let's hope these career milestones will push them to get better as the season progresses.

FV GIRLS BASKETBALL VS. HICKSVILLE

The girls basketball team hosted Hicksville last night in a non-league contest. The varsity team put up a 4 quarter fight, ultimately falling 48-53 as Hicksville was strong on the line down the stretch. Leading scorer was Mercedes Wagner with 18 points to go along with 7 rebounds, 3 steals, and 5 assists. Katie Crites added 12 points and 10 rebounds for her first double-double of the season. Kendra Schroeder added 7 points and both Allison Vetter and Katelyn Smith added 4. Rounding out the scoring was Carly Wendling with 3 points. All 7 varsity players who saw the floor recorded a steal (Wagner, Crites, Schroeder, Vetter, Smith, Wendling, Riley Collins). Way to go girls!

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8 TINY FACTS ABOUT REINDEER THAT CLICK (PLUS A 9TH)



Reindeer have feet like snowshoes, antlers like a rocking chair, and connections in story and song to Santa Claus.

But they don't live wild in Ohio.

Neither do caribou, which belong to the same species (see No. 2 below).

And Marne Titchenell — who's a wildlife program specialist with the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University — hasn't even seen them in Alaska.

"I went there a couple of years ago," she said. "I thought I had a good chance, considering there are more caribou there than people. But no dice.

"I've had to rely on the ones I've seen at the Columbus Zoo."

A relative lives in Ohio
Titchenell has a sleighful of experience, however, with a reindeer and caribou relative.

White-tailed deer live in all 88 of Ohio's counties, have reached nuisance levels in some cities, and part of her job is teaching workshops that show people ways to deal with them.

There's a tiny bit of good news, she said: "I can confidently say, with the backing of the scientific community, that white-tailed deer can't fly."

She's less firm when it comes to reindeer. "I've never seen one fly," she said. "But I keep looking." Especially Dec. 24.

Confirmed reindeer facts include the following:
1. Reindeer used to be Buckeyes.

Once upon a time, about, hmmm, at least 10,000 years ago — until the end of the Pleistocene Ice Age — reindeer lived in the area that became Ohio.

Paleontologists have found reindeer fossils in the Buckeye State and Georgia, Kentucky, Tennessee, North

Carolina and West Virginia, among others.

2. Reindeer are the same things as caribou. In general. But maybe, somewhat, not.

Reindeer and caribou belong to the same species, which is Rangifer tarandus. In general, people use "caribou" in North America, "reindeer" in Europe and Asia.

"Caribou" also tends to refer to the larger, wild R. tarandus types, like the ones in Canada and Alaska, while "reindeer" often, but not always, means the slightly smaller, domesticated kinds, like many of the ones in Scandinavia.

Scientists say in all, there are 14 R. tarandus subspecies and at least four domesticated breeds.

A 2013 study complicates matters. Based on DNA analysis, the study suggested that reindeer/caribou should be in two groups. One group is the caribou in southern Canada. The other group is the caribou in Alaska and northern Canada plus the reindeer in Europe and Asia.

The scientists who did the study said the Ice Age split the two groups apart about 200,000 years ago, and their genes and adaptations to their environment, including to changing climates, are somewhat different because of it.

3. Reindeer are deer.
Reindeer are members of the Cervidae, or deer, family. The Cervidae family, to name a few, includes elk, moose and Ohio's white-tailed deer.

4. Reindeer DO go click, click, click.

Reindeer make a clicking sound when they walk, and not just when up on a house-top. Tendons snap over sesamoid bones in their feet, and that's what makes the click.

Experts think the clicking helps the members of a herd stay in contact, especially in snowstorms or, say, when it's foggy.

5. Reindeer also vocalize. Which doesn't count shout-

(USDA) has approved and obligated the first loan under the Highly Fractionated Indian Land Loan program (HFIL). The program provides revolving loan funds to qualified intermediary lenders, allowing qualified tribes and individuals the ability to purchase tribal

ing with glee.

Reindeer cows grunt to their calves. Calves bleat and bawl to their mothers. Males snort, hoot, bellow and rattle hoarsely when trying to attract a mate. A special inflatable air sac in the neck gives the calls of the males extra oomph.

6. When a reindeer senses danger, it may sniff, listen, stare, urinate, 'wheeze-snort,' rear up and jump in the air like a stallion, then run away. Often in that order.

Scientists call the rearing up and jumping an "excitation leap." It's a visual warning to other reindeer. It could mean there's a predator coming, like a wolf, a bear or a fearsome, toothy, bounceable biped you could even describe as abominable.

7. There's a reason a reindeer can have a red nose. At least on the inside. And it's gross.

Flies called reindeer nose bot flies may deposit their larvae in a reindeer's nostrils. The larvae then grow in the throat or sinuses. One of the results can be inflammation. But you couldn't really say the nose glows. The reindeer sneezes them out in spring.

8. A reindeer runs faster than a grandma.

A reindeer can run at speeds of up to 48 mph. A grandma walking home from someone's house Christmas Eve, or any other day, averages about 3 mph. If both the reindeer and grandma were traveling in the same direction and following the same path, the grandma indeed and unfortunately would get run over by the reindeer.

Even Olympic gold-medal-winning sprinter Elaine Thompson, who's capable of about 21 mph over 100 meters, would have hoof prints.

9. 'Up on the House Top' — and its composer's house — have histories in Ohio.

Finally, there's a reindeer tie to Ohio in music. Benjamin Hanby — who was born in Rushville, lived in Westerville and went to Otterbein University — composed "Up on the House Top" in 1864. According to its Wikipedia entry, the song is "considered the first Yuletide song focused primarily on Santa Claus" — and his four-footed, foot-clicking helpers.

Hanby was a minister, abolitionist and helped with the Underground Railroad. Today, his Westerville home is preserved as the Hanby House State Memorial, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and is included in the National Park Service's Network to Freedom of significant Underground Railroad sites.

farmland that has multiple owners. Scuse made the announcement during the Intertribal Agriculture Council Membership meeting in Las Vegas, Nev.

"This program was created to address a longstanding barrier to agricultural financing in Indian Country," said Scuse. "Working with intermediary lenders, the program allows USDA to help increase the availability of farm loans to Native Americans who want to start or expand a farming or ranching operation on Indian lands."

The first recipient, the Native American Community Development Corporation Financial Services,

Inc. (NACDCFS) of Brown-ing, Mont., will lend funds directly to tribal members through a \$10 million intermediary HFIL loan from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). NACDCFS addresses critical needs in Native American communities related to the growth of family assets, supports economic development, and enhances the quality of life for communities and residents located on or near Montana's seven Indian reservations. NACDCFS provides one-on-one technical assistance to Native American entrepreneurs and agricultural producers. NACDCFS is a 501(c) (3), certified Native Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), through the U.S. Department of Treasury.

