

## WOODLAN'S COBB NETS 400<sup>th</sup> WIN



Pictured here is the Woodlan's girls basketball team with head coach Gary Cobb following his 400<sup>th</sup> win as a coach. The Lady Warriors defeated Southern Wells 44-26 for the milestone victory Thursday evening.

Woodlan girls basketball head coach Gary Cobb recorded the 400<sup>th</sup> victory of his career on Thursday when the Lady Warriors rolled to a 44-26 road win at Southern Wells Thursday night, December 13.

Woodlan jumped out to a 17-2 lead after eight minutes of action and the Lady Warriors posted a 19-8 advantage at the midway point of the contest.

At the end of three quar-

ters, Woodlan went on to push the margin to 31-14 entering the final stanza.

Gabby Joyce paced the Lady Warriors with 19 points in the contest while Addison Bayman chipped in 16 markers.

Abbey Gentz recorded four points for Woodlan followed by Hallie Mason and Dakotah Krohn with two markers each. Hanna Albertson had one point to round

out the Warrior cause.

Georgie Hanauer topped Southern Wells with 11 points.

Jadeyn Thomas, Riley Tapp and Ashtyn Leas all had five markers each for the Lady Raiders.

Woodlan will visit Angola in non-league girls basketball action on December 21 before the Lady Warriors host cross-state rival Wayne Trace on December 27.

## PAULDING COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN'S OFFICERS



The 2018 PCRW officers shown from left to right are, Stacey Butler, treasurer - Laurie Lucas, president - Ohio State Supreme Court Justice, Sharon Kennedy - Shannon Ruschel, secretary and Jackie Hyman, vice-president. They were installed at the annual PCRW Christmas Party by County Commissioner, Roy Klopfenstein.

## WBN HOLIDAY HOURS & DEADLINES!

Due to the Christmas and New Years holidays, ads, news and classifieds for the **DECEMBER 26<sup>th</sup>** issue will be due by **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** Deadlines for the **JANUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>** issue for news, ads, and classifieds will be **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

Office hours for the holiday season are as follows:

Christmas Eve: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Christmas: CLOSED  
New Years Eve: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
New Years Day: CLOSED

## COMMUNITY-BUILDING SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORK NEXTDOOR COMES TO ANTWERP

Antwerp, OH: The social media network Nextdoor is launching in Antwerp, thanks to new resident Jalyn Ely. Ely, who moved to Antwerp from Fort Wayne in November, used and loved Nextdoor in Fort Wayne and wants to use it to help the community in Antwerp.

Nextdoor is a private social media network for local neighborhoods whose goal is to provide a trusted platform where neighbors can work together to create stronger,

(Continued on Page 3)

## Community Calendar

### December 19

- Archery Certification Workshop @ ODNR Findlay, 9a-4p
- Midweek Advent service @ St. John Lutheran, Hicksville, 7:35pm

### December 20

- Antwerp Comm. Band Concert @ Hicksville Huber Opera House, 7:30pm
- Hope Rekindled Christmas Service @ 1st UMC, Van Wert, 7pm

### December 22

- "Siberian Solstice" @ Huber Opera House, 7:00pm, doors open @ 6:30pm

### December 23

- Children's Christmas Musical @ 1st UMC, Van Wert, 6:30pm
- Advent communion service @ St. John Lutheran, Hicksville, 10am

### December 24

- Christmas Eve services @ Hicksville's Grace UMC Church, 10:00pm
- Simply Christmas @ 1st UMC, Van Wert, 7pm
- Christmas Eve candlelight service @ St. John Lutheran, Hicksville, 7pm
- Christmas Eve Carol sing-along & candlelight service @ Twin Oaks UMC, Oakwood, 8:30pm

### December 27

- Free meal @ St. John Lutheran, Hicksville, 5pm

### December 28

- Glass City Dance Party @ Holland Gardens, 8-11:30pm

### December 30

- Combined service @ 1st UMC, Van Wert, 10am

### January 12

- Paulding KofC Free Throw Championship @ PHS gym, 12Noon

To add your event to the calendar email [info@westbendnews.net](mailto:info@westbendnews.net)  
Continual Events must be resubmitted once per month



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Color Codes: BL=Black; WH=White; GR=Gray; BD=Brindle; TA=Tan; BR=Brown  
YE=Yellow; RE=Red

Term Codes: 1=1 Year Tag; 3=3 Year Tag; P=Permanent Tag

Claudia J. Fickel, Paulding County Auditor  
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	2018 License #	2019 License #								
YRs	MOs	(M/F)																		

Vet/Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different (e.g. P.O. Box))  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

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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Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy or Agent: \_\_\_\_\_





**OBITUARIES**

Ronald F. Davidson, Sr. 81, of Antwerp passed away Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Hicksville. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp, Ohio 45813.

**VAN WERT COUNTY 2018 HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST**

Ohio City's Pride is having their annual county-wide "Holiday Lights Contest" again this year. This is open to all Van Wert County residents and voting will be done by the fans of the Facebook page: Ohio City's Pride. Our sponsors for this year are as follows: Tisha Fast Insurance Agency, Ohio City Express, Koating Concepts, Ohio City Park Association, and Bigham Creative Communications. There will be four prizes this year including: First Prize \$75, Second Prize \$50 gift certificate for OC Express, Third Prize \$25 and Fourth Prize \$25. The deadline for entries are December 27th and all voting will be done on New Year's Eve.

You can submit your entries on the Facebook page or email them to: [bighamcreativecommunications@gmail.com](mailto:bighamcreativecommunications@gmail.com) or Ohio City's Pride P.O. Box 102 Ohio City, Ohio 45874

**ELECTION PROCESS BEGINS FOR PAULDING PUTNAM ELECTRIC CO-OP**

**Co-op seeks candidates to run for board of trustees**

Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative is looking for highly qualified professional individuals to run for the board of trustees and help shape the strategic direction of the co-op. Three seats are up for re-election within Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op (PPEC)'s territory. The upcoming election will be for districts 2, 4, and 5.

- District 2 includes members who reside in Van Wert County, Ohio. This position is held by William Dowler, who is seeking re-election.

- District 4 includes members living in Emerald, Jackson, Blue Creek, and Paulding townships in Paulding County, Ohio, as well as Defiance County's Delaware Township. This position is represented by Jay Dangler, who is seeking re-election.

- District 5 includes members who reside in Indiana's Maumee, Adams, Jefferson, and Jackson townships. This position is held by Steven McMichael, who is seeking re-election.

Each trustee serves a three-year term. The PPEC board of trustees consists of

nine co-op members who each represent one district within the territory.

"The trustees have a great deal of responsibilities, and that is why it is important to have highly qualified individuals run for the board," stated President and CEO George Carter. "The trustees are responsible for establishing, reviewing, and revising corporate policies and identifying strategic initiatives to ensure that service to the PPEC membership remains foremost in mind."

If interested in running, you must be a member of PPEC and you must complete a petition form, which requires obtaining 20 signatures from members in the district from which you reside. Petition forms can be picked up at PPEC's office located at 401 McDonald Pike, Paulding, Ohio, or can also be downloaded online at [www.ppec.coop/elections/](http://www.ppec.coop/elections/). Petitions must be returned to the co-op office no later than 4:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, 2018.

The official ballots will be mailed to members in districts 2, 4, and 5 in February. The winners of the election will be announced at the annual meeting on Saturday, March 16, 2019. Please call PPEC at 800-686-2357 for more information.

**Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative is proud to serve more than 12,900 members in Paulding, Putnam, Defiance, Van Wert, and Allen counties in Ohio, and Adams and Allen counties in Indiana. Since 1935, our not-for-profit model has allowed us to provide affordable, reliable, and safe power to rural areas with pride.**

**NEW ALLEN ALLIANCE DESIGNATED AS AN INDIANA REGIONAL STELLAR COMMUNITY**

Countless hours of community collaboration and planning ends with an announcement those living in East Allen county had hoped for from the state. East Allen Communities were designated as an Indiana Regional Stellar Community, a recognition not easy to obtain.

"This is truly an exciting time for our communities and the county as a whole. We have been working hard for the last four years to get to this point and we are excited to leverage this designation to the best of our ability with local dollars set aside to make a true impact. We want to thank our partners in the process and we look forward to implementing the plan to continue building our communities to attract and retain talent to our local region and the broader northeast Indiana region," stated NewAllen

**CHAMBER & FRIENDS BOARD HOST JOINT RETREAT**



The Paulding Chamber of Commerce and Friends of the Paulding Chamber held their first ever joint retreat at the Black Swamp Nature Center on December 10th.

The two groups engaged in teambuilding activities and worked together to build the 2019 calendar full of events for Chamber members, and community members alike. Although the Chamber and Friends of the Chamber are different, they are alike in many ways.

Both serve the community and the organizations/businesses in it. Both share a lot of the same values and ideals,

Alliance President Kent Castleman.

In September, East Allen's Rural Revival Regional Development Plan was submitted to the State of Indiana for their consideration. This plan outlines a bold vision to improve quality of place in all seven of East Allen's Communities. Proposed projects will help connect people to places within the rural areas...think downtowns, parks, trails, and housing developments, in addition to capitalizing on the industrial growth opportunities of the region's transportation assets.

The region's vision is to grow population by enhancing the livability of rural areas, which will attract and retain a talented workforce that benefits all of Allen County and Northeast Indiana. The proposed portfolio outlines a total of \$64 Million in projects to be implemented from 2019 - 2022. Over \$17 million in projects that are being proposed for support through the Indiana Regional Stellar Communities program (total costs for the list below). The remaining \$47 million in projects are considered complementary to the Stellar request.

"It has been exciting to be a part of the ongoing success of East Allen County which has culminating in its designation as a Stellar Community. We are proud of the leadership of the New Allen Alliance and look forward to even greater things for this part of our county," added Commissioner Nelson Peters.

Commissioner Theresa Brown also stated, "This announcement illustrates what collaboration can achieve. Congratulations to all that worked so diligently on this project; the New Year will truly be the beginning of many great things to come!"

Indiana Regional Stellar Community designation unlocks access to a set-aside of funds. Amounts set aside by the state for each region includes: \$4.5M in Community Development Block Grants, \$2M in Federal Transportation funds, \$35,000 in Rural Health funds, and up to \$800,000 in affordable housing tax credits which can typically finance a \$8 - \$10M project. Projects currently proposed for Stellar funding

and both are striving to help serve the community through the planning of many events, educational opportunities, networking, and community engagement.

As we approach 2019 both the Chamber and Friends of the Chamber thank the community and area businesses/organizations for their support throughout the 2018 year and look forward to the fun things to come in 2019. Enjoy a community event, attend a Success in 60 Series, network Off the Clock, and engage in community traditions with the Chamber and Friends in 2019!

include:

- East Allen County Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Healthy Eating Active Living Kitchen Classes
  - Grabill Downtown Streetscape Project
  - Leo-Cedarville Downtown Streetscape Project
  - Monroeville Forest Street Sidewalk Project
  - Monroe Street Corridor Project
  - New Haven Meadowbrook Trail Project
  - New Haven Community Center Park Project
  - New Haven Kady Gene Cove Senior Housing Project
  - Woodburn Sidewalk Improvements Project
  - Woodburn Downtown Streetscape Project - Phase 2
- These projects are being supported by a number of sources in addition to the cities and towns, such as the Allen County Commissioners, Allen County Council, the Allen County-Fort Wayne Capital Improvement Board, Northeastern Indiana Regional Coordinating Council, Brightpoint, local housing developers Keller Development and Niemeyer Builders, the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, and Parkview Health. Each community has local volunteers from their chambers of commerce, Main Street organizations, and local foundations that stand ready to support the success of the effort.

"On behalf of the City of New Haven and all of NewAllen Alliance, we want to thank OCRA, and the selection committee for seeing the partnership as a worthy collaboration. Special thanks to all of the partner communities and their representatives. Now we go forward to continue our success and show the world how rural hometowns work together to achieve greatness," said Mayor Terry McDonald.

A video about the initiative and a copy of the regional development plan can be accessed on NewAllen's website at [www.newallenalliance.net](http://www.newallenalliance.net). A Stellarbration event is being planned for December 19th with local officials. Details of the meeting will be released next week.

About the Indiana Regional Stellar Community Program: The Indiana Regional Stellar Program is a

**SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK**

"But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

—John 6:35

competition offered by a collaboration of state agencies including the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, Indiana Department of Transportation, and the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. The Indiana Stellar Program has been in place since 2011, but this year has been modified to have a regional focus. Goals of the Indiana Stellar program are to foster regional collaborative behaviors and investment, stem the tide of non-metropolitan population loss through talent attraction and retention, build sustainability, build capacity with municipal governance, and leverage quality of places through comprehensive and transformative planning processes building on current assets. Regions can be comprised of 2 to ten communities.

**VOTERS SILENCED, DEMOCRACY SUSPENDED YET AGAIN AT THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

At a meeting held on Monday, December 10, to certify the Lake Erie Bill of Rights (LEBOR) to the special election ballot in February, the Lucas County Board of Elections instead received a written protest which will be the subject of a contested hearing on December 20. A Columbus law firm filed the challenge on behalf of Josh Abernathy of 247 Plymouth Street, Toledo, to keep the LEBOR off the ballot. The Columbus firm, McTigue and Colombo LLC has represented corporate, labor and governmental clients in other cities, including Columbus and Bowling Green, in attempts to keep citizen initiatives off ballots. The basis for the protest is that the Board of Elections and Ohio Supreme Court already decided this matter and the BOE cannot vote on it a second time. However both the BOE and the Ohio Supreme Court decided that another Toledo citizen initiative, "Keep the Jail Downtown", could not go on the ballot, but Toledo City Council ordered that measure to be placed on the ballot for the February special election, and

faced no ballot protest.

Hilary Tore, an organizer with Toledoans for Safe Water (TSW), commented, "Obviously we're disappointed, but not surprised. This is a trend we see occurring in communities across Ohio working to pass local laws that assert the people's right to self-govern. We're not intimidated and we're not going away. We'll keep fighting for the Lake Erie Bill of Rights - we have everything to lose if we don't."

The campaign for the Lake Erie Bill of Rights will continue as planned despite the protest filed against the initiative. "It's imperative that we keep going - now more than ever, said Markie Miller, also a TSW organizer. "We have a responsibility to protect our community and the lake. We cannot and will not sit back and be silent as our rights are withheld and the rights of nature are halted. At some point our access to safe water has to take priority over corporate profit."

Mike Ferner, coordinator of Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie, said, "Our group will likely have to go back into Federal Court a second time to try and compel the US EPA to enforce the Clean Water Act and who knows if that will be successful. The Lake Erie Bill of Rights, a new approach to protecting the

Thank you!

TO EVERYONE WHO SO GRACIOUSLY SUPPORTED OUR PAULDING COUNTY CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS EVENT. WHETHER YOU SUPPORTED THE LIVE DRIVE WITH MIX 98.1, SPONSORED FAMILIES, OR HELPED US WITH DISTRIBUTION, WE THANK YOU AND APPRECIATE YOU!

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environment, should be supported by everyone who says they want a healthy Lake Erie. The courts and the legislature have failed us so far. It's time for new ideas."

The Lake Erie Bill of Rights, a first-in-the-nation specific Ecosystem Rights of Nature initiative by the people, will enshrine in the Toledo City Charter that the Lake Erie watershed and ecosystem have legal rights to exist and flourish. TSW is part of a movement to advance a new legal framework for addressing environmental issues by giving citizens standing to sue major polluters on behalf of Lake Erie in civil court, enabling citizens to directly challenge pollution and harm to their drinking water before the harm occurs.

The initiative was drafted by TSW working with the Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) as a result of frustration felt by Toledoans after years of inaction by the government on reversing the pollution and destruction of Lake Erie. Since 2006, CELDF has partnered with dozens of communities across more than 10 states to enact Rights of Nature laws. It currently works in Nepal, India, Cameroon, Colombia, Australia, and other countries. The introduction of the Lake Erie Bill of Rights will establish Toledo as a leader in the growing national movement embracing Community Rights and Rights of Nature.