Under the 1887 Dawes Act, Indian reservation land was divided and allotted to individual tribal members such that with the passing of each generation, title ownership was divided and parceled among heirs, while the land was not. As a result, land once owned by a single person could today be owned by hundreds or thousands of individuals, resulting in what is known as "highly fractionated Indian land." In many instances, landowners are unknown or cannot be located, which complicates the coordination of ownership or prevents the use of the property altogether. There are more than 245,000 owners of three million fractionated land interests, spanning approximately 150 Indian reservations.

Under HFIL, tribes and tribal members can submit an application directly to an intermediary lender. To participate, intermediary lenders first must be approved by USDA. The lenders may be private and tribal nonprofit corporations, public agencies, Indian tribes or lenders subject to federal or state regulation (such as a credit union or other financial institution). FSA will lend to the intermediary, which will relend to the applicant. The intermediary lender also will administer the loan for the applicant.

For more information on the program, visit www.fsa.usda.gov/farmloans or contact the local FSA county office. To find the local FSA office, visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

Over the past eight years, USDA has taken big, bold steps to forge a new era for civil rights and ensure all Americans who come to USDA for help are treated fairly, with dignity and respect. Through coordinated outreach and consistent engagement, USDA is forming new partnerships in diverse communities and regaining trust where it was once lost. Learn more about our progress during the Obama Administration to increase access to opportunity for all Americans, and to create a more equal and inclusive USDA in Chapter 8 of our yearlong results project: The People's Department: A New Era for Civil Rights at USDA.

MOOSELTOWE



Mrs. Tammy Nouza's first grade class at Grover Hill Elementary enjoyed making an art project to go with the story *Mooseltowe* by Margie Palatini. The class used the story to do phonological awareness activities throughout the week. Pictured here: Class 1B, Cayley Caldwell, Gracie manson, Londyn Greear, Reed Bidlack, Braxton Schnipke, Mary Kimmel, Nevada Osborn, Jayce Edwards, Keriona Bell, Luke Miller, Aries Ricker, Zackary Wieland, Jackson Antoine, Ashlyn Manz and Jensen Beining.

BARGAIN BIN AWARDED GRANT



The Paulding County Hospital Foundation has awarded a grant to the Bargain Bin of Paulding to assist with their new building. Pictured is PCHF President, Lou Levy, presenting the check to Bargain Bin Treasurer, Donna Pieper, and President, Rhonda Smalley.

ANTWERP ELEMENTARY GET INTO HOLIDAY SPIRIT



Nancy Lichty helps her grandson Dalton Hines decorate a cookie.

Mrs. Billman's preschool class at Antwerp Elementary School got into the holiday spirit before winter break by decorating Christmas cookies and making Grinch artwork. Parents and grandparents joined the preschoolers for the fun activities.

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WAYNE TRACE CHRISTMAS CONCERT



Wayne Trace JH-HS annual Christmas Concert held on Monday December 12. The band and choir are under the instruction of Sharon Spinner and Joni Wenninger.

FIRST DEFIANCE FINANCIAL CORP. RECEIVES REGULATORY APPROVAL FOR PROPOSED MERGER

First Defiance Financial Corp. ("First Defiance") (NASDAQ: FDEF) and Commercial Bancshares, Inc. ("Commercial") (OTCQX: CMOH) announced today that the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency has approved the merger of The Commercial Savings Bank, the wholly owned subsidiary of Commercial, into First Defiance's wholly owned bank subsidiary, First Federal Bank of the Midwest, and that the Federal Reserve Board agreed to waive the requirement that First Defiance file an application for the merger of Commercial into First Defiance and the related bank mergers.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here: <http://www.businesswire.com/>

news/home/20161213006297/en/

"We are pleased to complete this key regulatory step. We remain on schedule with all of our integration tasks and look forward to a first quarter close," stated Donald P. Hileman, President and Chief Executive Officer of First Defiance. "We are excited to have our two companies joining to better serve Commercial's customers and communities."

The acquisition includes seven, full-service Commercial Savings Bank offices located in Hancock, Wyandot and Marion counties in Ohio and a loan production office located in Worthington, Ohio. All full-service office locations will be re-branded as First Federal Bank.

The transaction was announced in August and is expected to close on February 24, 2017, pending shareholder approval and the satisfaction

of other closing considerations.

About First Defiance Financial Corp.

First Defiance Financial Corp., headquartered in Defiance, Ohio, is the holding company for First Federal Bank of the Midwest and First Insurance Group. First Federal Bank operates 34 full-service branches and numerous ATM locations in northwest Ohio, southeast Michigan and northeast Indiana and a loan production office in Columbus, Ohio. First Insurance Group is a full-service insurance agency with six offices throughout northwest Ohio. For more information, visit the company's Web site at www.fdef.com.

About Commercial Bancshares, Inc.

Commercial Bancshares, Inc, headquartered in Upper Sandusky, Ohio, is the financial holding company for The Commercial Savings Bank and Commercial Financial and Insurance Agency, LTD. The Commercial Saving Bank operates 7 full-service branches and a loan production office in Worthington, Ohio.

Important Information for Investors and Shareholders

This news release does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities of First Defiance. First Defiance has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 and other documents regarding the proposed transaction referenced in this news release with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") to register the First Defiance common shares to be issued to the shareholders of Commercial. The registration statement includes a proxy statement/prospectus, which will be sent to the shareholders of Commercial in advance of its special meeting of shareholders to be held to consider the proposed merger. Investors and security holders are urged to read the proxy statement/prospectus and any other relevant documents filed or to be filed with the SEC in connection with the proposed transaction because they contain important information about First Defiance, Commercial and the proposed transaction. Investors and security holders may obtain a free copy of these documents (when available) through the website maintained by the SEC at www.sec.gov. These documents may also be obtained, without charge, by directing a request to First Defiance Financial Corp., 601 Clinton Street, Defiance, Ohio 43512, Attn.: Investor Relations. First Defiance and Com-

mercial and certain of their directors and executive officers may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the shareholders of Commercial in connection with the proposed merger. Information about the directors and executive officers of First Defiance is set forth in the proxy statement for First Defiance's 2016 annual meeting of shareholders, as filed with the SEC on Schedule 14A on March 10, 2016. Information about the directors and executive officers of Commercial is set forth in the proxy statement for Commercial's 2016 annual meeting of shareholders, as filed with the SEC on a Schedule 14A on April 7, 2016. Additional information regarding the interests of those participants and other persons who may be deemed participants in the transaction may be obtained by reading the proxy statement/prospectus regarding the proposed merger. Free copies of this document may be obtained as described in the preceding paragraph.

Safe Harbor Statement

This news release may contain certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are intended to be safe harbors created thereby. Those statements may include, but are not limited to, all statements regarding intent, beliefs, expectations, projections, forecasts and plans of First Defiance Financial Corp. and its management. These forward-looking statements involve numerous risks and uncertainties, including a failure to satisfy the conditions to closing for the merger in a timely manner or at all; failure of the Commercial shareholders to approve the merger; failure to obtain the necessary regulatory approvals or the imposition of adverse regulatory conditions in connection with such approvals; the successful completion and integration of the transaction contemplated in this release; the retention of the acquired customer relationships; disruption to the parties' businesses as a result of the announcement and pendency of the transaction; adverse changes in econom-

WAYNE TRACE CLUB OFFERINGS



Wayne Trace JH-HS recently began offering clubs to all JH-HS students. Research indicates that involvement in a club has many benefits. For example, they allow students to interact with others who have common interests as well as provide opportunities to work with a group of people toward a goal. Clubs also encourage the use of leadership and real-world skills. Additionally, clubs provide a sense of belonging which might improve the students' perspectives of the school environment. Furthermore, though

we acknowledge that the primary function of schools is to provide an academic environment, we also believe that a well-rounded education should include time for enjoyable experiences. Overall, clubs tend to enrich both the social and academic skills of students who are involved. A sampling of the clubs offered are: Books, Chess, Creative Writing, Fashion, Debate, Movie Appreciation, Photography, Sewing, Small Engine Repair, etc..... All photos attached were taken by the Photography Club.

ic conditions; the impact of competitive products and prices; and the other risks set forth in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015. One or more of these factors have affected or could in the future affect First Defiance's business and financial results in future periods and could cause actual results to differ materially from plans and projections. Therefore, there can be no assurances that the forward-looking statements included in this news release will prove to be accurate. In light of the significant uncertainties in the forward-looking statements included herein, the inclusion of such information should not be regarded as a representation by First Defiance or any other persons, that our objectives and plans will be achieved. All forward-looking statements made in this news release are based on information presently available to the management of First Defiance. We assume no

obligation to update any forward-looking statements

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The West Bend News

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- Bryan:** Chief, Town & Country, McDonald's, Bryan Senior Center, Walmart
- Cecil:** 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, Cabbage Patch Convenience Store
- Edgerton:** Marathon, Valero, Kaiser Supermarket, Utilities Office, Napa
- Grover Hill:** Ross' Gas Station, N&N Quick Stop
- Hicksville:** Cline's Market, Hickory Hills Golf Course, Sailors, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, McDonald's, H20, Senior Center
- Latty:** Kohart's Surplus & Salvage, Country Inn Living Center
- Melrose:** Morning Star Convenience Store
- Oakwood:** Rhees' Market, The Landing Strip, The Oakleaf, Cooper Community Branch Library, TrueValue Hardware
- Paulding:** Paulding Co. Carnegie Library, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Napa True Value, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Holly Wood and Vine, Paulding County Senior Center, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert

- Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding Co. Bookmobile, Susie's Bakery, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. OSU Extension Office, Paulding County Historical Society, Paulding Co. Sheriff's Office, Past Time Cafe
- 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, Family Video, Orchard Tree, 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, Paterson Hardware, Richard's Restaurant, New Haven Chamber, Crumback Chevrolet, Hahn Systems
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5TH GRADE EXPLORES POLLUTION WITH THE ENVIROSCAPE MODEL



By: Patrick Troyer, Education Specialist

Recently, 5th grade students in Kathy Sinn's class at Grover Hill Elementary learned how everyone plays their equal part in contributing to the pollution that plagues our creeks, streams, rivers, and eventually Lake Erie. Students were able to visually see how everyone plays a part in pollution via the Enviroscape model.

Of course, to understand how water pollution occurs and moves through the environment, students reviewed knowledge on the water cycle and learned about watersheds. The water cycle consists of water moving through the environment in four basic stages of precipitation (rain, snow), collection (falling into lakes, rivers), evaporation (liquid to gas), and condensation (gas to liquid). Students then learned about watersheds and how they are important to understand in pollution. A watershed is an area of land whose water drains to a common body of water and includes all the rivers, creeks, and lakes in that area as well as all the soil, air, and groundwater within its boundaries.

As humans, we have done our part to alter the water cycle by paving over the ground surface in our towns and cities. In this case, runoff becomes a major issue as the water cannot penetrate the pavement and leads to runoff. With that water that is moving over the surface it also carries pollutants with it such as motor oil, fertilizer, pesticide, soil, roadsalt, carwash soap, that we don't want to see in our streams that we rely on for our water. This pollution goes into storm drains which commonly do not go to the water treatment plant during a large rainstorm. On the other hand, stormwater in the country can soak into the ground in most cases and filtered by plants growing in the area.

Pollution can come as either point or non-point pollution. In point pollution, there is utmost certainty where the pollution is coming from and this could include a factory drain pipe or a sewage ditch. Things get trickier with non-

point pollution because we cannot pinpoint where the pollution is coming from as it could be coming from a wide variety of areas such as farm fields, home lawns, construction sites, factories, or even roadways. It comes from all these sources and not one source.

To demonstrate how every individual in a community plays a part in pollution, students observed the Enviroscape model. In this model, there is a factory, construction site, residential area, roadways, and farm fields along with a river that leads to a lake. The first pollutant introduced was manure (chocolate sprinkles) which went on the residential areas for those who have pets, around the lake for animals who live there, and the farmer's field. Other pollutants included road salt (powdered soap), litter (paper), fertilizer/pesticides (different colors of Kool-Aid), soil (cocoa powder), motor oil (vegetable oil), carwash soap (dish soap), and grass clippings.

Once all the pollutants were spread in all the areas that utilize these items, a big rainstorm came along. As the rainstorm intensified, students could see their environment become very polluted and dirty very quickly as all the pollution washed off the landscape into the river and eventually the lake. Students could see how even the homes far away from the lake contributed to the polluted lake. Overall, everyone plays their individual part to maintain the health of our local waterways. All the individual sources of pollution add up to a larger problem by the time it gets to our lakes as we saw with Lake Erie near Toledo.

Pollution can be avoided in many ways. We can wash our cars on the lawn to prevent the harmful phosphate soaps from reaching streams, plant cover crops to reduce soil erosion by holding the soil in place, or checking our cars to see if there are any gas or oil leaks. Every little bit helps to keep our waterways clean to drink, fish, and swim in. If you would like this program for your group, call Patrick at the Paulding SWCD at 419-399-4771.

DO THE "12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS" BIRDS LIVE IN OHIO

In the holiday song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," someone's true love gives them ... quite a few birds.

Given that the song has European roots — it apparently came from France and was published first in England — does it hold up ornithologically in Ohio?

Do the song's birds live in the Buckeye State?

Here are answers from experts in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at The Ohio State University and from sources including The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio, which was published earlier this year.

1st day: Partridge (with or without pear tree)

ANSWER: Technically, no. But also, not any more.

The ruffed grouse, which is pictured below, although in a willow tree, lives in Ohio. And people sometimes call it a "partridge." But scientists say that name is inaccurate.

While both grouse and partridges belong to the Phasianidae family — which includes pheasants, chickens and others — they're actually members of two different subfamilies: Grouse are in Tetraoninae; partridges, in Perdicinae.