**USDA, WGA COLLABORATIVE TO ADDRESS LAND MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Western Governors' Association (WGA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to "establish a framework to allow the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and WGA to work collaboratively to accomplish mutual goals, further common interests, and effectively respond to the increasing suite of challenges facing western landscapes."

Specifically, the agreement was signed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue, WGA Chair and Governor of Hawai'i David Ige, and WGA Vice Chair and Governor of North Dakota Doug Burgum. The MOU commits the USFS and WGA to a "more integrated approach to prioritizing investments where they will have the greatest impact and will work together to set priorities that address risk across broad landscapes." Following the signing, Secretary Perdue and Governor Ige issued these statements:

"Governors possess primary decision-making authority for management of state resources, including many resources on federal lands. Being a 'good neighbor' is an essential component in USDA's work, which is why this MOU is so important," said Secretary Perdue. "USDA's Forest Service will work shoulder-to-shoulder with WGA to co-manage risks and identify land management priorities. As authentic collaborators, the states and federal government will improve service to the public by creating more efficient, effective, and long-lasting policy."

"This is an important step in cooperatively addressing land management challenges," said Governor Ige. "We recognize that no one agency or level of government has the capacity to deal with all of these risks alone. This MOU puts us on a path to working closely on these serious matters."

The agreement, announced at the WGA 2018 Winter Meeting in Hawai'i, is an outgrowth of two ongoing activities: the Shared Stewardship Initiative of the USDA, and the National Forest and Rangeland Management Initiative of Western Governors.

Federal, state and private managers of forests and rangelands face a multitude of urgent challenges, including catastrophic wildfires, invasive species, degraded watersheds, and epidemics of insects and disease. The conditions fueling these circumstances are not improving, as demonstrated by the devastating wildfires of 2018.

The USFS announced a new strategy earlier this year to work more closely with states to identify landscape-scale priorities for targeted treatments. Over the past two years, Western Governors have been examining a wide variety of land management challenges, including those involving large landscapes with multiple ownerships.

**USDA LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM TO CREATE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET E-CONNECTIVITY IN RURAL AMERICA**

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is offering up to \$600 million in loans and grants to help build broadband infrastructure in rural America. Telecommunications companies, rural electric cooperatives and utilities, internet service providers and municipalities may apply for funding through USDA's new ReConnect Program to connect rural areas that currently have insufficient broadband service. Answering the Administration's call to action for rural prosperity, Congress appropriated funds in the fiscal year 2018 budget for this broadband pilot program. USDA Rural Development is the primary agency delivering the program, with assistance from other federal partners.

"High-speed internet e-Connectivity is a necessity, not an amenity, vital for quality of life and economic opportunity, so we hope that today rural communities kick off their rural broadband project planning," Secretary Perdue said. "Under the leadership of President Trump, USDA has worked to understand the true needs of rural communities facing this challenge so we can be strong partners to create high-speed, reliable broadband e-Connectivity."

USDA will make available approximately \$200 million for grants (applications due to USDA by April 29), as well as \$200 million for loan and grant combinations (applications due May 29), and \$200 million for low-interest loans (applications due by June 28).

Projects funded through this initiative must serve communities with fewer than 20,000 people with no broadband service or where service is slower than 10 megabits per second (Mbps) download and 1 Mbps upload.

Approved projects must create access speeds of at least 25 Mbps upload and 3 Mbps download. Priority will be awarded for projects that propose to deliver higher-capacity connections to rural homes, businesses and farms. USDA seeks to stretch these funds as far as possible by leveraging existing networks and systems without overbuilding existing services greater than 10/1 Mbps.

Evaluation criteria include connecting agricultural production and marketing, e-Commerce, health care and education facilities. Previous research by USDA has demonstrated that high-capacity broadband is critical to all aspects of ru-

*(Continued from Page 1)*

pets with their owners, share extra produce from their gardens, and find someone to help with yard work. I'd love to see Nextdoor help foster that kind of community in Antwerp, too."

Nextdoor is free to use and verifies users' addresses so only people who actually live in the community can access the community's network. For more information, contact Jalyn Ely at 231-412-7150, visit nextdoor.com, or download the Nextdoor app.

**SECOND QUARTER SHUTOUT LEADS RAIDERS TO WIN**



Reid Miller, a junior at Wayne Trace, jumps and shoots from inside the key to score 2 points for the Raiders! More pictures at westbendnews.net

By: Joe Shouse, Sports-writer

HAVILAND - Trailing 15-8 after one quarter of play last Saturday night at the Palace visiting Lincolnview was shut out in the second quarter to trail the Raiders 30-8 at halftime. The first half deficit was more than the Lancers could overcome and the Raiders picked up win number four on the season 55-42.

Wayne Trace, coming off a convincing win the night before at Liberty Center, came out of the gate ready to play on both ends of the court.

"Our game plan was to

do what we know we can do and not allow Bowersock and Kemler beat us," said Raider Head Coach Jim Linder.

The Raiders did just that. Both Bowersock and Kemler combined for less than ten points.

"I'm really proud of the kids. Jace (Vining) and Trae (Sinn) worked really hard defensively and held their scorers from getting their points. Reid Miller played smart tonight and was fantastic on both ends," said Linder.

Both teams played even in the third frame with each scoring eight points. In the fourth period with the game

all decided but the final score the Lancers came to life offensively scoring 26 points to 17 for the victorious Raiders.

The Raiders place four players in double digits with a trio scoring 13 each. Reid Miller, Nate Gerber and Jace Vining were each good for 13 points a piece with teammate Alex Reinhart adding 10, hitting 5-6 from the floor.

"We had good balance tonight and I thought for the most part we played under control offensively, It was a great team performance," said Linder.

Along with his 13 points, Miller added four assists and picked up three steals. To go along with his 13 points, Gerber grabbed 10 rebounds.

Josiah Linder made his presence know in the paint, leading both teams in the rebound department with 12 along with two points. Trae Sinn and Mox Price each scored two points to round out the Raiders scoring.

Leading scorers for the Lancers were Kyle Wallis with nine and Creed Jessee chipping in eight.

Wayne Trace hit 37 percent of their shots on 17-45. At the foul line the Raiders were 17-24 for 71 percent. Lincolnview managed 12-35 from the floor for a 28 percent clip. At the charity stripe the Lancers were 12-15.

The Raiders owned the boards with a 41 to 23 advantage. In the turnover department the Raiders committed 14 while the Lancers collected 10.

It's another double header weekend before Christmas with the Raiders traveling to Miller City this Friday followed by a Saturday match up with Van Wert at the Palace.

**FIRST CHURCH ANNOUNCES CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL**

First United Methodist Church, located at 113 W. Central Avenue in Van Wert, Ohio will be presenting a Children's Christmas musical titled "The Wild West Christmas Adventures of The Loaned Manger" on Sunday, December 23rd at 6:30pm.

There are two strong messages identified during the presentation. The first is the

Good News of the Savior's birth and the second is welcoming change. A fun musical with interesting characters and great music! Come enjoy an evening of companionship and fellowship.

If you are looking for a home church or haven't been to worship for a while, the loving congregation of First United Methodist and Pastor Chris Farmer invite you to celebrate during the holidays or any Sunday you are able.

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**PARSON TO PERSON**

**By: Dr. James Bachman**

*Dear Parson,  
Can you explain to me the unforgivable sin mentioned in Matthew 12:31?*

Christ had just, through the Holy Spirit (v. 28), delivered a blind and dumb, demon-possessed man. The observers concluded Jesus must be the Messiah. The jealous Pharisees tried to counter their conclusions by attributing the work of the Holy Spirit to Satan. Christ declared such blasphemy (speaking against the Holy Spirit) could not be forgiven.

This was like their final rejection of the light the Holy Spirit had given them. The Holy Spirit gives witness - John 15:26 - "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." He gives conviction - John 16:8-9 - "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they believe not on me"; c) "not to be born."

Earthly kingdoms can be located on maps. Their boundaries can be seen. But the kingdom of God is within the hearts and lives of those who submit themselves to the rule of Christ. In a later lesson we will find Jesus saying to the governor that his kingdom is "not of this world" (John 18:36).

ANSWERS: 5. C, 6. B, 7. F, 9. T, 10. C, 11. B.

that generation. Jesus also identified the time of the kingdom's establishment by saying it would come "with power." In a later lesson we will find that the power came with the coming of the Holy Spirit to the apostles (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8). This happened on the day of Pentecost, fifty days after Christ's death. When the "power" came, the kingdom came.

**Not a Visible Kingdom**  
Read Luke 17:20-21.

(The Pharisees were expecting a political, earthly kingdom. In these verses Jesus shows that his kingdom is spiritual. It is not of this world.)

9. T/F. The Pharisees wanted to know when the kingdom would come.

10. Jesus said the kingdom was not to come with: a) power; b) the wind; c) observation.

11. It would not be possible to point to a place on the map where the kingdom would be found because the kingdom of God is: a) "above the clouds;" b) "within you"; c) "not to be born."

Earthly kingdoms can be located on maps. Their boundaries can be seen.

When an unbeliever blasphemes the Holy Spirit like this appears, the Holy Spirit turns His back on that unbeliever, and without His part in salvation there is none.

In Romans 1:18-32 we see God giving persistent deniers over to their own lusts. These were close, but not considered unforgivable sins like blaspheming the Holy Spirit.

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

**THE ANGELS' SONG**

**By: Doris Applegate**

We have come a long way from the sacrifice (killing) of an animal for our sins to be taken care of, to the command to "Love the Lord your god with all your heart (spirit) and all your soul, (mind, will and emotions) and all your might (body:strength). Read Duteronomy 6:4. This is not an easy thing to do without God's love and grace in our hearts (spirits). Do we want love or hate, joy or sadness, peace or strife? Has the angels' song "joy and peace" been to no avail? Those who have the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ can truly say yes! Peace, love and joy have come to them. The following verse will describe why these have such indescribable treasure:

"Love come down  
One cold and wintry night  
In darkest Bethlehem  
Clothed in soft and human flesh  
This gift from heaven did manifest  
Who would have thought this treasure great  
Would in a manger lay  
Admist the cattle and the sheep  
And hear the donkeys bray  
Love came down that wondrous night  
And shepherds heard the sound  
Of angels singing "Peace

**WILLITZER VISITS ROTARY**



Rotarian Mark Greenwood introduced Erika Willitzer of the Paulding County Vision Board. The Paulding County Vision Board was established to unite interests throughout the county. This can potentially increase the amount of grants that are received and be able to distribute to local groups instead of trying to "go it alone". Erika stated the interest of the group to the members of the Antwerp Rotary at their weekly meeting on Thursday, December 13 at the Essen House Restaurant.

**on Earth"**

To mankind all around  
Humble shepherds first to see  
First to worship and adore  
This long awaited child of God  
Sent for rich and sent for poor  
Love came down that glorious night  
And Mary did rejoice  
To hold this babe so small yet great  
To turn men's hearts from fear and hate  
To turn men's hearts from sadness  
Into love and greatest joy  
God's great plan unfolding  
All through this baby boy!  
Love came down!"

**FAMILY TIME FEATURED AT LIFETREE CAFÉ**

The importance of coming together with loved ones and nurturing relationships will be highlighted at Lifetree Café on Wednesday, December 19, 2018 from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The program, titled "Come Together: The Healing Power of Friends and Family," features a German film about the heartwarming - albeit unorthodox - efforts of a grandfather to bring his family together during the holidays.

"Time and energy can run in short supply around the holiday season" said Lifetree representative Craig Cable. "This Lifetree program offers an hour of conversation dedicated to reminding us all of the importance of slowing down and enjoying relationships."

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Lifetree Café is located at the Bachwell Center, 116 N. Washington Street, Van Wert, OH. Please enter on Court Street and park behind the Courthouse.

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

view process will take place in 2028-2029.

The accreditation is crucial for students both academically and financially. According to Spaulding, student course credits are transferable to and from MVNU, graduates are eligible for graduate school, and university students can receive funding from the federal Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, and subsidized and unsubsidized direct loans.

"Regional accreditation validates the quality of an institution as a whole and evaluates multiple aspects of an institution, including its academic offerings, governance and administration, mission, finances, and resources," according to the Higher Learning Commission's website, www.hlcommission.org.

As private colleges throughout Ohio, and the country, are struggling to compete for a dwindling student population, the university's strategic plan becomes critical for future success. In order to increase enrollment - and to satisfy HLC planning requirements - universities are forced to continue to re-evaluate academic programs and look to athletic expansion.

"When I was being oriented toward the presidency, they said if you want to grow enrollment, add a sports team," Spaulding said. "We have done that and will continue to do that."

Spaulding credits the university's acceptance of new growth strategies to receiving an accreditation with no follow-up monitoring required.

"The fact that we did not (have follow-up reports) is very rare in the HLC and in America," Spaulding said. "We are very happy about that. It does show it was a well-constructed argument and the evidence was all placed where it needed to be."

Spaulding made the announcement to university staff Dec. 7, stating gratitude across campus for the collective effort throughout the comprehensive review.

"I'd like to say how proud I am of this community for the way they came together to do their very best in difficult days in American higher education. I don't take for granted either the morale or the quality of work that takes place on this campus," Spaulding said. "Special appreciation goes to Dr. Barney Cochran, Dr. Brenita Nicholas-Edwards, Dr. Yvonne Schultz, Dr. Robert Hamill and Dr. Randie Timpe for constructing the reaffirmation arguments. In addition, we acknowledge the Institutional Effectiveness staff and Krissta Hadsell who worked tirelessly on logistics."

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 31 states and 22 countries/U.S. territories.

**TWIN OAKS UMC SPECIAL EVENING**

Christmas Eve Carol sing-a-long at 8:30, then candle-light service at 9:00 p.m. at Twin Oaks United Methodist Church, 200 Harmon Street, Oakwood, Ohio.

All are invited to welcome the Christ Child with song and meditation.

**SERVICES AT ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH**

St. John Lutheran Church, 812 East High Street, Hicksville invite everyone to their services. The last mid-week Advent service will be held December 19 at 7:35 p.m. The beautiful Holden Evening Prayer service will be used. The fourth Sunday of Advent communion service will be held on December 23 at 10:00 a.m. Christmas Eve candle-light communion service will be held December 24 with prelude beginning at 7:00 p.m. and the service at 7:35 p.m. The church will be beautifully dressed for this service and there will be special music. A free meal will be offered to the public on December 27 from 5:00-6:00 p.m. If you have any questions please call the church office at 419-542-6269. ALL ARE WELCOME!

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY SERVICES**

First United Methodist Church, at the corner of Jefferson and Central Streets in downtown Van Wert will be celebrating the Christmas season with the following events.

Thursday, December 20th at 7pm will be a 'Hope Rekindled' Christmas Service. This unique worship experience provides an opportunity to remember and receive the healing gift of the Living Jesus Christ during the Christmas season. There will be gentle music, readings, time for quiet reflection and a brief devotional thought. There will also be an opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one, or as a sign of hope. Come and find your Hope Rekindled.

Sunday, December 23rd at 6:30pm will be the Children's Christmas Musical, The Loaned Manger, under the direction of Chris Gordon. In the small western town of Incarnation, Christmas is celebrated with grit, giddy-up and gusto! They like to think of themselves as 'the most Christmassy town in the west.' But 1891 is the year

**GETTING TO KNOW JESUS**

**By: Lonnie Lambert, Oakwood Church of Christ**

*The Kingdom would come In That Generation* Read Mark 9:1.

5. When the kingdom came it would come with: a) the Romans; b) fire; c) power.

6. This would occur before some in the audience would: a) taste of wine; b) taste of death (die); c) taste of the sacrifices.

7. T/F. The kingdom had already come when Jesus said this.

8. T/F. Jesus indicated that the kingdom would come within the lifetime of some who heard him.

This brief statement is very important in understanding the time of the establishment of the kingdom. Clearly it was to be established within the lifetime of

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that two big 'signs O' progress could spell either trouble or opportunity. Round up some rambunctious cowpokes, a forward-thinkin' townspeople, a manger on loan, and a lot of raucous yee-haw for the Wild West Christmas Adventures of the Loaned Manger. Come and enjoy this wild west adventure.