Members of the Partridge Family, meanwhile, included David Cassidy, Susan Dey and Danny Bonaduce.

Ohio, in fact, had partridges once. In the 1900s, game officials started releasing non-native gray, or Hungarian, partridges in the state, hoping they'd survive, settle down and raise families.

It worked. Ohio's gray partridge numbers grew. But then starting in the 1940s they crashed, apparently due mostly to changing farm practices. Today, scientists consider gray partridges extirpated — completely gone — within Ohio.

Stray gray partridges — plus another non-native partridge, the chukar — still are seen sometimes. But they're usually escapees. They're from game farms, say, or from a landowner stocking them for hunting.

Pear production in the Midwest, including Ohio, is "greatly limited by fire blight, a bacterial disease, and occasional spring frosts," says the college's Midwest Home Fruit Production Guide.

2nd day: Turtle-doves

ANSWER: Not exactly. But a kissing cousin just moved in.

The non-native, adaptable Eurasian collared-dove, *Streptopelia decaocto* (pictured), arrived in Ohio about 10 years ago, is breeding and spreading — it's been reported nesting in Holmes, Mercer, Logan and Fulton counties, among others — and is a near dead-ringer for the closely related ringed turtle-dove.

The ringed turtle-dove is a domesticated — pet or cage bird — form of the wild African collared-dove, *Streptopelia roseogrisea*.

The Eurasian collared-dove is native to parts of Asia and Europe but has colonized places like Egypt, North Africa, the Bahamas and even the Arctic Circle, and also many U.S. states.

According to The Sec-

ond Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio, the Eurasian collared-dove "seems likely to become a permanent member of the North American avifauna."

3rd day: French hens

ANSWER: Yes. But in coops and runs, not the wild.

The Meyer Hatchery in Polk, Ohio, sells, among others, baby chickens of two French breeds, Marans and Faverolles (pictured). Specifically, it offers White Marans, Blue Splash Marans, Blue Copper Marans, Black Copper Marans, Cuckoo Marans, Golden Cuckoo Marans and Salmon Faverolles.

Mt. Healthy Hatcheries in Cincinnati, Ohio, also sells Cuckoo Marans chicks.

Chicken people consider Marans and Faverolles good dual-purpose breeds, suited to both meat and egg production. Marans hens are noted for their chocolate-colored eggs.

Both breeds were named for the French towns from which they originated.

And both breeds can make it as Buckeyes. "Given the proper care — diet and environment — it's possible to raise any chicken in Ohio," said Mike Lilburn, poultry science professor in the college's Department of Animal Sciences.

4th day: Calling birds

ANSWER: In one way, no. In other ways, kinda sorta.

Early versions of the lyrics used the term "colly birds," not "calling birds," according to the song's Wikipedia entry. "Colly" means sooty or black. It's thought that the reference is to the common, or Eurasian, blackbird.

Ironically, the common blackbird isn't a blackbird at all but a thrush. It's a close relative of the American robin (pictured), which lives in Ohio and throughout North America. Except for their color — black vs. gray with the famous red breast — the two are a lot alike.

While common blackbirds sometimes, rarely, wander westward over the Atlantic, they've never quite made it to Ohio. The closest is parts of Canada.

Ohio's true "colly birds" include the abundant and widespread red-winged blackbird and the rare and limited — at least in the Buckeye State — yellow-headed blackbird.

6th day: Geese

ANSWER: Yes. In a big (ahem) honking way.

The Canada goose (pictured), and specifically the subspecies called the giant Canada goose, nests in every county in Ohio. Its numbers are booming thanks to more and more goose-friendly, people-created habitat — specifically, ponds surrounded by lawns on golf courses, in office parks, in condo complexes and so on.

"It's one of the species I get a lot of questions about," said Marne Titchenell, a wildlife program specialist with CFAES. "They're right up there with deer and coyotes on the list of species that frequently become a nuisance."

Problems include Canada geese eating and damaging lawns, hissing at and charging people during the spring nesting season, and delivering lots of "presents," and not just on Christmas Eve.

There's even a fact sheet

WAYNE TRACE STUDENTS TRAVEL TO SWEETWATER



Wayne Trace students in Mrs. Walters General Business and Marketing Classes traveled to Sweetwater Sound in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Students were able to tour the facility, take a trip down the slide, participate in a Drum Circle, where they were able to play an assortment of drums and other instruments, and speak with Sweetwater Sound Marketing Executive Vice President David Stewart.

about the matter. CFAES's "Coping with Canada Geese: Conflict Management and Damage Prevention Strategies" is free at ohioline.osu.edu/factsheet/W-3.

But it's a success story in wildlife management, too, Titchenell said.

"There was a time when a honking V of flying geese overhead stopped people in their tracks. It was a rare sight, and nesting geese within the state were virtually nonexistent," she said.

Then in the 1950s, wildlife managers reintroduced Canada geese to some of Ohio's wetlands. Coupled with state and federal protections, increases in habitat, and the birds' adaptive nature, the "geese rebounded very quickly," Titchenell said.

"They can sometimes become a problem," she said. "But they're a constant reminder that we're capable of helping a species in serious decline recover — and recover well."

7th day: Swans

ANSWER: Yes. And rather not unswimmingly.

Twenty years ago, wildlife managers began efforts to restore trumpeter swans (pictured) to Ohio. Today, though officially listed as "Threatened," the large, tooting waterbirds are breeding successfully and are "advancing toward a sustainable population," according to The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio.

Mute swans aren't native to Ohio; they're from Europe. They're sometimes kept in zoos and on farms. And sometimes they escape. "Naturalized populations are increasing and are now an ecological concern around the Great Lakes and Mid-Atlantic states," the atlas also says.

Mute swan issues include

Mr. Stewart explained how marketing has helped lead Sweetwater into the #2 Musical Distributor in the world and he also explained other Sweetwater business practices to our students. This trip allowed our students to take concepts learned in the classroom and see how they are applied and used in a business setting. It was a fun and educational experience!

overgrazing wetland plants, badgering other waterbirds — including trumpeter swans, for instance — and even attacking people.

Another swan, the tundra swan, migrates through Ohio, especially the northeastern part, during its spring and fall migrations, including in early December.

All the birds nesting in Ohio

The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio (600 pp., \$45.47) is available from Penn State University Press at go.osu.edu/BreedingBirdAtlas. Preparing the book involved, among others, about 1,000 birdwatching volunteers and a number of faculty, staff and students with CFAES's School of Environment and Natural Resources, including, at various times, four of the book's editors.

A caveat: The federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act protects many wild birds from, among other things, being proffered by the lovestruck at Yuletide.

LEADERS OF TOMORROW MEETING MINUTES 9/22/16

The Leaders of Tomorrow 4H club met at the Youth Leadership Building on September 22, 2016, to vote in new officers for the 2017 4-H year.