Monday, December 24th at 5pm 'Simply Christmas' will be held. Simply Christmas is a family service with candlelighting. Beginning at 6pm there will be Holy Communion for families, along with a family photo opportunity. This service will conclude at 7pm. At 9:30pm, special instrumental and vocal Christmas music will reflect the beauty of the sanctuary and the occasion. At 10pm, come and participate in a traditional Christmas Eve worship experience with candlelighting.

Sunday, December 30th the church will combine for one service beginning at 10am. There will be no Sunday School or choir that morning.

Pastor Chris Farmer and the congregation of First United Methodist Church invite you to join them to celebrate the Christmas season!

### HICKSVILLE GRACE UMC CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Hicksville's Grace UMC Church has moved Christmas Eve services to 10:00 this year. This "All Is Well" evening is a specially arranged combination of songs, scriptures, and Christmas reflections. The Grace Choir and friends, Pastor Susan, and narrators join with Choir director Andy Gross for favorites "O Holy Night" and "Mary Mary," ending with candle lit "Silent Night." Join us on Dec. 24. Grace Church is located at 121 West High St. All are welcome.

### HLC REAFFIRMS MVNU'S ACCREDITATION

Dr. Henry W. Spaulding II, president of Mount Vernon Nazarene University, proudly announces the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) has reaffirmed the university's accreditation. The next review process will take place in 2028-2029.

The accreditation is crucial for students both academically and financially. According to Spaulding, student course credits are transferable to and from MVNU, graduates are eligible for graduate school,

and university students can receive funding from the federal Pell Grant, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, Federal Perkins Loan, and subsidized and unsubsidized direct loans.

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Mount Vernon Nazarene University is a private, four-

## PAULDING ELEMENTARY RECEIVE LETTER FROM KANSAS



Paulding Elementary Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Beth Kelly is shown with students Landyn Clark and Joey Griffith as they read a letter they received from a kindergarten class in Kansas. A gingerbread man was also enclosed dressed as Dorothy from Wizard of Oz.

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 31 states and 22 countries/U.S. territories.

### USDA INVESTS IN WATER & WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN 46 STATES

Assistant to the Secretary for Rural Development Anne Hazlett today announced that USDA is investing \$1.2 billion (PDF, 509 KB) to help rebuild and improve rural water infrastructure for 936,000 rural Americans living in 46 states.

"Access to water is a key driver for economic opportunity and quality of life in rural communities," Hazlett said. "Under the leadership of Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, USDA is committed to being a strong partner to rural communities in building prosperity through modern water infrastructure."

USDA is providing financing for 234 water and environmental infrastructure projects through the Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant program. The funding can be used for drinking water, stormwater drainage and waste disposal systems for rural communities with 10,000 or fewer residents.

Eligible communities and water districts can apply online on the interactive RD Apply tool, or they can apply through one of USDA Rural Development's state or field offices.

Below are some examples of the investments USDA is making:

- In Pennsylvania, the

Municipal Authority of the Borough of Berlin is receiving a \$2.5 million loan to replace the primary water transmission line for the Berlin Municipal Water System. The line was constructed in 1979, is in poor condition, has experienced numerous breaks resulting in boiler water notices, and has inadequate water pressure to fight fires. The investment will also help replace water meters. This system serves nearly 1,100 users in Berlin and in Brothers Valley township in Somerset County.

- The Todd County Water District in Kentucky will receive a \$3.2 million loan and a \$390,000 grant to construct two miles of water line and a 500,000-gallon water storage tank. The upgrades will provide up to one million gallons per day for a new industrial site just outside of Guthrie. Novelis Industries plans to build an automotive aluminum sheet manufacturing facility that will create approximately 125 jobs. The Todd County Water District serves 3,500 customers.

- The Bond Water Association Inc. in Winston County, Miss., will use a \$1.4 million loan to upgrade its water system. It will build a 300-gallon-per-minute well and replace 28,200 feet of distribution lines. Also, new radio read meters will be installed, and the two water treatment plants will be rehabilitated. These improvements will serve 470 customers.

USDA is making investments in rural communities in: Alaska, Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Ten-

nessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Vermont, Washington, Wisconsin and West Virginia.

In April 2017, President Donald J. Trump established the Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity to identify legislative, regulatory and policy changes that could promote agriculture and prosperity in rural communities. In January 2018, Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force's findings to President Trump. These findings included 31 recommendations to align the federal government with state, local and tribal governments to take advantage of opportunities that exist in rural America. Increasing investments in rural infrastructure is a key recommendation of the task force.

To view the report in its entirety, please view the Report to the President of the United States from the Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity (PDF, 5.4 MB). In addition, to view the categories of the recommendations, please view the Rural Prosperity infographic (PDF, 190 KB).

USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to help expand economic opportunities and create jobs in rural areas. This assistance supports infrastructure improvements; business development; housing; community services such as schools, public safety and health care; and high-speed internet access in rural areas. For more information, visit www.rd.usda.gov.

### SECRETARY PERDUE STATEMENT ON EPA & ARMY CORPS WOTUS ANNOUNCEMENT

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue today praised the announcement from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers that they are fulfilling President Trump's pledge to repeal and replace the Waters of the United States rule.

Perdue issued the following statement:

"When I meet with the men and women of American agriculture, one of their chief concerns is always the overreach of federal regulations. The WOTUS rule is regularly singled out as particularly egregious, as it impedes the use of their own land and stifles productivity. Farmers and ranchers

are exceptional stewards of the environment, and states have their own standards as well. This welcome action from the EPA and Army Corps will help bring clarity to Clean Water Act regulations and help farmers know where federal jurisdiction begins and ends. President Trump is making good on his promise to reduce burdensome regulations to free our producers to do what they do best — feed, fuel, and clothe this nation and the world."

*Editor's Note: We here at the West Bend News print all "Letters to the Editor" because we believe that everyone has a Constitutional right to freedom of the press. In saying that, we do not necessarily agree with the content that is printed. We are just the messengers. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article. To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 1000 words, and you must provide a name along with a phone number and/or email to confirm validity of content. You can respond or submit a new letter by email, USPS or fax.*

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

*email: info@westbendnews.net*

*fax: 419-258-1313*

*USPS: West Bend News*

*PO Box 1008*

*Antwerp, OH 45813*

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Speaking from experience; if you purchase advertising believing you will be heard on a local radio station, make sure you understand who you are giving your money to and what the money is going towards. Stupid me thought my ad would be heard on a "local 'radio' station" when in reality it was heard on a stream via the internet. In this day of high tech, I think, maybe, this should have been explained to me, especially when the business card says, "radio network", but then again, maybe I just didn't ask the right questions.

Bottom line: WMYW 102.7 is a licensed broadcasting radio station and WPAU is a podcast, streamed via the internet.

—Mary Leinard  
Antwerp, OH

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## A TRANS-SIBERIAN ORCHESTRA TRIBUTE BY "SIBERIAN SOLSTICE"



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**YOURS AND MY RIGHTS**

**By: Stan Jordan**

There was a person that called our office and said it wasn't right that I didn't care if a person died from an overdose of drugs.

I had said, "Let them die" and it is my right to think that and say it, it is surely that person's right not to agree with me on that. They thought that was cruel thinking.

Yes, you are right about that, but let me tell you why I think that way.

One fine evening last summer, a car pulled off of SR 49 to the side of the road, right in front of my driveway and house. He was very sick from too much drugs and couldn't go on, so they called the state patrol, Antwerp EMS and a fire truck. Now this was between 10:00 and 11:00 at night so some of those first responders got out of bed.

This went on for a few minutes and the EMS took him to Hicksville or Bryan, one of those hospitals, and saved him from dying. He got straightened out and this was on Friday night and over in Bryan on Sunday, he again got into some drugs and he overdosed and died.

Now when I wrote that column to "let them die" I had all that on my mind and I would write that same thing again, as that is the way I feel. I know nearly all of those first responders personally and I know they don't feel as I do.

Look at all the families that went out of their usual life and helped him live. He didn't give a hoot, he just wanted more drugs. Now, I didn't know that man, but I just assume that he didn't do too much for society in his way of life.

I'm sorry sir, but that is my right and I used it. That is your right and you used it. I'm glad that we have those rights. See ya!

**THE AMAZON OF 1935**

**By: Stan Jordan**

When I was growing up back in the 1930's, the Amazon of those years were Sears

& Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Spiegel, May and Stern, J.C. Penney and a few others, and those big companies are falling like leaves from an Oak tree.

Ben Franklin once told me, "What goes around, comes around." Now be that as it may, but let me tell you about that catalog era in my youth and later.

Nearly everybody received a catalog from the above companies along with smaller sales catalogs. We spent a lot of time looking through those books. Actually, not too many years ago, I would get a catalog from Bass Pro and Cabela's and I still looked those books over good. That is why they send you one, is for you to buy from them.

About 1934, my brother Jim worked and saved his coins because you didn't earn much at that time and in the Sears book was a .22 calibre, single shot, long rifle. That nice gun was called a Ranger and only cost \$1.79. He had memorized that part of the transaction, but he did send for it and he used it all of his life, along with a half dozen others.

Every fall mom would send to Sears and get each of us 2 pairs of pants to go to school with. You changed clothes as soon as you got home from school. What I'm getting at, is everyone ordered out of the catalogs in those years. Then in the late 1950's and 60's the big companies built big stores locally, like Sears in Ft. Wayne and Defiance. Then a little later, the bigger marts came in and took over those sales and the local stores just couldn't make it and they died out.

Those stores were the Amazon of that era and that is the way we lived and enjoyed it too. Like Ben Franklin said, "What goes around, comes around" and now some of those big stores are gone.

See ya!

**ME AND CHRISTMAS**

**By: Stan Jordan**

I have always loved Christmas, even when I was younger and the depression was on. Having lived through the depression taught me to enjoy and appreciate how things are now, 90 years later, actually I don't know how my folks made it with three boys. We still had the Christmas spirit, we went to church and sang all the Christmas and those season songs. Then over the years things got better and we all grew older and wiser, but I still get the good Christmas

spirit, all it stands for and the things it brings out.

I love the pretty Christmas lights and the Nativity scene and the reindeer, sled and the old fat fellow that rides in the sleigh. I even like Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer. You might say that I get caught up in the Christmas air and revert back to a child again, but I enjoy it, how can you help not?

Years ago my wife gave me a leather bound book of Christmas cards all drawn by Currier and Ives. I have looked at those beautiful cards many, many times. They are beautiful but I like to look back deep into the background at all the little details they show. These boys must have really liked the wild life and the outdoors. I can get lost in one of these cards in a hurry. I guess that is just another form of Christmas spirit.

There was a lady just in our office that uses pretty Christmas card pictures over again. I think that also shows the Christmas spirit, that just settles on you like the morning fog.

See ya!

**ME & BEN**

**By: Stan Jordan**

About 1775 Juan Valdez and I journeyed to Boston on a call I got from Ben Franklin, it was about a chore for us to go visit Betsy Ross for Gen. George Washington.

This was all hush-hush stuff because a lot of the neighbors didn't like Betsy because she is sort of outspoken in favor of freedom. Of course we met Ben down on the water front in sort of a speak easy. Tempers ran a little high at the time about the Tea Tax and the lousy Governor the English appointed.

Betsy Ross' husband, Charles, was an upholsterer and Betsy helped him with the little heavier fabric, but Charles is dead now. Gen. Washington figures Betsy Ross is handy with a little heavier cloth so we are to meet with her and have her make us a new National flag.

After a few pints of grog, we three went down to Betsy's house and Gen. Washington was already there. After a round of tea and some introductions and greetings all around, we got down to business. You could tell right away that Betsy was for freedom and wanted to get away from the English and all of their ways. Betsy told us she wanted to get as far away from the Union Jack because it is too black and dismal. She said, "I'm going to use red, white and blue. Now what do you boys want? The table is open for suggestions." There were a number of plans, ideas and notions on the table as each one had our own ideas.

After a while Juan made some coffee and it was really good with her hot biscuits and butter. The clock struck one and George said, "It's time for lights out."

George was to sleep on the couch, Ben in the big arm chair and Juan and I would sleep in the barn. Betsy told Juan to tie his ass, Conchita, in one of the big stalls. We met that next morning about 8:00 and after many cups of tea and Juan's coffee, we finally got down to business. We discussed things for a couple of days and knew it would have 13 stripes of red

**WAYNE TRACE LOCAL SCHOOLS CELEBRATING AMERICA'S FARMERS GROW RURAL EDUCATION GRANT**



Students in Ms. Kathy Sinn's science class demonstrate their enthusiasm for using the ClassVR Goggles

Wayne Trace Local Schools has been named a \$10,000 grant recipient for the America's Farmers Grow Rural Education program, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, and will be celebrating with a check-presentation ceremony December 22, 2018 at half-time of the varsity boys' basketball game at the Wayne Trace High School gymnasium. The district plans to use the grant to implement a Virtual Reality in

Science Program at the junior high and high school. Virtual Reality in Science is designed to provide Virtual Reality equipment for students and teachers in grades 7-8-9 at Wayne Trace Junior High/High School. The purpose of the project is to increase student achievement in science and deepening their understanding of science concepts. By implementing this project with two science teachers, this emerging technology

can be integrated into classroom activities on a small scale and then be expanded to include other grade levels and subjects. Connections to local and online resources and experts will provide presentations for students and teachers to help them understand the daily applications of science concepts particularly in the local businesses of agriculture, wind-farms and manufacturing.

and white. We didn't want our flag to look like any other country's banner. Now about the blue...we had a couple of ideas and notions, but nothing for sure yet.

We finally came to a decision on the blue. Up in the left hand corner of the flag, on a field of blue, would be 13 white stars, one for each colony in the nation at this time. Maybe there will be more later on...who knows.

See Ya!

**VWCF OFFERS NON-PROFIT CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM FOR SECOND YEAR**

The Van Wert County Foundation is proud to offer a non-profit resources program, IMPACT: A Non-profit Capacity Building Program, for its second year.

This program is aimed at increasing the capacity of our non-profit organizations. This program acts as a process of developing and strengthening the skills, instincts, abilities, processes and resources that organizations need to survive, adapt, and thrive in the fast-changing world. Serving as an informational resource and acting as a catalyst to encourage stronger collaboration among nonprofit organizations, this program will strengthen our local non-profit leaders and enhance collective community impact.

Professionals from The Ohio Association of Non-profit Organizations present workshops on the following topics: Board Development, Marketing, Fundraising, Outcomes and Measures, Financial and Legal, Leadership and Strategic Planning. A local speaker will present on the topic of Human Resources while The Foundation will host a Grant Writing workshop.

Only seven non-profit organizations will be accepted into this capacity building program. Requirements for acceptance is: 1) be a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, 2) have received funding from VWCF within the past three years, and 3) be governed by a board of directors.

Deadline for acceptance is Friday, January 18, 2019. The first session is Tuesday, February 19, 2019. The applica-

tion is available online at <http://vanwertcountyfoundation.org/vwcf-offers-impact-for-2nd-year/>

For more information email [amanda@vanwertcountyfoundation.org](mailto:amanda@vanwertcountyfoundation.org) or call Amanda Miller, Marketing & Resource Development Manager at 419.238.1743.



**ANTWERP POLICE REPORT**

November 29 - an officer received a description from Defiance County Sheriff's office of a female in a vehicle, and located a 26 year old female with outstanding felony warrants from Defiance County. She was arrested and transported to the Paulding County Jail.

On November 30, the Antwerp Police department received a call from the Foundation Center Crisis Hotline. They had received calls from a young village resident that he wanted to hang himself. The officer located the resident and spoke to the individual. The Officer talked with the young man and helped the man get to the hospital for help.

On November 30, while patrolling, the on duty officer noticed a pothole on South Erie Street near Buffalo St. appeared to be getting worse. He contacted the Village Administrator who then contacted the State Highway Department.

On December 6, a business owner turned in a credit

card that was left at the business to the Police. The police contacted the bank and they in turn contacted the card holder who then picked up the card at the Police Station.

On December 7, the Antwerp Police Department was contacted by detectives from the Shawnee Police Department in reference to several items that had been pawned at several shops in Allen County, OH. It was determined that approximately \$20,000 in merchandise had been stolen from a local resident. A suspect is being charged.