Jacob Klopfenstein was voted in as President, Adrienne Rosswurm as Vice President, Autumn Nueast as Secretary, Haleigh Stoller as Treasurer, Crystal Klopfenstein as Health and Safety Officer, Claudia Sinn as Scrapbooker, Riley Stoller as Recreation Leader, and Bethany Klopfenstein as Communications Officer.

There were 33 members and cloverbuds present at the meeting.

The club also met on November 17, 2016, for their regular meeting. Crystal Klopfenstein, Health and Safety Officer, gave the club a report on brushing your teeth. Each member got a tooth brush to take home.

They also voted to support the Christmas light display on the fairgrounds by making baked goods, and to establish a Budget and Activity Committee.

The next regular meeting will be on January 19, 2017, at the Youth Leadership Building, after the club takes down the Christmas lights on the Paulding town square. Enrollment forms will be due at this meeting.

Let West Bend News announce your engagement, wedding or anniversary. It's only \$6 per column for the photo and the announcement is community news.

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TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE 82ND HOUSE DISTRICT



Guest Column from State Representative Tony Burkley

As I enter the final couple weeks of serving the 82nd District in the House of Representatives, I have had some time to reflect on my time in office and to the many people I have been so blessed to serve for the past four years. I cannot adequately express through words how much it has meant to Nancy and me to represent Defiance, Paulding, Van Wert and parts of Auglaize counties.

Because of the input from hardworking men and women like those in northwest Ohio, I believe our state made great progress in recent years. I hope to see this continue for many more years to come.

From the day I started in the House four years ago, I have always looked at my role as someone who mostly works behind the scenes to improve upon the legislation that is brought before us. President Coolidge once said that "it is much more important to kill bad bills than to pass good ones." I would like to believe that I have helped do both.

Some of the most gratifying work at the Statehouse occurred during the committee process, particularly as vice chair of the House Agriculture Committee. Agriculture, as so many of us know, is not only the number-one industry in northwest Ohio, but across the entire state. While I have taken all of the work in public office very seriously, working on ag-related issues was especially rewarding because I knew that it was an issue that so directly impacted the men and women of the district. Again, your support, input, questions, concerns and ideas helped guide me during our many policy debates.

Now, I am bidding farewell to the Ohio House of Representatives, an institution I have grown to love and respect so much. But I look

forward to continue doing whatever I can to serve the people and interests of north-west Ohio, albeit in a different capacity.

Finally, I want to once again express my appreciation and humble gratitude to the families of the 82nd House District for giving me the opportunity to serve on your behalf in the Ohio House. It has been an experience I will forever cherish and never forget.

From my family to yours, have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition

Jeffrey J. Smith, Defiance, OH; Confine of dog; Pled no cont., found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs today; Defendant pled no contest on Count A and guilty to Count B; Shall maintain general good behavior

Jeffrey J. Smith, Defiance, OH; Fail to reg. dog; Guilty; Defendant to show proof of registration by 12/30/16 to suspend the \$25 fine on Count B; If no proof registration by 12/30/16 then the \$25 fine is to remain; Shall maintain general good behavior

Megan D. Gee, Melrose, OH; Confine of dog; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs by 12/16/16; Shall maintain general good behavior

Emily K. Tondreau, Paulding, OH; No O.L.; Pled no cont., found guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 1/27/17 or will be sent to collections; Defendant shall pay \$152.50 per month commencing 12/16/16

Zachary N. Martinez, Van Wert, OH; F.R.A. susp; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 10/27/17 or will be sent to collections; Defendant shall pay \$75.00 per month commencing 12/16/16

Zachary N. Martinez, Van Wert, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 10/27/17 or will be sent to collections; Defendant shall pay \$75.00 per month commencing 12/16/16

Brian W. Ross, Latty, OH; Fail to reinsta; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 12/29/17 or will be sent to collections; Shall pay \$25.00 per month commencing 1/27/17

Brian W. Ross, Latty, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 12/29/17 or will be sent to collections; Defendant shall pay \$25.00 per month commencing 1/27/17

Ijme Zijlstra, Antwerp, OH; Water pollution; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Shall serve 6 months of non reporting probation; Count B dismissed

Ijme Zijlstra, Antwerp, OH; Water pollution; Dimis; Count B dismissed per state, with prejudice

Heather L. Skala, Cecil, OH; Confine of dog; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Shall pay \$750 in restitution; Shall maintain general good behavior

Pierce J. Virag, Oreon, OH; Viol being pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Samuel B. Vernooy, Hockessin, DE; FTY emer vehicl; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Gabriel Sanchez, Defiance, OH; Possession; Guilty; Defendant found guilty; Shall pay all fines and costs; Shall maintain general good behavior

Gabriel Sanchez, Defiance, OH; Drug parapherna; Guilty; Defendant found guilty; Shall pay all fines and costs; Shall maintain general good behavior

Jordan A. Roelfs, Defiance, OH; Confine of dog; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jordan A. Roelfs, Defiance, OH; Confine of dog; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

James D. Feehan, Scott, OH; OVI/breath; Guilty; May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail; Report to jail 12/29/16 @ 7:00 p.m. for 3 days & 1/5/17 for 3 days pay \$100 per mo commencing 1/27/17 has a POC date of 7/28/17 Community Control Two; 40 hrs community service; 171 jail day reserved

Ronald A. Adkins, Antwerp, Oh Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Corey A. Carnahan, Paulding, OH; Hunt no orange; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Paula S. Rohdy, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jeffery A. Sterling, Toledo, OH; Marked lanes; Guilty; Points waived; Pay all fines and costs today

Brandi Lee Swartzel, Rockford, OH; O.V.I./under inf; Dismis; At the states request CT A dismissed at defendant's costs

Brandi Lee Swartzel, Rockford, OH; Prohibition atv; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 12/29/17 or will be sent to collections; Defendant shall pay \$25.00 per month commencing 1/27/17; Community Control Two; Ordered submit to an evaluation at Westwood; 30 jail days reserved

Brandi Lee Swartzel, Rockford, OH; Fail control; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs by 12/29/17 or will be sent to collection; Defendant shall pay \$25.00 per month commencing 1/27/17

Joseph A. Malfait, Woodburn, IN; Left of center; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Joseph A. Malfait, Woodburn, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jamie L. Bullinger, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Logan E. Stoller, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Megan R. Phillips, Antwerp, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Christopher Bidwell, Greensburg, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Burnett Adams, Paulding, OH; Tk more ant deer; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Burnett Adams, Paulding, OH; Untagged deer; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Burnett Adams, Paulding, OH; Unlawful firear; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Justin Wenzel, Latimer, IA; Fail control; Guilty; Case was

waived by defendant
Gabriel R. Wobler, Payne, OH; Drug parapherna; Dimis; Case was waived by the defendant

Gabriel R. Wobler, Payne, OH; Poss marijuana; Pled no cont., found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Shall maintain general good behavior