On December 7, the Paulding Police called the Antwerp Police Department saying a resident had contacted them in reference to his stolen trailer. He said the Antwerp Police department was called numerous times, but they did not call him back. When the Antwerp Officers contacted the victim of the stolen trailer it was found he was dialing an incorrect phone number. He was given the correct number and told he should contact with the correct number if he has any questions.

On December 7, an accident was reported at the corner of Main and Canal Streets. A semi truck had hit the yellow barrier that is intended to keep the trucks off the sidewalk. The trailer rim bent due to catching the barrier. The driver was cited, an accident report was prepared and the Village Administrator was contacted.

On December 9, a resident of East River St. reported that his canine had gotten loose and he could not catch it. A police officer responded and helped the owner catch the dog.

On December 10, the department received a call in reference to three dogs being left alone on an abandoned property. The officer found that the dogs had dog boxes with straw and each had food

**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**

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and water bowls. The owner of the dogs was contacted and ensured the officer that the dogs were being well taken care off with food and water daily.

The Antwerp Police Chief, George Clemens, applied for a grant and was awarded an amount of \$4,932.00 towards the purchase of bullet proof vests. There was also a \$400 donation from Councilman Kieth West. An application for a couple more smaller grants is in progress for the purchase of body armor to try and ensure that the equipment won't cost tax payers in Antwerp anything.

In the month of November, there were 140 calls for service. There were 26 offenses that were passed through the Antwerp Mayor's Court.

The Antwerp Police would like to encourage you to call and ask question or to report something you believe to be suspicious activity.

### HUSTED DECLARES DECEMBER AS "MADE IN OHIO" MONTH

Secretary of State Jon Husted has announced December as "Made in Ohio" Month. Throughout the month, Ohio Business Profile will look back at the more than 600 companies that have been profiled since the program launched in 2011.

"Entrepreneurs and hard-working Ohioans are the fuel that drives our state's economy," Secretary Husted said. "During my time as Secretary of State, we have made it a priority to recognize these businesses while also working to make it easier for them to operate in Ohio."

Since the start of the Ohio Business Profile program, each month has featured a group of Ohio-based businesses that share a common theme. To date, there have been 60 monthly themes that have highlighted a diverse selection of companies. Some monthly themes are annual, such as agriculture, minority-owned, veteran-owned, and women-owned, while others served as opportu-

nities to showcase the wide range of types of companies operating in Ohio, like the themes STEM in Ohio, handmade for the holidays, family-owned, and innovation.

In total, the 600+ businesses featured through the Ohio Business Profile represent more than 151,000 employees across the Buckeye State.

The Ohio Business Profile program has been complemented by a series of innovative reforms aimed at alleviating the bureaucratic and administrative burdens placed on job creators. During Secretary Husted's tenure, successes have included:

The launch of Ohio Business Central, which enables all Ohio-based businesses to form and renew their business status online. This service has provided easier access, reduced processing time, and saved taxpayer dollars.

A 21 percent reduction to the costs for starting and maintaining a business in Ohio, making the Buckeye State the least costly state in the region for starting and maintaining a business. This move, which was made possible by Secretary Husted's careful fiscal stewardship, has already saved Ohio businesses over \$8 million.

Partnering with Google's "Let's Get Our Cities on the Map" program to put additional tools in the hands of new and growing Ohio businesses.

The launch of a partnership with the Cleveland Sight Center, which has improved customer experience by reducing the average wait time for callers into the Business Services Call Center from five minutes and 19 seconds to just 43 seconds with a 95.7 percent customer satisfaction rate.

Leading an effort to ensure that 100 percent of all forms needed to start or maintain a business in Ohio can be submitted online. This four-year effort was completed in August 2017, and four out of every five new businesses are now started online.

"While this is my last month as Ohio's Secretary of State, it is my hope that the Ohio Business Profile program continues on during the next administration and all those administrations that follow," Secretary Husted said.

### BANKS: CONGRESS SHOULD PASS FIVE YEAR EXTENSION OF MEDICAL DEVICE TAX SUSPENSION

Congressman Jim Banks (IN-03) praised the inclusion of a five-year suspension of the medical device tax in a tax reform package expected to be considered by the House sometime this month. The legislation would extend the current suspension of the medical device tax through 2024.

## OAKWOOD ELEMENTARY SEND LETTERS TO OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS



Kindergarten students Chandler Fitch and Reagan Wilson are shown with their teacher Mrs. Kyle Miller as they share the letter they received from students in a school in Alabama.

Oakwood Elementary now receiving letters in return from many students throughout the nation.

"The potential return of the medical device tax could jeopardize thousands of Hoosier jobs, which is why this tax must never go back into effect," said Banks. "I have fought to eliminate this misguided tax since taking office, and I strongly support an additional five-year suspension. Congress should pass this legislation before the end of the year."

The medical device tax first took effect in 2013. Congress suspended the tax for 2016 and 2017 and then extended the suspension for 2018 and 2019.

Earlier this year, Congressman Banks voted for legislation to permanently repeal the medical device tax. The legislation passed the House but has not been considered by the Senate.

### THE HELENA ACRE HOMEGROWN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Helena Continental Branch is excited to announce the recipient of the Helena HomeGrown Scholarship. Arend Brothers is the winner of a \$1,000 scholarship dedicated in their name to an eligible student currently residing in a qualified county. To view qualified counties, visit helenahomegrown.com. The Helena HomeGrown Scholarship will be awarded to a 2019 graduating high school senior who will pursue a degree in agriculture or science.

Helena is committed to supporting the next generation of agriculture through the Helena HomeGrown Scholarship. We want to help our local customers and communities grow more than crops. Whether through the HomeGrown Scholarship or our industry-leading intern program, Helena is committed to growing the future generation of ag leaders and professionals. Qualifying graduating

seniors can apply for the HomeGrown Scholarship by visiting www.helenahomegrown.com. Applications are due January 31, 2019 and winners will be announced by March 1, 2019.

We would like to congratulate Arend Brothers for their commitment to Helena.

### LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS SING IN THE TV-44 STUDIO & SUPPORT RESCUE MISSION

25 area high school choirs took part in TV-44's annual Holiday Music Festival studio production this month. Portions of choral selections will appear on TV-44 throughout the month of December and in full, December 24 and 25 (full schedule listed below.)

In addition to singing Christmas songs in the TV-44 studio, the students also had an opportunity to give back to the community. \$484.60 in cash was donated by the choirs, to be given to The Lima Rescue Mission, a non profit organization that has been helping poor and homeless men since 1906. 4 boxes of donated food items were gifted to The Church at Allentown Food Pantry.

Schools participating in the 2018 Holiday Music Festival are: Allen East, Arcadia, Arlington, Bath, Bluffton, Botkins, Columbus Grove, Delphos Jefferson, Delphos St. John, Elida, Kalida, Liberty Benton, Leipsic, Lincolnview, New Bremen, New Knoxville, Ottawa-Glandorf, Pandora, Perry, Shawnee, Spencerville, Temple Christian, Wapakoneta, Waynesfield, and Van Wert.

The 2018 Holiday Music Festival is a locally produced Christmas concert featuring Christmas music sung by area high school choirs. Air dates and times: December 24: 4:00 p.m., and December

25, 7:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon. Selections can also be viewed at wtlw.com.

WTWV-TV 44 is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization governed by a 10-member board of directors. The viewer-supported station reaches 220,000 homes and through WOSN, offers 24-hour coverage of local high school sports within a 40+ mile radius of the station. TV-44 desires to partner with area high schools as a positive opportunity to support local youth and the arts.

### MAC GYM DRAWS TEAMS FROM ELEVEN COUNTIES

ANTWERP - The sixth annual "Santa Slam" basketball tournament will be played this Saturday at the MAC Gym. This will be the final tournament event for 2018. Twenty basketball teams will represent eleven counties, in two states, at the MAC Gym for this tournament. They will play in five divisions in this one day event.

The day begins with 6th grade girls and boys teams mixing it up. In the only girls division Norwell will travel up from Well's County Indiana while McComb will travel in from Hancock County in Ohio. Joining them will be local teams Paulding and Antwerp. On the boys side, Coldwater visits from Mercer County while Lima Shawnee travels in from Allen County, Ohio. They are joined by Patrick Henry from Henry County and the local Antwerp team.

In the 5th grade boys division Patrick Henry will play against Kalida from Putnam County, West Unity Hilltop from Fulton County and Fairfield Elementary from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

In the 4th grade bracket Patrick Henry will face off against Tinora from Defiance County, Fairfield Elementary and the local Antwerp team.

New this year is a 3rd grade division. Travelling the farthest to participate in this Christmas season tournament is Wadsworth from Medina County, located on the east side of Ohio. The will be joined by three Defiance County teams in Hicksville, Sherwood Fairview and Tinora.

There will be 30 games played in this one day event

starting at 8:00 a.m. New games will begin every 45 minutes through 7:00 p.m. Admission is good for all day. All proceeds benefit the Team MAC travel teams.

### PANTHERS DROP CLOSE GAME TO BULLDOGS

COLUMBUS GROVE - The Paulding Panthers opened Northwest Conference boys basketball play Friday night at Columbus Grove with the host Bulldogs holding on for a 63-56 win in the contest.

The host Bulldogs jumped out to a 15-4 advantage after eight minutes of action only to see Paulding rally in the second quarter. The Panthers bucketed 24 points in the period compared to Columbus Grove's 13 as the two teams went into the break tied at 28-28.

Columbus Grove then answered with 18 third quarter points compared to 14 for Paulding, giving the Bulldogs a 46-42 lead entering the final stanza.

Blake Reynolds and Grayson Flores each scored 16 points to pace the Bulldog attack while Evan Hopkins aided the Columbus Grove cause with ten markers.

Tayt Birnesser chipped in nine points followed by Alex Schneider with seven and Gabe Clement finished with five markers.

Paulding was led by Jarret Miller with 20 points and Fletcher Cook contributed 18 markers for the maroon and white.

Carson Shull also had nine points for Paulding followed by Blake McGarvey with five markers and Jacob Eblin had four.

Columbus Grove brought down 23 rebounds compared to the Panthers' 18 while Paulding had fewer turnovers in the contest, 11-13.

The Bulldogs connected on 22 of 44 shots from the field (50 percent) while Paulding made 20 of 45 field goal attempts (44 percent).

Paulding's junior varsity squad posted a 35-32 win over the Bulldogs.

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# LADY RAIDERS DEFEAT PANTHERS AT HOME



Wayne Trace's Claire Sinn shoots for 3 points! More pictures at westbendnews.net

By: Joe Shouse, Sports-writer

HAVILAND - The Paulding Lady Panthers invaded the Palace last Tuesday, Dec. 11, to battle cross-county rival Wayne Trace on the hardwood. The Panthers led early at 2-0 and again at 5-4 before the Raiders took the lead for good. A Claire Sinn three-pointer put the red-white-and-blue on top 7-5 and the Raiders would never trail, coasting to a 42-37 win.

The Raiders took an 11-9 into the second quarter and quickly increased their advantage to 15-9 on two Sadie Sinn free throws and a Miriam Sinn two-point bucket. The sticky Raider defense didn't allow a Panther basket until Bri Townley connected from closed range with 1:51 remaining and the Panthers trailing 19-12. Paulding managed to stay within striking distance when junior Chelsi Giesige pulled the trigger on a three-pointer to close out the first half. The Raiders went to the locker room holding a 20-15 lead.

Wayne Trace used the long-ball to increase their third quarter margin. After Townley scored to open the third quarter scoring and pulling the visiting Panthers to within three at 20-17, the Raiders responded with back-to-back-to-back treys. Katrina Stoller dialed in from the deep corner followed by



Paulding Senior Bri Townley puts up a jump shot while being guarded. More pictures at westbendnews.net

a three-pointer from Clair Sinn from the same spot as Stoller. Sinn then added another three-pointer with 5:31 remaining on the clock and the Raiders up by eight 29-21. The stanza closed out with two free throws from Sadie Sinn and a free throw by Chelsi Giesige and the Raiders leading 31-24 heading into the final eight minutes of action.

Kaylee Shepherd, who finished with 14 points, nine coming in the fourth quarter, drained a triple to open the quarter. The Shepherd bucket gave the Raiders a double digit margin, 34-24. The Raiders held their advantage in the closing minutes before Chelsi Giesige connected on a lay-up to narrow the Raider margin to just three at 40-37. However, two Shepherd free

throws in the closing seconds iced it for the Raiders for their fourth consecutive win.

"Give much credit to Paulding. They are a much improved team over last year and they are going to win a share of games this season," said Wayne Trace Head Coach Bethany DeJarnett

Joining Shepherd with double figures was Claire Sinn who tossed in 13 markers,

"We got the momentum going our way in the second half and I thought we took care of the basketball. Shep (Kaylee Shepherd) played very well tonight. We got some solid play from some kids like Sara Edwards, Rachel Stoller, and Tiffany Sinn who gave us some good minutes tonight," DeJarnett said,

For Paulding, Townley led all scorers with 16 with team mates Chelsi Giesige and freshman Audrey Giesige each adding eight.

Shooting on the night was off for both teams. Paulding shot 14-40 from the floor for 35 percent while the Raiders were 12-41 for 29 percent. The Raiders connected on six baskets behind the arc while the Panthers hit just three. From the foul line, Wayne Trace connected on 12-16 while their opponent was 6-8. Paulding won the battle of the boards with 34 to 26 and in the turnover department Paulding totaled 18 to the Raiders 11.

"We have been an up-and-down free throw shoot-

ing team so far this season. Tonight we did much better and that's what wins ball games," commented DeJarnett.

## ARCHERS ROLL PAST PIRATES, IMPROVE TO 4-1

ANTWERP - Jayvin Landers scored 18 points and Austin Lichty added 13 as the Antwerp Archers rolled to a 64-37 win over Continental Saturday night in non-league boys basketball action.

Keaton Altimus added 11 and Ty Rebber chipped in ten for the Archers, who improve to 4-1 on the year.

Brayton Stuckey recorded four with Coley Seslar and Blake Schuette both had three for Antwerp. Jake Ryan added the remaining two Archer points on the night.

Antwerp doubled up the Pirates 14-7 in the first quarter before widening the margin to 29-21 at the break. The Archers took a commanding 49-31 lead into the final quarter.

Mitchell Coleman had 17 and Gavin Huff added 14 for the visiting Pirates. Reed Warnement, Taron Butler and Zach Moran all recorded two points each for Continental.

The Archers won the rebounding battle, 22-18, and had fewer turnovers in the contest, 9-17.

Antwerp was also 24 of 53 from the field (45 percent) compared to Continental's 14 of 36 (39 percent).

In the junior varsity contest, the blue and white cruised to a 57-20 victory over the Pirates.

The Archers return to action on December 27 when they tangle with host Edgerton in the Route 49 Classic. The consolation and championship games will take place on December 28.

Continental is at Holgate Thursday evening for a non-league battle with the Tigers.

## BULLDOGS TAKE 1-1 FOR WEEKEND BASKETBALL

The week held much excitement for the New Haven Bulldogs in high school boys basketball. Early in the week, on Wednesday, December 12th, the Bulldogs played host to the Wayne Generals.

Wayne scored with 6 seconds left to break a 55-55 tie and win the game 57-55. New Haven was led by Thomas Latham 17 points and 9 rebounds.

Score by the Quarter:  
New Haven - 9 14 14 15 = 55

Wayne - 15 13 14 15 = 57

At the week's end, the Bulldogs traveled to Belmont for a match up. New Haven improved their record to 2-4, and opened up with a conference victory. The Bulldogs were led in scoring by Damerea Dial 14, Jaden Harris 13 and Jakar Williams 13.

Score by the Quarter:  
New Haven - 10 21 16 17 = 64

Bellmont - 11 9 10 11 = 41

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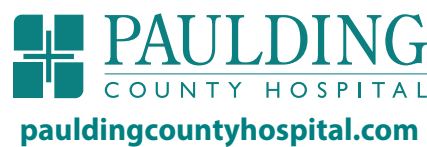
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# ARCHERS COAST TO WIN OVER BIG GREEN



With a minute left in the ball game, Antwerp Junior Jake Eaken attempts to dunk the ball, instead he gets a technical foul by the refs for too long on the rim! More pictures at westbendnews.net

ANTWERP - Keaton Altimus led a balanced scoring attack with 11 points while teammates Cole Seslar and Ty Rebber chipped in ten each as the Antwerp Archers defeated Ottoville 58-41 in non-league boys basketball action December 11th.

The blue and white led 17-7 at the end of one quarter before widening the margin to 34-15 at the intermission. Antwerp then posted a 44-31 lead entering the final stanza.

Jayvin Lander posted eight markers for the Archers with Luke Brewer adding seven and Austin Lichty recorded six.

Blake Schuette aided the cause with four points and Boston Dunderman hit a pair of free throws for Antwerp, which is now 3-1 on the season.

Ottoville was led by 13 points from Joseph Miller with Ryan Suever chipping in a dozen markers.

Other scorers for the Big Green were Drew Fisher (six), Josh Thorbahn (five), Zach Knippen (three) and Kyle

Manns (two).

The Big Green won the battle of the boards, 33-24, but also committed more turnovers, 18-10.

Antwerp's defense limited Ottoville to 27 percent shooting as the Big Green was 13 of 49 from the field. The Archers made 20 of 50 shots (40 percent).

In the junior varsity game, Antwerp picked up a 39-27 victory.

Antwerp will play in the Route 49 Classic on December 27 when it battles host Edgerton. The consolation and championship games will take place December 28 at the home of the Bulldogs.

Ottoville returns to action Friday as the Big Green visits Elida before hosting Delphos St. John's Saturday.

## VAN WERT LADY COUGARS FALL TO BEARCATS

The Lady Cougars of Van Wert started their week last week playing host to the

Spencerville Lady Bearcats in high school girls basketball. The junior varsity match up was a close one landing Spencerville with the narrow win, 43-40. This brought the JV Lady Cougars record to 2-3.

In Varsity play, the same momentum carried over leaving the Van Wert varsity team with a lot to overcome to recover the night. The first quarter, the Lady Bearcats' points were double Van Wert, 7-14, and the second quarter was almost the same, 7-11. Spencerville turned it up another notch after the half scoring 19 in the 3rd compared to Van Wert's 14, and Van Wert couldn't catch a break as the last quarter Spencerville edged past the Lady Cougars for the varsity win. Final score: 37-55

Score by the Quarter:  
Van Wert - 7 7 14 9 = 37  
Spencerville - 14 11 19 11 = 55

## RAIDER WRESTLING GO 1-1 AT APACHES/BULLDOG TRI-MEET

High school wrestling met on the mat on December 11th with Wayne Trace, Edgerton and Fairview.

Fairview 39, Wayne Trace 38

126 - Hunter Long, WT, pin 2:13 Sam Miller, FV

132 - Seth Meggison, WT, 13-3, Luke Skinner, FV

138 - Kaden Blair, FV, 10-6, Nathan Beck, WT

145 - Caleb Baughman, WT, 21-7, Noah Hageman, FV

152 - Jacob Thomspen, FV, pin 2:29, Jess Munger, WT

160 - Wyatt Stabler, WT, pin 2:58, Caleb Skinner, FV

170 - Eli Moore, WT, pin 1:10, Zeplyn Bowers, FV

182 - Nick Reed, FV, pin 1:06, Elizah Harris, WT

195 - Mitchell Breckler, FV, forfeit

220 - Wes Bowers, FV, pin 0:09, Jeremiah Harris, WT

285 - Jakob Backhaus, FV, pin 1:30, Jacob Graham, WT

106 - Zander Tressler, FV, forfeit

113 - Jarrett Hornish, WT, pin 0:54, Reed Singer, FV

120 - Gabe Sutton, WT, def 0:14, John Preston, FV

X145 - Cameron Cox, WT, pin 2:18, Bryce Krill, FV

X145 - Carson Rupp, WT, pin 0:47, Sesily Wanjema, FV

X285 - Johnathan McCoy, FV, pin 0:42, Xaden Franklin, WT

Wayne Trace 47, Edgerton 25

120 - Gabe Sutton, WT, forfeit

126 - Hunter Long, WT, forfeit

132 - Seth Meggison, WT, forfeit

138 - Nathan Beck, WT,

# ARCADIA 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL WRESTLING INVITATIONAL



Varsity Wrestling Team traveled to Arcadia Tournament. Raiders won the tournament as a team and had 9 placers with 6 champions

1. Wayne Trace 238.0; 2. Plymouth 213.0; 3. Van Buren 195.0; 4. Columbus Grove 182.5; 5. Arcadia 175.5; 6. Montpelier 138.0; 7. Cory-Rawson 93.0; 8. No. Baltimore 58.0; 9. Findlay 56.5; 10. Elmwood 49.0; 11. Fostoria 37.0; 12. Calvert 27.0; 13. Pandora-Gilboa 23.0; 14. Tol. Christian 6.0;

Seventh Round:

106 - Nick Roberts (Plymouth) pin Jace Wilson (Calvert) 1:44; Jarrett Hornish (Wayne Trace) forfeit Nicholas Wolverton (Columbus Grove) Forfeit;

113 - Gabe Sutton (WT) pin Adrienne Tolento (Arcadia) 1:21; Aiden Mowrey (VB) pin Landon Brigle (Montpelier) 5:15;

120 - Jimmy Phadphom (Findlay) dec. Caleb Langhals (Columbus Grove) 7-4; Kasche Bible (Montpelier) pin Keith Tuttle (Plymouth) 1:35; Isaac Tolento \*ARC (X1) dec. Logan Crawford (Arcadia) 8-6 SV;

126 - Hunter Long (WT) dec. Wyatt Lucas (Arcadia) 4-3 TB; Ashtun Varney (Montpelier) dec. Owen Karcher \*CR (X1) 9-4; Tyler Stoodt (Cory-Rawson) tech. fall Aidan Wilson

forfeit

145 - Caleb Baughman, WT, forfeit

152 - Hunter Hamblin, EDG, 18-4, Jess Munger, WT

160 - Wyatt Stabler, WT, pin 0:30, Kolby Stark, EDG

170 - Eli Moore, WT, pin 1:58, Jordan Warner, EDG

182 - Tylor Hartman, EDG, pin 0:40, Elizah Harris, WT

195 - Micah Ritter, EDG, forfeit

220 - Mathias Shepler, EDG, pin 0:41, Jeremiah Harris

285 - Ethan Brown, EDG, 6-4, Jacob Graham, WT

106 - forfeit

(Calvert) tf16-0;

132 - Seth Meggison (WT) pin Jacob Echelbarger (Plymouth) 1:05; Bryan Harrison (Arcadia) dec. Mateo Miranda (Van Buren) 7-4; Tre Hutchinson (Montpelier), default, Darrian Zetzelberger (NB) Default;

138 - Dino Donaldson (VB) maj. dec. Jacob Robinson (Plymouth) md12-1; Brocke Sargent (CG) dec. Brayden Custer (Montpelier) 9-3; Nathan Beck (Wayne Trace) dec. Andres Miranda \*VB (X1) 13-7;

145 - Noah Trimmer (Plymouth) dec. Jordan McGowan (Arcadia) 7-1; Nate Williamson \*VB (X1) dec. Levi Trout (NB) 7-6; Carson Rupp \*WT (X2) dec. Jordan Spoon (VB) 9-4;

152 - Dylan Pitts (CG) maj. dec. Grant Young (Van Buren) md17-4; ZachONEY (Plymouth) maj. dec. Chase Distel (Arcadia) md16-4; Cameran Cox (WT) forfeit Jess Munger \*WT (X1) Forfeit;

160 - Wyatt Stabler (WT) pin Bryer Bentley (Montpelier) 0:43; Matt Myers \*ELM (X2) pin Owen Burge (VB) 1:39; Konner Logston (Elmwood) pin Allen Peters

113 - Jarrett Hornish, WT, TF 4:56, Hayden Herman, EDG

X285 - Cole Tackett, EDG, pin 0:40, Xaden Franklin, WT

(Findlay) 2:33;

170 - Eli Moore (WT) pin Deontae' Davis (Cory-Rawson) 5:49; Gavin Wurm (Montpelier) dec. A.J. Overmyer (VB) 6-4 SV; Peyton Young (Plymouth) pin Simon Sexton (NB) 4:39;

182 - Ezra Jones (CG) pin Logan Korpics (Cory-Rawson) 1:48; Hayden Blank (Pandora-Gilboa) pin Ethan Smarr \*ARC (X2) 1:25; Brendan Cotterman (No. Baltimore) pin Eli Dilgard \*VB (X1) 2:14;

195 - Cade Whitticar (VB) pin Zane Hagemeyer (Elmwood) 1:18; Brady Conine (Arcadia) pin Jeremiah Suman (NB) 1:50; Adler Horne (Plymouth) dec. Jamey Miles (Cory-Rawson) 6-4;

220 - Dylan Sargent (CG) pin Roger Hall (Fostoria) 1:29; Kaleb Snodgrass (VB) forfeit Reece Young \*VB (X3) Forfeit; Dylan Van Fleet (Plymouth) dec. Drew Stewart (Cory-Rawson) 12-9;

285 - John Hill (Arcadia) dec. Jeff Meyer (CG) 5-3; Breydan Allen (Plymouth) pin Jacob Graham (WT) 0:33; Max Farmer (Findlay) dec. Mason Foote \*MNT (X3) 7-5

Coach Clemens commented on the meet, "Wayne Trace defeated Edgerton tonight, but lost to Fairview by one point. We just didn't match up with Fairview well."



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## THIS WEEK AT KIWANIS



Pictured above is Richard Kipp on the left and Nate Taylor on the right.

Kiwanis members would like to express their deepest sympathy and sincere condolences to the family of long time Kiwanis member Jim (James) Durre. Just last week Jim shook hands and socialized with fellow Kiwanians, and in fact was the big ticket winner that day! The big ticket winner then chooses the general fine for the next meeting. In memory of Jim the general fine was for anyone who is not a veteran in honor of Jim's time served in the military. Jim once served as Kiwanis president and was always a great leader that brought such joy and great conversation to the group. He will be missed dearly.

Kiwanis member Richard Kipp introduced guest Nate Taylor, the new director of Children's Lantern. New to the position Taylor says the organization has really impacted him greatly. Children's Lantern focuses on helping helpless children and their mission is to empower and support through education, mentoring, resource and financial giving in the areas of human trafficking, adoption, foster care and missions.

Broken into three types of care, family care, survivor care, and community care, Taylor said he has been impacted most by survivor care. This type of care supports human trafficking survivors. Not really being exposed to the reality of human traffick-

### VINING'S QUICK START LEADS TO RAIDER ROAD WIN

By: Joe Shouse, Sportswriter

LIBERTY CENTER - Following the opening tip-off and for the first four minutes it was the Jace Vining show as the 5-10 Wayne Trace Raider guard scorched the nets for 15 points. The early 15-2 Raider lead helped propel the Paulding County visitors to a 61-36 non conference win over Liberty Center.

The Raiders increased their first quarter lead and enjoyed a 23-9 margin after the first quarter of play. With the quick start the 3-1 Raiders were never seriously challenged.

"We got off to a great start obviously. Jace (Vin-

ing) hit some big shots to get things started for us in a big way," said Raider mentor Jim Linder. After posting a 32-19 lead at the break, the Raiders left little doubt they would control the second half. The Raiders continued to score while their defense made things difficult for the Tigers who could manage just four third quarter points. The 13-point halftime lead doubled to 26 as the Raiders entered the fourth period with a convincing lead at 49-23.

Ten different players scored for the Raiders which pleased Coach Linder. "Down the line we got positive contributions from several tonight. Our offensive flow was good tonight with getting the ball to the open man and then we finished

ing before it is hard for anyone to wrap their brain around the subject. Taylor says in this area human trafficking isn't really like you see in the movies. It's not some grand kidnapping with a fight scene to follow, predators prey on those who have disabilities, or people who have an addiction. In fact, Taylor said a lot of times addiction plays a huge role in human trafficking. Predators will either find someone addicted to drugs or get them addicted to drugs and then use that as leverage for getting them to do what they want. Don't obey, and don't get your fix. When understanding drug addiction, withdraws are often torturous, leaving the trafficked trapped.

Children's Lantern relies on private donations and applies for some grants to help them serve the communities in need. One of their outreach projects is approaching soon. Volunteers will deliver 300 Christmas meals to families in need, and due to donations, they can make that possible. Another event held by the organization is their Freedom Gala which is an art auction among other things.

Kiwanis and Children's Lantern both care for the children of our community and Kiwanis would like to thank Nate and the organization for their outreach and resources. Kiwanis members will meet next Thursday over lunch.

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as well. Sweeting finished the year with a team high 91 service aces for the year. That mark also ranked her fourth nationally in that statistical category. Sweeting is a North Fairfield native, who also started all of the team's 41 matches as a freshman a year ago. She has also been a part of OCCAC All-Academic team as well.

Both Eisenhauer and Sweeting received accolades at the post season tournament as well. Eisenhauer was the tournament's Most Valuable Player Award. The sophomore had 19 kills in the national title match to go along with her other 22 kills from the previous two matches. Sweeting was named to the All-Tournament Team. She had 29 assists and two aces in the match. She finished with 70 total assists and eight aces for the tournament.

The two, along with Kennedy Ames, have gone 80-7 during their time at Owens, with two OCCAC Conference titles, a National Runner Up, and National Championship to their credit. They will leave with a 92% winning percentage all time, which ranks them just behind last year's sophomore class all time.

Others scoring for the Raiders included Trae Sinn four (three assists and six rebounds), Mox Price three, Josiah Linder three, Caleb Yenser two and Trevor Speice two.

For Liberty Center, who was playing their first game of the season due to their successful football tournament run, was led by Conner Sonnenberg with 10 and Carter Burdue adding nine.

As a team the Raiders shot 51 percent while limiting the Tigers to 33 percent shooting. Rebounding and turnovers were nearly even with the Raiders collecting 34 boards to 32 for Liberty Center. The Tigers committed 17 turnovers while the Raiders were guilty of 15 miscues.

In the Junior Varsity contest the Raiders squeaked past Liberty Center 39-34. Leading scorers for the winners was Cameron Sinn with 14 points, Trevor Sinn with nine points and Grayson McClure chipping in seven.

### EISENHAUER AND SWEETING NAMED TO NJCAA DIVISION III ALL-AMERICAN TEAM

By: Chris Schmidbauer, Sports Information Director

On Tuesday December 4, the NJCAA announced its Division III All-American team for the 2018 Volleyball season. The Owens Express were able to place two players on the All-American team.

Sophomores Michaela Eisenhauer and Summer Sweeting were both named First Team All-American for their efforts on the court during the 2018 volleyball season.

Michaela Eisenhauer had a dominant season, leading the Express in kills, kills per set, points, and point per set. She also placed second on the team in digs and digs per set. Eisenhauer's numbers rank her third in the country in total kills for the year and she ranked 26th nationally in kills per set. The Castalia, OH native was a significant contributor during the 2017 season as well. She was an All-OCCAC First Team member and she was also a member of the OCCAC All-Freshman Team. She was third on the team in points, points per set, kills, and kills per set. She also played in all 41 matches for the Express. She was a All-OCCAC Academic Team member for the Fall Semester last year too.

Summer Sweeting was one of the top setters in the country statistically. She ranked sixth in the nation in total assists for the year and she finished in the Top 40 for assists per set. She led all of her Owens teammates in both statistical categories for the year. She also became a top server in the country

as well. Sweeting finished the year with a team high 91 service aces for the year. That mark also ranked her fourth nationally in that statistical category. Sweeting is a North Fairfield native, who also started all of the team's 41 matches as a freshman a year ago. She has also been a part of OCCAC All-Academic team as well.

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### OWENS CELEBRATES EXPRESS'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

By: Chris Schmidbauer, Sports Information Director

On Tuesday December 4, the Owens Community College campus celebrated our National Championship Volleyball program with an assembly in the college's Administration Hall.