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; O.V.I./under inf; Pled no cont., found guilty; Suspension is consecutive with suspension on CT A on case 16-TRC-3598; Pay all fines and costs today; Community Control Two; Evaluation at Westwood; Thinking For a Change Third Millenium Alcohol & Drug; 177 jail days reserved

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; DUS-Non FRA; Dismis; CT B dismissed at states request

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; FTY emer vehicl; Pled no cont., found guilty; Pay all fines and costs

Jamie L. Bullinger, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; O.V.I./under inf; Pled no cont., found guilty; May attend the DIP program in lieu of jail; OL susp in consecutive with Count A on case 16-TRC-3200; Pay all fines and costs today; Placed on standard probation; 80 hrs of community service; 177 jail days reserved; Complice for DIP 3/31/17

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; DUS-Non FRA; Dismis; CT B dismissed at the state request

Gabriel R. Wobler, Antwerp, OH; Fail control; Dismis; CT C dismissed at the states request

Michael J. Buchman, Paulding, OH; Confine of dog; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Chrystalyn S. Rivera, Fort Wayne, IN; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Chad E. Jones, Antwerp, OH; Fail reg dog; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Chad E. Jones, Antwerp, OH; Confine dog; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Braxton Stewart, Toledo, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Bradley S. Franklin, Antwerp, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Rylen O. Asher, Payne, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Adam T. Tracy, Paulding, OH; Falsification; Pled no cont., found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Re-pay court appointed counsel fees; Pay for stay at Paulding County jail; Shall have no contact with victim; Shall maintain general good behavior

Margaret E. Collins, Cecil, OH; D.O.C. w/persi; Pled no cont., found guilty; Defendant to pay all costs; Shall have no contact with victim; Shall remain at current address; Sign a release of information at Maumee Valley for mental health evaluation; Maintain general good behavior

Alicia E. Robertson, Pontiac, MI; Driv lic (6mon); Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

James T. Varner, Oakwood, OH; OVI/breath(low); Guilty; May attend the DIP Program in lieu of jail; ALS vacated; Pay all fines and costs today; 40 hrs community service; Hook up on SCRAM today 12/12/16; Hook up fee waived; Driving privilege granted provided defendant on SCRAM; 27 jail days reserved

James T. Varner, Oakwood, OH; Marked lanes; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs today

**THE WEST BEND NEWS
Sudoku Puzzle**

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 15"

BOARD MEMBER RECOGNIZED FOR DEDICATION TO EACS



Mr. Arden Hoffman, board member was recognized at the final board meeting of the year. Mr. Hoffman has been a board member for four years and has worked hard for his constituents especially for the kids in East Allen. Mr. Hoffman represented District 6R. Dr. Ken Folks stated, "Mr.

Hoffman made every effort to attend all meetings, events and programs because he has a great passion for all students in East Allen County Schools to succeed."

Mr. Hoffman will be replaced by Mr. Todd Buckmaster. Mr. Buckmaster won the November 8th election.

James T. Varner, Oakwood, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs today

James T. Varner, Oakwood, OH; O.V.I./under inf; Merged; Count A & D merged for sentencing

Kyle P. Becker, New Castle, IN; Fail control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Keith A. Borders, Indianapolis, IN; Seat belt/Drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Donna M. Derner, Delphos, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Frank K. Dallison, Mississauga, ON; Viol being pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Michele R. Thomas, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Mary J. Lloyd, Defiance, OH; Driv lic (6 mon); Pay all fines and costs

Melanie L. Newman, Pemberville, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Kathleen E. Gebhart, Payne, OH; Fail control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Teresa R. Sparrow, Delphos, OH; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

The Paulding County Veteran's Service Office is dedicated to aiding Paulding County veterans and their families in time of need.

There are two basic services the agency provides:

- 1 - Emergency Financial Assistance - Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.
- 2 - Claims Assistance - Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.

We also provide reimbursement for the cost of transportation to VA medical facilities in our area, or in the case where the veteran cannot drive himself, we will provide a driver.

Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments

Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Carryall Township Trustees will be holding their Annual Appropriation and Organizational meeting on Thursday, December 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at 15156 Road 23, Antwerp, OH.

- Deb Wyckoff, Fiscal Officer for Carryall Township



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WOODLAN FOOTBALL TEAM STATISTICIAN HONORED



Mr. Bruce Amstutz, statistician for the Woodlan Jr. Sr. High football team was honored by the Board of School Trustees for his 28 years of service, hard work and dedication. Mr. Amstutz has only missed one game in 28 years. Coach Hayden said, "I couldn't make it without him. He provides

stats to me at any given time, half time of a game or soon after a game. He's tremendous." The football players and parents love him. Tim Hines, board member said, "I've watched him year after year and he loves those kids. I'm so glad he's a part of the Woodlan football program."

LEO HIGH CROSS COUNTRY RUNNER NAMED TO INDIANA ALL-STAR TEAM



Recently, Lindsey Marriott, senior at Leo Jr. Sr. High performed at the cross country state finals in Terre Haute. Lindsey competed in her third state final. With her placement at State, Lindsey was named to the Indiana All-Star team that repre-

sented the State of Indiana against teams from Ohio, Illinois and Michigan. She earned this honor being one of the top 12 fastest seniors in the State! Lindsey is the first female cross country runner in school history to be named to this team!

LATTA STATEMENT ON THE SIGNING OF THE 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT INTO LAW

Congressman Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) released the following statement after the 21st Century Cures Act was signed into law this afternoon. "The signing of the landmark 21st Century Cures Act into law is a monumental event that will positively change the way our country discovers, develops, and delivers cures and treatments for patients. With only 500 approved cures and treatments for nearly 10,000 diseases, medical innovation is critical to providing life-saving and life-improving medicine for patients. The bipartisan 21st Century Cures Act bolsters research, streamlines the approval process at the FDA, and provides more clarity for innovators. These measures will aid

the efforts of leading medical research institutions in Ohio — and around the nation — that are working to find cures for the most harmful diseases." The 21st Century Cures Act passed the U.S. House of Representatives on November 30 by a vote of 392-26 and was approved by the Senate a week later, 94-5. **HITE ELECTED TO LEADERSHIP FOR THE MIDWESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE** Ohio State Senator Cliff Hite (R-Findlay) has been elected to serve as first vice chair of the Midwestern Legislative Conference, a nonpartisan association of state and provincial legislators that fosters regional cooperation, information sharing and leadership development. Senator Hite was also slated to serve as chair be-

ginning in 2018. "I am honored for the opportunity to be a part of this distinguished leadership team, which will serve to foster regional collaboration among state lawmakers and assist in the development of thoughtful state policies that help improve the lives of those we serve," said Hite. "States are the foundation of our democracy — our objective is to support an environment where effective problem-solving supersedes partisan politics." Hite will serve as first vice chair of the MLC in 2017 and is in line to be officially installed as the group's chair in 2018. Fellow state and provincial legislators from the Midwest formally elected Hite to the position in July; he officially joined the leadership team at its recent December meeting of the MLC Executive Committee.