The Express won the Division III Volleyball National Championship back on November 10, when they defeated Eastfield 3-2 in Rochester, MN.

Owens President, Dr. Steve Robinson, spoke at the event along with Owens Vice President of Student Services, Amy Giordano, and Owens Athletic Director, JD Ettore.

Many of the college's staff, faculty, and community supporters were in attendance to recognize the college's first national championship since the 1992-93 Men's Basketball team won a national championship.

The Board of Trustees passed a proclamation that praised the volleyball team's fantastic accomplishments. Every player also received a gift from the board as well.

The reception also allowed the team and their supporters to mingle afterward over refreshments.

About Owens's 2018 Season: Owens Athletics moved all of its programs from Division II to Division III starting with 2018-19 season. The Express would lose all but three players from that second place finisher a year ago. The program would bring in 10 freshman to compete for the team this season, and the team was a bit of an unknown as the year began. Owens lost their first match of the season, before finding their stride, ripping off a 19 win streak. They would ascend to as high as No. 2 in the country in the Division III National Poll.

Owens would hit a mid-season snag, losing for of their next eleven matches. The losses would drop them one spot to No. 3 in the National Poll.

The team would rebound though winning their next eight matches in a row, which would jump them to the No. 1 ranking in the country.

Owens would win Region XII, beating Lorain County 3-0, and they would win the District I/J Tournament last weekend, beating Lorain again 3-0 to advance to the NJCAA Division III National Championship tournament.

Owens opened the tournament on Thursday, sweeping Queensborough College 3-0. On Friday, Owens would again sweep their opponent, Rochester, 3-0 to advance to Saturday's title match against Eastfield.

Things got off to a tremendous start in the championship match. Owens, who had been dominant through the first two matches of the national tournament, picked up right where they left off. Owens would jump out to an early lead at 7-4, and they would maintain that cushion throughout much of the first half of the set. Owens would push their lead to five in the first set, after an attack error by Eastfield's Keishla Reyes. The Express would maintain that lead to 20-15 on a kill by Michaela Eisenhauer. The lead would be trimmed to 22-20, before the Express would finish off the set with three straight points. Kara Schaffer's ace clinched the opening frame in favor of Owens at 25-20.

In the second set, Owens, again, would get off to a fast start. The Express would lead 10-5 after another attack error by Eastfield. The Express would stretch that lead to 12-6. Eastfield would rally and cut the lead to 12-10, forcing the Express to take a timeout. The score would remain a three to four point lead as the two teams traded points. Owens would get a kill from Kara Evers to push the lead back to six points at 22-16. The Harvesters, Alex McPherson, would make the score 22-17 on a kill, but Owens would close the set with three straight points. An attack error by Kalli Caddell, off of Kara Schaffer's serve, would give Owens a 2-0 lead with a 25-17 win.

With everything going their way, the Express seemed poised to sweep the national title match, but Eastfield did not go quietly. Owens would take a 4-1 lead out of the gate, but the Harvesters would rally back. They would score seven of the next nine points, to take an 8-6 lead after a kill by Keishla Reyes. The two teams would trade points until 15-14 with Eastfield still leading. The Harvesters would get three straight points, capped off by a Cara Munoz ace, forcing Owens to call a timeout at 18-14. Owens would trade points with Eastfield, but the damage had been done as Eastfield won the third set 25-20, to cut Owens's lead in half at 2-1.

Looking to rebound in the fourth, Owens still was out of sorts, with Eastfield jumping out to a 5-2 lead early. The Express would rally back with four straight points to take a 6-5 lead after a kill by Kennedy Ames. Eastfield would not be denied in the fourth set however. The Harvesters would retake the lead at 8-6, and then after an Express point, they would rally, taking five of the next six points. Owens would eventually trail by as many as six points in the

fourth. The Express would narrow the gap to 16-14, forcing Eastfield to take a timeout. They would regroup and would outscore Owens 9-5 over the final stretch and the set at 25-19. Catherine Mudd would score the final point for the Harvesters.

It would bring the entire season down to a fifth set, something Owens had not yet dealt with this year. No match, whether it be a win or loss, had gone more than four sets for the Express. The two teams played a tight affair in the decisive set. The two teams traded points back and forth. Owens trailed early but tied the score at 5-5 after a block by Kara Evers and Carlie Bengela. They took their first lead of the set at 7-6 a few moments later, when Kalli Caddell was called for a ball handling penalty. The score would be retied at seven before the Express would rally for three straight points, taking a 10-7 lead. The Harvesters called a timeout and would fight their way back into the set. They would retie the score at 11-11.

It was now the Express's turn to take their timeout in the fifth set. Owens and Eastfield traded points, and the Express would set up match point after a block by Kara Evers. Head coach Sonny Lewis would sub in Carlie Bengela and Kara Schaffer for the match point. Schaffer would serve for the Express. Her serve was volleyed back over the net. Bengela was ready on the attack, as she drove off the ball off the fingertips of Kalli Caddell of Eastfield. The ball would fall out of bounds, and the match was over.

For their efforts in the tournament, Michaela Eisenhauer won the tournament's Most Valuable Player Award. The sophomore had 19 kills in the national title match to go along with her other 22 kills from the previous two matches.

Summer Sweeting and Kennedy Ames were also both named to the All-Tournament Team. Sweeting had 29 assists and two aces in the match. She finished with 70 total assists and eight aces for the tournament. Ames would finish with 26 kills total for the tournament as well.

Coach Sonny Lewis was named Coach of the Year for Division III as well. Lewis, who is in his 18th year at Owens as head coach, has a 665-196 overall record with the Express. The Express have won the last four OCCAC championships under his tutelage, and now they have the program's first national championship.

The Express finish the season at 40-6 overall. That ties last year's team for most wins in a season at 40. Owens closed the year out on a 15 game winning streak. They had an undefeated season at home for the second straight year as well.

### CUFFS & COLLARS

#### Field reports from ODNR Division of Wildlife Officers

##### Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

During waterfowl season, State Wildlife Officer John Coffman, assigned to Fayette County, received a complaint concerning goose hunters who were shooting geese on a property without permis-



Officer Coffman arrived at the location and watched two men shoot geese on the property. When Officer Coffman contacted the men, they admitted to hunting without permission and poaching geese. In court, the two men were found guilty and ordered to pay over \$200 in fines and court costs.

**Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two**

During the 2018 early teal season in September, State Wildlife Officer Eric VonAlmen, assigned to Wood County, was observing waterfowl hunters at Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area. Officer VonAlmen had entered the marsh well before legal shooting time, which began at sunrise for the early season. Several groups of hunters were present in the marsh. Twenty-five minutes before sunrise, a group of three hunters began shooting. While Officer VonAlmen was in route to contact the group, another group of individuals also began shooting. Both groups were contacted and it was discovered that the second group had not only shot early but had also harvested a wood duck out of season. Summonses were issued to both groups for shooting early and to the second group for taking a wood duck during a closed season. Two teal and the wood duck were seized as evidence.

One November evening, State Wildlife Officer Nathan West, assigned to Wyandot County, received a report of hunting without permission in Wyandot County, but did not initially have a suspect.

The next morning, Officer West received a call from the Turn In A Poacher (TIP) hotline about vehicles parked along a roadway, whose occupants might be hunting without permission. Officer West went to the location and observed six individuals hunting waterfowl. He contacted the individuals after their hunt and they admitted they did not have permission to be on the property. Five individuals were charged with hunting without permission. Two individuals were also charged for hunting without plugged shotguns and hunting without Federal Migratory Bird stamps. One individual was a juvenile and was given a warning. All five adults pleaded guilty to seven offenses. The hunters paid \$1,649 in fines and court costs, and received a 30-day jail sentence suspended on condition of no future wildlife violations for one year. All five individuals also had their hunting privileges revoked for one year.

**Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three**

Prior to the spring turkey season, State Wildlife Officer Aaron Brown, assigned to Wayne County, received information that an individual was going to hunt turkeys over bait in Medina County. On opening day, Officer Brown and State Wildlife Officer Marino Pellegrini, assigned to Portage County, entered the woods before sunrise and worked their way to the area that they suspected was being baited. Shortly after legal shooting light, the officers heard what sounded like a game feeder

dispensing bait on the suspect's property. Several minutes after the feeder had shut off, officers heard a shot come from the same direction. They quickly headed across a field and contacted two men, one of whom had harvested a turkey over the bait the feeder had just spread. The individual was charged with hunting turkey over a baited area and the bird was seized as evidence. The man appeared in court, was convicted, and ordered to pay over \$150 in fines and court costs. The turkey was forfeited to the state and the meat was donated.

**Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four**

State Wildlife Officer Anthony Lemle, assigned to Guernsey County, received a call from the Turn In A Poacher (TIP) hotline. A suspect had been seen hunting deer with a shotgun during the archery season. Officer Lemle responded to the call and was able to locate the subject, who was found to have harvested a 7-point buck with a 12-gauge shotgun. The deer and firearm were seized as evidence and the individual was cited for taking a deer by unlawful means. The individual was found guilty in Cambridge Municipal Court and was ordered to pay \$265 in fines and court costs and received a 1-year hunting license suspension. The deer was forfeited to the state.

This past July, State Wildlife Officer Wes Feldner, assigned to Monroe County, was patrolling Monroe Lake Wildlife Area when he noticed a vehicle parked close to the lake. Officer Feldner found two individuals fishing on the shore of the lake. Both individuals admitted to catching fish but neither possessed a valid fishing license. Officer Feldner explained to both individuals that Monroe Lake is a public fishing area and a fishing license is required by anyone over 16 years old. Both individuals were issued a summons for fishing without a license and both posted the \$125 bond amount in the Monroe County Court.

**Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five**

State Wildlife Officer Eric Lamb, assigned to Brown County, received complaints from multiple sources who were concerned about a group of individuals who were hunting deer on a leased property in Brown County. As Officer Lamb investigated the complaints, he discovered possible tagging violations and suspects. As the investigation progressed, Officer Lamb enlisted the aid of State Wildlife Officers Gus Kiebel, assigned to Clermont County, and Jason Keller, assigned to Warren County. Multiple deer violations were subsequently discovered, and the

officers learned that deer were being harvested on the lease property and checked in under landowner status using other people's names. Two of the suspects were using their mother and stepfather's information to check the deer in under "landowner" status. At the conclusion of the investigation, three individuals were charged with a total of seven violations. The three men paid a total of \$1,280 in fines and court costs.

**ANTWERP JUNIOR HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL REVIEW**

The Lady Archers traveled to Lincolnvew, December 10th. The 7th grade fell 27-24, leading for the 7th grade was Haley Hammer 11. Samantha Sheedy 7, Caydecne Shull 4, Aewyn McMichael 2.

The 8th grade lost 30-23. Scoring was lead by Aerial Snyder with 10. Followed by Hayleigh Jewell 9, and Hope Roebel 4.

The Lady Archers traveled to Edon, December 11th. The 7th grade girls beat Edon 38-3. Haley Hammer led with 11 points, Aewyn McMichael 10, Samantha Sheedy 9, Caydence Shull 4, Taylor Morales 2 and McKinninn Monroe 2. The 7th grade is now 5-3 for the season.

The 8th grade defeated the Lady Bombers 23-20. Kearslyn Pierce led with 8, followed by Hayleigh Jewell with 5, Aerial Snyder 4, Lydia Krouse 3, Hope Roebel 2, Makenna Smith 1. The Lady Archers improve to 3-5 for the season.

**KROHN'S TREY LIFTS WARRIORS PAST RIVAL PATRIOTS**



Warrior Junior Addie Bayman takes a shot from inside the key for a basket in this hotly contested match against Heritage. More pictures at westbendnews.net.

WOODBURN - In a battle of ACAC and Allen County rivals, it was a freshman who put her team on top.

Woodlan freshman Dakotah Krohn hit a three-pointer in the with 45.8 seconds left in the contest and the Warrior defense held on from there to post a 34-32 victory over Heritage Saturday evening.

Krohn finished with seven points for the Lady Warriors, who improve to 10-3 overall and 3-2 in the ACAC.

Woodlan took a 10-6 lead at the end of one quarter and expanded that margin to 20-10 at halftime. The Lady Patriots cut the deficit in half in the third quarter, pulling to within 29-24 entering the final period.

A Bree Dossen steal and layup put the Patriots on top 30-29 with 3:43 left before a Taylor Zelt basket gave Heri-

tage a 32-30 advantage to set up Krohn's heroics.

Gabby Joyce had eight points to pace the Lady Warriors with Addison Bayman and Dakotah Krohn both chipping in seven markers.

Taya Kitzmiller added four for Woodlan followed by Madi Koos, Ella Smith, Abby Gentz and Kate Mendenhall all scoring two.

Heritage was led by Taylor Zelt with 11 points while Nevaeh Feasby and Bree Dossen posted eight markers each. Feasby recorded four rebounds, two assists and two steals and Zelt picked up seven boards. Dossen hauled down nine rebounds for Heritage and had two steals.

Abby Sheehan and Katie Graham chipped in three and two points, respectively. Sheehan dished out a pair of assists as well.

**READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

**OHIO LOCATIONS**

**Antwerp:** Country Time Market, Antwerp Branch Library, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Hometown Pantry, Pop-N-Brew, Genesis House, Pit-Stop, Subway, Manor House Assisted Living

**Bryan:** Chief, Town & Country, McDonald's, Bryan Senior Center, Walmart, Bryan Hospital

**Cecil:** Maramart, Vagabond

**Charloe:** Charloe Store

**Continental:** Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware

**Defiance:** Newman's Carry Out, Butt Hutt, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Big Lots, Cabbage Patch Store, Werlor's Waste, Advanced Auto, Great Clips, Meijer Great Clips, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid

**Edgerton:** Marathon, Valero, Kaiser Supermarket, US Post Office, Utilities Office, Napa

**Grover Hill:** Ross' Gas Station, N&N Quick Stop

**Hicksville:** Sailers, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, McDonald's, Senior Center, Community Memorial Hospital, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway

**Latty:** Kohart's Surplus & Salvage, Country Inn Living Center

**Melrose:** Morning Star Convenience Store

**Ney:** Marathon

**Oakwood:** Rhees' Market, The Landing Strip, The Oakleaf, Cooper Community Branch Library, TrueValue Hardware, Dollar General

**Paulding:** Paulding Co. Carnegie Library, Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Napa True Value, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Holly Wood and Vine, Paulding County Senior Center, Rite Aid, Ace Hard-

ware, 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, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County Hospital

**Payne:** Blueberry Pancake House, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Maramart, Payne Branch Library, Puckerbrush Pizza

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

**Scott:** Scott Variety Store

**Van Wert:** Family Video, Orchard Tree, Lee's Ace Hardware, Main Street Market - Chief, Walmart

**INDIANA LOCATIONS**

**Fort Wayne:** Walmart, Walgreens & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Great Clips

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

**Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, First Merchant 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, The Duce.

**Woodburn:** Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Bob's Restaurant, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Woodburn Branch Library, Woodburn Partners, Love's Travel Center, Woodburn Meats & Produce, Heckley Outdoor

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## ANTWERP GETS PAST LADY PANTHERS



Freshman Astianna Coppes drives and scores for the Antwerp Archers in the first quarter. More pictures at westbendnews.net

ANTWERP - The Antwerp Archers opened a six point lead at the end of one period and went on to a 38-32 win over Parkway Saturday afternoon at the home of the Archers.

After posting a 12-6 advantage at the end of eight minutes of action, the blue and white extended the lead to 20-10 at the intermission. Antwerp was on top 28-23 at the end of three periods.

Parkway was paced by Claire Eichler with nine points. Kristine Kirby, Rachel

Barrett and Shaelyn Thomas all had five for the Panthers and Alexandria Ford bucketed four markers. Leah Harshman and Kelsey Nichols also picked up two points each for Parkway.

Astianna Coppes bucketed 14 points to lead Antwerp with Heather Oberlin adding nine markers.

Chelsea Johanns (six), Karsyn Brumett (four), Tiera Gomez (three) and Laura Miller (one) were the other scorers for the blue and white.

## WAYNE TRACE JH WRESTLING BREAK BIG WIN AT TRI-MATCH

Wayne Trace Jr High wrestling went 2-0 at the Fairview/Edgerton Tri-match this past week. Connor Blankenship went 1-0, Nyle Stoller 2-0, Graiden Troth 2-0, Samuel Moore 2-0, Dakota Merritt 0-2, and Kaden Woolbright 1-0.

## ANTWERP FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL

Hicksville Aces played host to the Archer freshman squad Monday evening, December 10th. The young fellas in their blue uniforms trimmed in white got off the bus ready to apply defensive pressure.

Antwerp led at the half 19-2, and after four quarters of play it was 39-10 Archers.

Scoring for Antwerp were Hunter Sproles-13, Stephon Walker-10, Kaden Recker-9, Gaige McMichael-5 and Tucker Franklin with 2 points.

Scoring for Hicksville were Baird-6, Gilbert-2 and Caley with 2 points.

The Freshman boys are 2-1 on the young season. They will host Defiance at home on Monday December 17th.

## WWT JR HIGH WRESTLING TAKE 2 IN TRI-MEET

The Wayne Trace Jr High wrestling team rolled on the mat with Tinora and Hicksville this past week. Team scores: Wayne Trace 42, Tinora 4; Wayne Trace 48, Hicksville 6. The Wayne Trace Jr High wrestling team are off to a great start at 2-0. The wrestlers are Connor Blan-

kenship, Nyle Stoller, Graiden Troth, Arin James, Jared Pierce, Samuel Moore, Jacob Banks, Dakota Merritt and Kaden Woolbright. Coaches are Tyler Ash.

Wayne Trace Jr High wrestling traveled to Allen East on December 8, 2018. They took 8th overall. Graiden Troth and Kaden Woolbright earned a 2nd place standing, Samuel Moore and Dakota Merritt took 4th place. Nyle Stoller went 2-3, Arin James went 0-3.

## COUGARS TAKE DOWN PANTHERS

Van Wert was the host court for a match up between the Van Wert Cougars and Parkway Panthers in High School boys basketball on Friday, December 7th.

Van Wert held the home court advantage and used it to the fullest keeping a narrow yet sufficient lead for the duration. Final Score was a Van Wert win: 56-50.

Score by the Quarter:  
Van Wert - 13 17 15 11 = 56  
Parkway - 10 11 16 13 = 50

## VAN WERT TAKES TOUGH LOSS TO DEFIANCE

High school girls basketball saw some commanding force on Thursday, December 6th. The Van Wert Lady Cougars played host to the Defiance Lady Bulldogs. The Bulldogs reigned supreme for this match up, tallying a score more than double their opponents. Final score: Defiance 60, Van Wert 27

Score by the Quarter:  
Van Wert - 5 4 10 8 = 27  
Defiance - 14 21 15 10 = 60

## PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

## Criminal/Traffic Disposition

**Desarea N. Kristian Castillo**, Defiance, OH; Obstructing; Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all costs; Maintain general good behavior

**Alexander J. Petro**, Greenwood, IN; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Julian Ptlumbi**, New Baltimore, MI; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Paige M. Branham**, Defiance, OH; Domestic violence; Defendant to pay all costs today per the diversion agreement; Case dismissed per state; With prejudice

**Renata M. McKenney**, Louisville, KY; Endanger child; Case dismissed per state; Cost to defendant; Cost to be taken from bond

**Renata M. McKenney**, Louisville, KY; Drug paraphernalia; Case dismissed per state; Cost to defendant; Cost to be taken from bond

**Renata M. McKenney**, Louisville, KY; Possession of marijuana; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

**Sean N. Campbell**, Toledo, OH; Drug paraphernalia; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

**Sean N. Campbell**, Toledo, OH; Possession of marijuana; Case dismissed per state; Costs to defendant; All contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency

**Maria L. Wheeler**, Payne, OH; Theft; Defendant waived the preliminary hearing in open court; Case shall be bound over to the Paulding Common Pleas Courthouse

**Ruben J. Rivera**, Grand Rapids, MI; Highway Use Tax; Guilty; Pay or collection 1/31/19; Failure to pay may result in defendant's operator's license being forfeited and/or may result in being referred to collections

**Renata M. McKenney**, Louisville, KY; OVI/Under influence; Fines and costs to be taken from the bond; 87 jail days reserved; May attend the DIP Program in lieu of jail

**Sean N. Campbell**, Toledo, OH; OVI/under influence; Guilty; Proof of financial responsibility provided; May attend the DIP Program in lieu of jail; Pay or collections 2/22/2019; 87 jail days reserved

**Joshua T. Brown**, Van Wert, OH; Drive/FRA suspension; Pled no contest, found guilty; Proof of financial responsibility provided; Pay or collection 6/28/19; Shall pay \$50.00 per month commencing 1/25/19

**Joshua T. Brown**, Van Wert, OH; Seat belt/drive; Pled no contest, found guilty; Pay or collections 6/28/19; Shall pay \$50.00 per month commencing 1/25/19

**Michael S. Diller**, Convoy, OH; OVI/breath high; Count A dismissed at the state's request

**Michael S. Diller**, Convoy, OH; Left of center; Count B dismissed at the state's request

**Michael S. Diller**, Convoy, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay fines and costs today

**Michael S. Diller**, Convoy, OH; OVI/under influ-

ence; Guilty; May attend the DIP Program in lieu of jail; Proof of insurance provided; ALS vacated; Pay all fines and costs today; Community Control Two; 20 hrs community service; Shall remain on SCRAM evaluation at Westwood; Thinking For A Change

**Gary E. Schaffer**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay or collections 2/22/19

**Gary E. Schaffer**, Paulding, OH; Registration violation; Guilty; Pay or collections 2/22/19

**Justin A. Sukup**, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Gerrod J. Longmire**, Southfield, MI; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jonathon W. Bajas**, Toledo, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jean M. Bakle**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Ramiro Rodriguez**, Fort Wayne, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Hunter L. Hernandez**, Convoy, OH; Improper firearm; Guilty; Defendant to pay

all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Complete 40 hrs of community service; Complete within 6 months; Firearm, ammo and magazines shall be forfeited to the arresting agency

**Derek LA Mar Wheeler**, Fort Wayne, IN; Paraphernalia; Case dismissed per state; Costs to defendant; All contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency

**Aaron C. Matthews**, Continental, OH; Tk deer w/vehicle; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Tiffany E. Smith**, Indianapolis, IN; OVI/under influence; Guilty; Proof of financial responsibility provided; Fines and costs to be taken from the bond; Pay for stay at Paulding County Jail; Shall be taken from bond money; 87 jail days reserved

**Chad M. Martin**, Cloverdale, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Russell E. Zinser**, Woodburn, IN; OVI/under influence; Pled no contest, found guilty; May attend the DIP Program in lieu of jail; Proof of insurance provided; POC 5/31/19; Community control one; Complete 20 hrs community service; Firearm shall be forfeited to the Ohio State

Highway Patrol; 87 jail days reserved

**Cory Blotkamp**, Hicksville, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Pay or collections 3/29/19

**Derek L. Wheeler**, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving under suspension/non FRA; Guilty; Pay or collections 12/20/19; Shall pay \$50.00 per month commencing 1/25/19; 30 jail days reserved

**Derek L. Wheeler**, Fort Wayne, IN; Seat belt/drive; Count C dismissed at the state's request

**Robert A. Moberly Jr.**, Waddy, KY; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Tammy L. Kline**, Cecil, OH; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Joseph P. De Vault**, Napoleon, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Kellie D. Harding**, Elkview, WV; Display plates; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

## PAULDING COUNTY GRAND JURY

Paulding County Prosecuting Attorney Joseph R. Burkard announced that the Paulding County Grand

## NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF A FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT (FONSI) COMBINED NOTICE

The Paulding County Commissioners proposes to request that the State of Ohio release Federal funds under Section 104 (g) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; Section 288 of Title II of the Cranston Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA), as amended; and/or Title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; to be used for the following project(s):

**Project Name:** Village of Grover Hill, Flood & Drainage Facilities  
**Source of Federal Funds:** CDBG Allocation; B-F-18-1CF-1

**Purpose:** Eliminate excessive inflow and infiltration into the sewer collection system

**Locations:** Walnut Street to Maple Street

**Estimated Cost of Project:** \$58,700 (\$35,000 CDBG; B-F-18-1CF-1)

**Project Name:** Village of Antwerp, Flood and Drainage Facilities  
**Source of Federal Funds:** CDBG Allocation; B-F-18-1CF-1

**Purpose:** Mitigate flooding issues within the park

**Locations:** Riverside Veteran's Memorial Park

**Estimated Cost of Project:** 29,500 (\$25,600 CDBG; B-F-18-1CF-1)

**Project Name:** Village of Oakwood, Water Facilities Improvements  
**Source of Federal Funds:** CDBG Allocation; B-F-18-1CF-1

**Purpose:** Well Improvements, to comply with the EPA findings and order

**Locations:** Water Treatment Plant

**Estimated Cost of Project:** \$215,800 (\$34,400 CDBG; B-F-18-1CF-1)

The Paulding County Commissioners have determined that the project(s) will have no significant impact on the environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended is not required.

The Paulding County Commissioners have prepared an Environmental Review Record (ERR) for each of the projects listed above. The ERR(s) documents the environmental review of the project(s). The ERR(s) is (are) on file and available for the public's examination and copying, upon request, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except holidays) at the above address. No further environmental review of the project(s) will be conducted prior to the request for release of Federal funds.

The Paulding County Commissioners plan to undertake the project(s) described above with the Federal funds cited above. Any interested person, agency, or group wishing to comment on the project or disagreeing with this Finding of No Significant Impact decision may submit written comments for consideration to the Henry County Commissioners at the above listed address by 5:00 p. m. on January 2, 2019 which is at least 15 days after the publication of this combined notice. A notice regarding the responsible entity's intent to request the release of funds is listed immediately below.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/RROF)

On or about, but not before, January 3, 2018, the Paulding County Commissioners will submit a request to the State of Ohio for the release of Federal funds under Section 104 (g) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended; Section 288 of Title II of the Cranston Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (NAHA), as amended; and/or Title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; to be used for the project(s) listed above.

The Paulding County Commissioners certify to the State of Ohio that Tony Zartman, in his/her capacity as the Paulding County Commissioners, President, consents to accept the jurisdiction of Federal courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied.

The legal effect of the certification is that upon its approval, the Paulding County Commissioners may use the Federal funds, and the State of Ohio will have satisfied its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended.

The State of Ohio will accept an objection to its approval of the release of funds and acceptance of the certification only if it is on one of the following grounds: (a) the certification was not, in fact, executed by the responsible entity's Certifying Officer; (b) the responsible entity has failed to make one of the two findings pursuant to Section 58.40 or to make the written determination required by section 58.35, 58.47, or 58.53 for the project, as applicable; (c) the responsible entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subpart E of 24 CFR Part 58 for the preparation, publication, and completion of an Environmental Assessment; (d) the responsible entity has omitted one or more of the steps set forth at subparts F and G of 24 CFR Part 58 for the conduct, preparation, publication, and completion of an Environmental Impact Statement; (e) the recipient has committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before release of funds and approval of the environmental certification by the State; or (f) another federal agency, acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504, has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality.

Written objections must meet the conditions and procedures set forth in subpart H of 24 CFR Part 58 and be addressed to: State of Ohio Development Services Agency; Office of Community Development; Environmental Officer; P. O. Box 1001; Columbus, Ohio 43216-1001.

Objections to the Release of Funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by the State of Ohio. No objections received after January 22, 2019 (which is 15 days after it is anticipated that the State will receive a request for release of funds) will be considered by the State of Ohio.



**BULLDOGS HOLD ON FOR WIN OVER PANTHERS**



**Jalynn Parrett of Paulding for the Panthers against the Bulldogs in this highly competitive match! More pictures at westbendnews.net**

PAULDING - Columbus Grove outscored Paulding by three points in the second quarter and made that stand up for a 45-41 Northwest Conference girls basketball victory Thursday night at the home of the Panthers.

After the teams played to a 12-12 tie through one quarter, the Lady Bulldogs bucketed 13 points in the second stanza compared to Paulding's ten in grabbing a 25-22 halftime advantage.

Columbus Grove then picked up 13 more in the third quarter while keeping Paulding to a dozen to widen the margin to 38-34 at the end of three periods.

The visiting Bulldogs and host Panthers both scored seven in the final period to set the final margin at 45-41.

Rylee Sybert led all scorers in the contest, totaling a game high 27 points for Columbus

Grove.

Angel Schneider chipped in six for the Lady Bulldogs with Kenzie King posting five and Sydney Witteborg adding four. Amy Vorst also picked up three markers for Columbus Grove.

Paulding was led by Bri Townley, who posted a double-double with 20 points and a dozen rebounds in the contest.

Chelsi Geisige (six), Sydney McCullough (five), Jalynn Parrett (four), Audrey Geisige (three) and Janae Pease (three) rounded out the Lady Panther scorers.

The Lady Panthers also got two assists and three rebounds from Chelsi Geisige while Sydney McCullough and Sadie Estle picked up two boards each. Audrey Geisige, Jalynn Parrett and Janae Pease each picked up one assist apiece as well.

amine, F5; Breaking & Entering, F5; Theft, F5

**Maria L. Wheeler** (4/15/89), Payne, OH; Theft, F5

**Jason M. Farquhar** (4/14/77), Paulding, OH; Possession of Methamphetamine, F5

**Angela M. Pierce** (7/15/93), Payne, OH; Possession of Methamphetamine, F5; Tampering with Evidence, F3

**Matthew C. Wiswell** (5/15/83), Paulding, OH; Possession of Methamphetamine, F5

**James R. Reynolds** (4/13/79), Unknown address; Failure to Appear, F4

**Clinton E. Englehart** (2/17/91), Payne, OH; Failure to Comply with Order or Signal of Police Officer, F4

**Kaitlin E. Schafer** (8/19/90), Paulding, OH; Possession of Drugs, F5

**REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS**

**AUGLAIZE TWP**

12/10/18 Sohn Sue Ann Le Et Al to Sohn Sue Ann Le Et Al; 23021 Rd 184 Oakwood Oh 45873; 10 acres; Sw1/4 Sw1/4 Nw1/4 Auglaize Twp S-26

12/10/18 Sohn Sue Ann Le Et Al to Sohn Sue Ann Le Et Al; Rd 209; 102 acres; Ne1/4Sw1/4&N1/2Se1/4 Auglaize Twp S-26

**BLUE CREEK TWP**

12/13/18 Klopfenstein Leon R Klopfenstein Debra L to Klopfenstein Leon R Klopfenstein Debra L; Rd 107; 77.57 acres; Pt E1/2Ne1/4 Blue Creek Twp S-11

12/12/18 Poling Jimmie J to Gonzales Krista K Et Al; 12919 Sr 114 Haviland Oh 45851; 0.5165 acres; Lot 5-150X150-Pratt Pcls Blue Creek Twp S-24

**BROWN TWP**

12/13/18 Schlosser Dylan to Yates Beth A; State St; 0.0086 acres; N 2.5' Of Lot 110Melrose Village

12/13/18 Schlosser Dylan to Yates Beth A; 701 State St; 0.1722 acres; Lot 109 O.p. Melrose Vill

**CARRYALL TWP**

12/13/18 Casper Janice Rae to D&L Properties Of Antwerp Ohio Llc; 110 W Buffalo St; 0.1917 acres; Lot 124Lessw30'&33'Abansto.p. Antwerp Vill

**EMERALD TWP**

12/11/18 Fisher Judith A to Fisher Judith A; 14339 Rd 123 Paulding Oh 45879; 10 acres; N1/2S1/2Ne1/4Se1/4 Emerald Twp S-29 Easement Ref V 586 P 2413

12/11/18 Fisher Judith A to Fisher Judith A; Rd 123; 8.49 acres; Pt Ne1/4 Se1/4 Emerald Twp S-29

**JACKSON TWP**

12/11/18 Griffith Leman J to Larson James P Larson Gerilyn M; 700 Flat Rock Dr; 0.154 acres; Lot 22 Pt Sw Cor Outlot Paulding Village Jackson Twp Sec 7

**LATTY TWP**

12/13/18 Sanderson Judith A to Sanderson Michael Christopher Sanderson Holly Christine; 3758 Sr 637 Grover Hill Oh 45849; 1.837 acres; Pt Nw1/4 Nw1/4 Latty Twp S-24

**PAULDING TWP**

12/11/18 Rothenbuhler William R Rothenbuhler Lisa A to Rothenbuhler William R Rothenbuhler Lisa A; 12832 Rd 114 Paulding Oh 45879; 0.401 acres; Pt Ne Cor Se1/4 S-24 Paulding Twp

12/13/18 Stoller Tamera A Trustee to Sunday Nathan Sunday Kathleen; Gasser Rd; 10 acres; Outlot 12104 Outlots S-12 Paulding Vill

**USDA ANNOUNCES \$3.7 MILLION IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWERS IN 16 STATES**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced it will provide \$3.7 million of assistance to fruit and vegetable growers in 16 states through a GAP Assistance Program to enhance market access by defraying costs of undergoing voluntary USDA Harmonized Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) audits in 2019.