A 2008 graduate of the MLC's Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, or BILLD, Hite later has served as co-chair of the bipartisan, 11-state legislative committee that oversees BILLD — the premier leadership-training program for state legislators from the Midwest. Last year Hite was elected and served as second vice chair of the Midwestern Legislative Conference. In the Ohio General Assembly, where he is now serving his third term, Hite has become a respected leader on issues related to education and agriculture policy.

The Midwestern Office of The Council of State Governments provides staff support to the MLC. CSG, the nation's only organization serving all three branches of state government, offers regional, national and international opportunities for state officials to collaborate, develop leadership skills, and create problem-solving partnerships.

The national organization is headquartered in Lexington, Kentucky. The CSG Midwest office is located in Lombard (Chicago). If you would like more information on CSG or the MLC, please contact Mike McCabe at mmccabe@cs.org or (630) 925-1922 or visit www.csamidwest.org.

JOHN FELTMAN TO RECEIVE MVNU ZELKOWITZ AWARD FOR SERVICE

Mount Vernon Nazarene University, proud community partner for the Knox County Food For The Hungry (FFTH) drive, will present the 2016 Stephen Zelkowitz Memorial Award to John Feltman of Mount Vernon on Saturday, December 10, at City Hall during the annual FFTH live broadcast.

For 35 years, FFTH has grown and thrived because of the efforts of many volunteers who give their time and talent to support Interchurch, The Salvation Army and other local agencies who support community members in their time of need.

In 1995, MVNU launched the Zelkowitz Memorial Award to honor one of the drive's early leaders, the late Stephen Zelkowitz, owner of WMVO/WQIO and Mt. Vernon Cablevision. The award recognizes Knox County residents who have made community service, especially Food For The Hungry, a priority in their lives.

This year's recipient has been instrumental in the continuing commitment of the Knox County Career Center (KCCC) to FFTH.

As KCCC Principal, Mr. Feltman works with students, teachers and staff to raise food and money through a student drive and two auctions. The online auction highlights services from the KCCC lab, while the live auction of themed baskets features many community businesses and organizations.

"We are thrilled to present John with this year's Zelkowitz award," said Joe Rinehart, MVNU's Director of Broadcasting and FFTH board president. "His commitment to the FFTH mission and our board is exemplary. As an educator, I appreciate and honor John's passion to introduce high school students to the concepts of giving back and engaged citizenship."

Feltman is a graduate of the Mount Vernon Academy and completed his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Arts from Bowling Green State University. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in Education from MVNU and an M.A. in Educational Administration from Ashland University. John began his career as a teacher at Gem State Academy in Caldwell, Idaho, from 1976 to 1978, then returned to Knox County to teach at the Academy until 2004, serving three years as Vice-Principal. He joined the East Knox School District and KCCC in Career-Based Intervention in 2004, then became the Career Center's Principal in 2011.

Feltman's community involvement and service has also included his membership at the Mount Vernon Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

John and his wife, Karen, have been married for 42 years. They have one son, Kevin.

"Since my arrival to Knox County in 2014, I have seen John's commitment to FFTH through his encouragement of our students at the Career Center and through his relentless-ness of gathering donations for the baskets," said Kathy Greenwich, KCCC Superintendent. "His desire is to truly be a part of the FFTH team and to do his part of raising funds to end hunger in Knox County. I am thrilled to know that his dedication and servant-hood are being honored with this award."

"John is very deserving of this award," said Matt Starr, past recipient and FFTH board vice-president. "His dedication and commitment is an example to the youth and adults that he represents at the Career Center."

"John is the type of person who will always step up when someone needs a helping hand," said Tracy Elliott, KCCC treasurer.

Mount Vernon Nazarene University is a private, four-year, intentionally Christian teaching university for traditional age students, graduate students and working adults. With a 327-acre main campus in Mount Vernon, Ohio, and several convenient Graduate and Professional Studies locations throughout the state, MVNU emphasizes academic excellence, spiritual growth and service to community and church. MVNU offers an affordable education to more than 2,200 students from 28 states and 17 countries/U.S. territories.

USDA EXPANDS PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO CREATE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH REGIONAL FOOD SUPPLY CHAINS

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary Rural Development Lillian Salerno today announced three new public-private partnerships that will create economic opportunities in Elgin, Texas; Fresno, CA.; and Chicago. The Food LINC partnerships will help community leaders and private philanthropic partners develop regional food supply chains that drive job growth and increase farm income while helping to meet consumer demand for regionally produced food.

"USDA investments in regional food have the biggest impact when coordination between producers, processors, distributors and buyers is strong and locally led," said Salerno. "We are excited to add three new locations to the nationwide network of cities that are already leveraging government and private resources to build robust regional food systems, for the benefit of consumers, producers, and the economy."

USDA Food LINC (Leveraging Investment for Network Coordination) partnerships are already working in ten communities to better connect the urban demand for local food and agricultural products with the supply from regional farmers, ranchers and entrepreneurs. USDA's initial investment of \$1 million provided the seed capital to attract an additional \$2.5 million from 18 philanthropic organizations, plus more than \$1.5 million from the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Delta Regional Authority. This expansion establishes partnerships in three new regions:

The Texas Center for Local Food will help farmers in

the Elgin, Texas region receive more for their products, support good jobs in rural communities and improve access to locally-produced food. A town of 8,000 people, Elgin is centrally located within a 200-mile radius of nearly 18 million Texans, making it an ideal production and transportation hub for the region.

Food Commons Fresno will incubate a community food hub and grocery store in South Fresno, a community education space and a processing and distribution facility to develop markets for agricultural producers in California's San Joaquin Valley.

FamilyFarmed will help producers from the Midwest take advantage of Chicago's growing demand for regionally-sourced, sustainably-grown specialty grains.

USDA has partnered with The Wallace Center to document work in each of the 13 Food LINC regions and share best practices with other organizations that are working to grow similar opportunities in their communities. Other Food LINC partnerships include the Louisville Farm to Table Program in Kentucky; the Conservation Fund in North Carolina; Common Market in Georgia; Rocky Mountain Farmers Union in Colorado; La Montañita in New Mexico; Fair Food Philadelphia; Metro Washington Council of Governments in Washington, D.C.; Appalachian Sustainable Development in Virginia; Soul City Hospitality in Mississippi; and Communities Unlimited in Tennessee.

Learn more about the \$1 billion USDA has invested in 40,000 projects to develop market opportunities for local foods, and read more about USDA's investments in rural America on the USDA Medium Chapter: New Markets, New Opportunities: Strengthening Local Food Systems and Organic Agriculture.

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PROPERTY LOCATION: 18900 North SR 101 - at the southeast corner of SR 101 & the N. County Line Road East.

TRACT 1: 24.24± Acres, all tillable. Soils are mostly Glynwood silt loam with a vein of Pewamo silty clay loam. Approx. 1,268 ft. of road frontage along N. County Line Rd., 834 ft. of road frontage along SR 101. This tract has the highest elevation of the entire farm for a possible elevated walk-out site.
TRACT 2: 20± Acres, all tillable. Soils are also mostly Glynwood silt loam with some Pewamo silt clay loam. Approx. 687 ft. of road frontage along S. R. 101.

TRACT 3: 20± Acres, all tillable. Soils are Mostly Glynwood silt loam with some Pewamo & a vein of Morley soils. Approx. 687 ft. of road frontage along SR 101. Tract 3 is adjacent to the mostly wooded acres on Tract 4. Combine Tracts 1 - 3 for a 64± Acre Farmstead!
TRACT 4: 16± Acres. Approx. 9 acres of woods along the east edge and to the south of the tract, leaving approx. 7 clear tillable acres. Approx. 316 ft. of road frontage along N. County Line Road.

INSPECTION DATE: MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 3-6 PM - Meet a Schrader representative at the farm on N. County Line Rd. Walk-over inspections permitted.

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ANTWERP SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN HOUR OF CODE



After listening to his teacher's instructions, third grader Nikalas Brandenburg begins a coding activity online.

During the last few days of school before winter break, Antwerp Local School students of all ages participated in Hour of Code activities. Hour of Code is a worldwide movement intended to introduce students to computer science and computer programming. Both educators and business leaders are increasingly recognizing that computer science is a basic

skill all students should be taught to better prepare them for future careers and opportunities. In the last few years, Antwerp Local School has focused on adding coding to its curriculum through after-school coding camps and tutoring programs, various courses for middle and high school students, and blocks of coding time in elementary classrooms.

GATE CLASS PARTICIPATES IN HOUR OF CODE



Students in Mrs. Shepherd's GATE class at Payne Elementary participated in the 2016 Hour of Code campaign. December 5th marked the 3 year anniversary of the Hour of Code, a teacher-led movement to introduce students to computer science. The GATE students are part of the 300 million served in 3 years and 20 billion lines of code written by students! Code.org is a free website that provides children an opportunity to explore computer coding, which is one of the fastest growing jobs in the workforce today.

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PAULDING
12/15/16 - TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE PAULDING EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT FROM: NONEMAN ROBERT P & NONEMAN GRETCHEN A., LINCOLN ST, 405 N WATER ST, PAULDING OH 45879; 599 - OTHER RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

EMERALD TWP
12/9/16 - TO: COMMUNITY NAZARENE CHURCH FROM: BOK SAMUEL A TRUSTEE, SR 111, 704 S ERIE ST, ANTWERP OH 45813; 501 - RESID UNPLAT 0-09.99 ACRES, SE COR SE1/4 SE1/4 S-21

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TRUSTEE & BENSCHNEIDER JANE A TRUSTEE BENSCHNEIDER GARY L TRUSTEE & BENSCHNEIDER JANE A TRUSTEE, 9144 RD 51, 3116 RD 96, PAYNE OH 45880; 511 - SINGLE FAMILY DWLG UNPLAT 0-09 PT SW1/4 S-24 EASEMENT REF V 575 P 1846

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RESTORE COUNCIL UNVEILS UPDATED PLAN TO INVEST IN GULF COAST RESTORATION

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, in his role as chair of the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council (Council), today announced the finalization of the Comprehensive Plan Update to guide over \$3 billion in investments to enhance the resources and economies of the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The plan was unanimously adopted by the five Gulf States (Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas), the Departments of Agriculture, the Army, Commerce, and Interior, the Coast Guard, and the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Today's announcement builds the foundation for State and Federal partners to fulfill their commitments to the 22 million Americans who live in Gulf coast-

al counties and parishes to revitalize their economies and the Gulf ecosystem they depend upon," Vilsack said. "The Comprehensive Plan Update reflects unprecedented collaboration between federal, state, tribal and local partners and creates the framework for ongoing coordination, engagement and transparency as we continue to invest in strategies to restore this vital region."

The updated comprehensive plan commits to working with the public to devote RESTORE funds to large scale ecosystem restoration, builds upon lessons learned from the Council's initial investments, establishes a 10-year funding strategy, and refines the Council's process for making decisions based on public engagement and the best available science. The Council will continue to support ecosystem restoration that can enhance local communities by giving people desirable places to live, work, and play, while creating opportunities for new and existing businesses of all sizes, especially those dependent on natural resources. In addition, the Council will support ecosystem restoration that builds local workforce capacity.

"The Council is pleased to present this Comprehensive Plan Update," said Justin R. Ehrenwerth, Executive Director of the Council. "We thank the public for comments provided on the draft update. The Council has incorporated modifications to the update based on public input. We look forward to continuing to work with stakeholders as we move forward with comprehensive restoration across the coast."

The Comprehensive Plan Update builds on progress the Council has made since establishment in July 2012, including prioritizing over \$183 million in restoration investments announced in December 2015. With resolution of the civil claims from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, the Council was able to revise its Initial Comprehensive Plan to reflect lessons learned and the timing and amount of restoration funding. In the coming months and years, the Council will focus on collaboration—among its members and with other partners—to fully leverage available funds and further advance comprehensive Gulf restoration.

The Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast Act of 2012 (RESTORE Act) established the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Res-

Sudoku solution from page 13

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

toration Council (Council) and the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund (Trust Fund), and dedicates 80 percent of Clean Water Act penalties resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to the Trust Fund, for restoration projects in the Gulf Coast region. The Council is chaired by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, and members include the Governors of the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas, as well as the Secretaries of the U.S. Departments of Commerce, Homeland Security, the Army and the Interior, and the Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Read more about the Comprehensive Plan, the RESTORE Act and the Council at www.RestoreTheGulf.gov.

Since 2009, the Obama administration has developed a long-term strategy and inclusive framework to address the coastal resilience needs of the Gulf Coast region; brought federal, state, and local government together to better align decision-making and resources; and secured unprecedented settlement to ensure the Gulf coast communities will have the resources needed to make significant progress toward restoring ecosystems, economies, and businesses in the region over the next 20 years.



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In accordance with Ohio Revised Code, Section 5126.027, the Paulding County Commissioners, under authority of Ohio Revised Code, Section 5126.022, is seeking three individuals interested in an appointment to the Paulding County Board of Development Disabilities. The volunteer, unpaid positions are open January 1, 2017, and the term will expire on December 31, 2020. Interested Individual(s) must be Paulding County residents and, to the maximum extent possible, have professional training and experience in business management, finance, law, health care practice, personnel administration, or government service. The Board of County Commissioners shall, whenever possible, ensure that one of the three vacancies is an individual eligible for adult services or an immediate family member of an individual eligible for adult services.

Application forms are available at the Paulding County Commissioners' Office from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Applications accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 27, 2016.

Submit completed application to:
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The office will be closed Monday, December 26th in observance of the holiday.
We will resume regular business hours on Tuesday, December 27th.

*While office is closed, please submit any ads or printing jobs via email to: info@westbendnews.net