"These audits help producers meet Produce Safety Rule standards and will also improve their ability to sell into markets that expect growers to demonstrate that they have incorporated a culture of food safety into their operations," said Marketing and Regulatory Program Undersecretary Greg Ibach. "We are excited to be able to support producers pursuing these audits in the 2019 season."

Buyers are increasingly requiring rigorous third-party food safety certifications from produce growers to gain market access. USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) offers several different types of GAP audits to suppliers throughout the produce production and supply chain that focus on best agricultural practices to verify that fruits and vegetables are produced, packed, handled and stored in the safest manner possible to minimize risks of food safety hazards. Producers pay fees that cover audit and administration costs, including auditor travel time and expenses.

Beginning Jan. 2, 2019, USDA's Risk Management Agency will provide Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) funds to cover up to 100% of the cost of the Harmonized GAP audit and the Harmonized GAP Plus+ audit for farmers in the following 16 states which are authorized by Congress to receive financial assistance for conservation and financial risk mitigation: Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming. The funding will be available to assist producers in 2019 or longer, depending on availability of funds.

If an AMA-eligible state is currently using a Specialty Crop Block Grant to offer GAP Cost Share to its producers, the state may request to reallocate the funds to other eligible expenditures.

The AMA funding is focused on the Harmonized GAP and the Harmonized GAP Plus+ audits -- the two most comprehensive audits USDA offers -- to give farmers the best market options for their products while reducing the cost of separate audits for different buyer requirements.

Both audits are aligned with the technical provisions in FDA's Food Safety Modernization Act Produce

**THE WEST BEND NEWS**

**Sudoku Puzzle**

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 15"

Safety Rule, meet the requirements for the Produce GAP Harmonization Initiative and demonstrate adherence to industry and FDA best practices. The USDA Harmonized GAP Plus+ audit additionally meets buyer requirements for Global Food Safety Initiative audits.

More information is available in Questions and Answers about the GAP Assistance Program on AMS' Harmonized GAP webpage and by contacting AMS' Specialty Crops Inspection Division, Audit Services Branch at (202) 720-5021 or scaudits@ams.usda.gov.

**VILLAGE OF ANTWERP PUBLIC NOTICES**

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **ORDINANCE NO. 2018-15** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HARRISON TOWNSHIP FOR PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES IN CALENDAR YEARS 2019, 2020, 2021, AND 2022." This Ordinance authorizes the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Harrison Township on providing fire protection services in a portion of Harrison Township for four (4) years.

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **ORDINANCE NO. 2018-16** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HARRISON TOWNSHIP FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE IN CALENDAR YEARS 2019, 2020, 2021, AND 2022." This Ordinance authorizes the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Harrison Township on providing emergency medical services in a portion of Harrison Township for four (4) years.

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **ORDINANCE NO. 2018-17** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE INCREASING WATER RATES FOR THE VILLAGE OF ANTWERP, COUNTY OF PAULDING, OHIO." This Ordinance increases the water rates for the Village with an increase for the minimum charge for each tap effective January 1, 2019, and a two percent (2%) per year water rate increase for the next five (5) years commencing January 1, 2020.

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **ORDINANCE NO. 2018-18** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH CARRYALL TOWNSHIP FOR PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE IN CALENDAR YEARS 2019, 2020, 2021, AND 2022." This Ordinance authorizes the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Carryall Township on providing emergency medical services in Carryall Township for four (4) years.

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-10** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF ANTWERP, OHIO TO ENTER INTO A DONATION AGREEMENT WITH PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A TEN-STATION FITNESS TRAIL AT RIVERSIDE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK; AND DECLARING THE SAME AN EMERGENCY." This Resolution authorizes the Mayor to enter into a Donation Agreement for the Paulding County Hospital to install a ten-station fitness trail at the park that the Village will then maintain.

The Council of the Village of Antwerp passed **RESOLUTION NO. 2018-11** on December 10, 2018, entitled, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH PENN CARE, INC. TO PURCHASE A BRAUN AMBULANCE FOR THE VILLAGE EMS DEPARTMENT; AND DECLARING THE SAME AN EMERGENCY." This Resolution authorizes the Administrator to enter into a purchase agreement for an ambulance for the EMS Department.

The publication of the Ordinances is by summary only. The complete text of the Ordinances may be obtained or viewed at the office of the Village of Antwerp Fiscal Officer located at 118 North Main Street, Antwerp, Ohio.

Jury indicted (15) persons on Thursday, December 13, 2018

**Mark A. Barret** (12/20/68), Unknown address; Failure to Appear, F4

**William Lashawn Freeman** (8/1/83), Unknown address; Failure to Appear, F4

**Leeleon Messer** (11/14/77), Unknown address; Failure to Appear, F4

**Raymond L. Prescott** (11/18/93), Hicksville, OH; Possession of Methamphet-

amine, F5

**Joseph L. Guyton** (6/20/80), Possession of Methamphetamine, F5

**Christopher L. Phillips** (12/17/18), Unknown address; Grand theft, F4

**Adam A. Wright** (10/29/97), Paulding, OH; Domestic Violence, F5; Abduction, F3

**Aaron C. Paholak** (1/4/88), Paulding, OH; Possession of Methamphet-

**NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT ACTIVITY IN A 100-YEAR FLOODPLAIN**

**Tuesday December 18, 2018**  
To: All Interested Agencies, Groups, and Individuals:  
The **Paulding County Commissioners** are in the process of conducting an environmental review for the

**Village of Payne, Water Facilities**  
Community Development Allocation  
The Village is improving their water distribution system through the addition of a waterline in the southwest corridor of the village. 500 Linear feet of waterline will be installed from West Street to Carlyle Street

**Village of Oakwood, Street Improvements**  
Critical Infrastructure  
The Village will replace and/or install 5 catch basins and 40 l.f of Culvert on Thirds Street and 377 l.f of storm sewer on E. Harmon, 3 new catch basins on Celina Street, and 1 new catch basin on second street.

This notice is required by Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order 11988 for Floodplain Management and is implemented by HUD Regulations found at 24 CFR 55.20(b) for any action that is within and/or affects a floodplain. As currently proposed, the project site will include areas designated as floodplain.

**Paulding County Commissioners** alternatives regarding sponsorship of the action would be:  
1. Approval as proposed;  
2. Disapproval;  
3. Approval only if all improvements are located outside of the floodplain;  
4. Approval of an equivalent project site located outside of the floodplain; and  
5. Approval only if no fill is added in floodplain areas.  
Additional information regarding the proposed action may be obtained by contacting **Marissa Lumbrezer, Planner**, at **419-784-3882** or at the following address:  
1300 E. Second Street Suite 200, Defiance, Ohio 43512  
Any interested person, agency, or group wishing to comment on the project may submit written comments for consideration to the **Paulding County Commissioners** at the above listed address by 5:00 p. m. on **January 2, 2019** which is at least 15 days after the publication of this notice.



# PAULDING WRESTLING TRI-MATCH



Paulding sophomore Kolya Paschall pins his Ayersville opponent at 152 weight class. On this night Paschall pinned his Columbus Grove opponent too! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Last Monday ended with a high school wrestling tri-match at Paulding. Ayresville and Columbus Grove were the opponents for the evening.

Paulding 21, Ayersville 54  
 195 - Mabis, P, dec., Si-fuentes, AY  
 220 - Stiltner, AY, forfeit  
 285 - Lause, AY, pin 3:56, Foster, P  
 113 - Johnson, AY, forfeit  
 120 - Tracy, AY, forfeit  
 126 - Mudel, P, dec. 8-2, Aden, AY  
 132 - Zimmerman, AY, forfeit  
 138 - Shreve, AY, pin 1:30, Fisher, P  
 145 - Delano, AY, forfeit  
 152 - Smith, P, pin 3:04, Romes, AY  
 160 - Paschall, P, pin 0:45; J Romes, AY  
 170 - Rue, AY, forfeit  
 182 - Brown, AY, pin 1:36,

Simonin, P  
 Columbus Grove 54, Paulding 18  
 106 - Wolverton CG, forfeit  
 113 - Kaufman, CG, forfeit  
 126 - Mudel, P, dec. 7-2, Langhals, CG  
 132 - Kalhi, CG, forfeit  
 138 - Sargent, CG, pin 3:32, Fisher, P  
 145 - Bils, CG, forfeit  
 152 - Pitts, CG, pin 3:25, Smith, P  
 160 - Paschall, P, pin 0:52, Blankenmeyer, CG  
 170 - Bogart, CG, forfeit  
 182 - Sminoin, P, dec. 10-8, Jones, CG  
 195 - Mabis, P, forfeit  
 220 - D Sargent, CG, forfeit  
 285 - Meyer, CG, pin 1:18, Foster, P  
 Columbus Grove 43, Ayersville 34

106 - Wolverton, CG, forfeit  
 Johnson, AY, pin 1:48, Kaufman, CG  
 120 - Langhals, CG, dec. 12-0, Winzeler, AY  
 126 - Aden, AY, forfeit  
 132 - Johnson, AY, pin 2:26, Kolhi, CG  
 138 - N Romes, AY, pin 1:35, Bils, CG  
 145 - B Sargent, CG, pin 5:52, Shreve, AY  
 152 - Pitts, CG, pin 5:33, J Romes, AY  
 160 - Blankenmeyer, CG, pin 0:48, Rue, AY  
 170 - Bogart, CG, forfeit  
 182 - Brown, AY, dec. 14-6, Jones, CG  
 195 - Siguintes, AY, forfeit  
 220 - D Sargent, CG, dec. 7-2, Degler, AY  
 285 - Meyer, CG, pin 0:34, Lause, AY

village of Antwerp U.S. Route 24 bridge over county Road 105/Main Street, approximately 0.5 miles south of the village of Cecil.  
 The county Road 176 bridge over U.S. Route 24 will be closed during construction; therefore, vehicular traffic using county Road 176 will be detoured. Temporary lane closures will be implemented at the U.S. Route 24 bridge over county Road 105/Main Street; no detours are anticipated at this site. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.  
 Construction is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2020.

## PUTNAM COUNTY

U.S. Route 30 storm sewer repair (PID: 105161) - ODOT is proposing to replace several drainage pipes under U.S. Route 30 approximately 0.5 miles north of the city of Delphos (starting at mile marker 0.21). These pipes will be installed either in the median or under the pavement and run down the outside of the slopes. These construction activities on U.S. 30 will result in temporary lane closure. No detours are anticipated.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2020.

Work at some of these locations will occur in a regulated floodplain. Impacts to this floodplain are anticipated to be minor and result in no rise in localized flood levels. A statement of findings detailing the results of the final floodplain analysis will be made available on the ODOT District 1 environmental website: <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/D01/PlanningPrograms/Pages/environmental.aspx>

State Route 108 bridge repair (PID: 98516) - ODOT is proposing to repair the bridge carrying state Route 108 over Miller City cutoff approximately 1.0 mile south of the village of Miller City (mile marker 1.68). Additionally, the guardrail will be replaced and the slopes will be repaired to avoid future slope failure along the ditch line. Construction activities on the bridge will result in temporary roadway closures. Vehicular traffic will be detoured. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021.

State Route 109 culvert replacement (PID: 98520) - ODOT is proposing to replace the culvert carrying Pike Run under State Route 109 approximately 3.25 miles north of the village of Ottawa (mile marker 4.53). Construction activities will result in temporary roadway closures. Vehicular traffic will be detoured. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021.

State Route 109 culvert replacement (PID: 98520) - ODOT is proposing to replace the culvert carrying Pike Run under State Route 109 approximately 3.25 miles north of the village of Ottawa (mile marker 4.53). Construction activities will result in temporary roadway closures. Vehicular traffic will be detoured. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021.

## WAYNE TRACE STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT WETLANDS

By: Patrick Troyer, Paulding SWCD

Do you know the different types of wetlands that exist along with their functions? Students in the AP Environmental Science course at Wayne Trace High School learned about the importance of wetlands along with the different types there are

along with their functions. This program featured a demonstration of our Wetlands Enviroscope Model that gave students a powerful visual on the various types of wetlands that exist along with the important function that each serves to the overall ecosystem. Before going into a demonstration of our model, students were given some background information on wetlands.  
 What is a wetland? As you would be inclined to imagine, wetlands are typically areas that are wet or at least saturated for a majority of the year. Other terms that you might have heard of with wetlands are swamp or marshes, which all mean the same thing. Contrary to what is implied by the term, it is possible for wetlands to be dry at certain points of the year, especially during the drier parts of the summer such as July or August. It is important to know that not all wetlands are going to be the same from one area to the next. This has to do with the climate of the area that is going to allow for certain types of animals and plants to function given a certain set of conditions.

Wetlands form when the ground in a given area lies below the water table, which is the point that water is found below the soil surface. When this occurs, water will pool above the soil. We know it is a wetland when considering three factors: hydrology, hydric soils, and hydrophytic plants. The hydrology of a wetland is the saturated or flooded soils for a majority of the year. Hydric soils are those which are saturated with water and have a dark black appearance and low levels of oxygen. Hydrophytic plants are those which can survive in flooded environments and soils with low oxygen levels such as lily pads.

Students learned that wetlands are good for the environment for a wide variety of reasons. Some benefits include: flood control, trapping sediment, pollution filtration, wildlife habitat, along with food and fuel for humans! The remainder of the program focused on demonstration of the wetlands model which was broken up into two parts: an environment without wetlands and an environment with wetlands. To help students understand the importance of restoring our environment and the functions and values of wetlands, we first simulated what our environment would be like without wetlands. Most unplanned land development occurred before humans truly understood the importance of wetlands, vegetation, and sustainability.

We first identified sources of potential pollution in the average environment and used various items to represent the pollution. First, the storm drain was discussed. Storm drain systems help to keep flooding to a minimum during heavy rainfall events with the catch being that this water is not filtered out before it is discharged back into the nearest water source known as sludge, represented by a liquid cocoa mixture. Discharge pipes from factories becomes an issue. Some factories release a cleaned, regulated wastewater into the environment, but that is not to say a spill could not happen. Soil erosion, represented by cocoa powder, happens all around us with excess soil erosion taking place when agricultural, construction, or forestry practices remove vegetation holding the soil in place and becomes a pollutant when it enters the water.

Pesticides and fertilizers, represented by red and green drink mix, also prove to be issues with the overuse or improper application. When these chemicals are applied on frozen ground or prior to a rainstorm, the potential for runoff dramatically increases. Plants can use the fertilizer on the land, but when it enters the water, it now becomes a pollutant. Vehicles are an issue when it comes to oil and gas residue, represented by a liquid cocoa mixture, that drips onto paved surfaces and then runs off the surface during a rain event. Students now were able to see how unplanned land development has had an adverse impact on the land and water quality of our environment, but what would help with this issue?

Next, students had the opportunity to see how wetlands could help to reduce the impact of such land development. Students learned about the various types of wetlands that are found throughout our environment and how

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## ODOT SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROJECTS

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 1, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Executive Order 11988, is seeking public comments regarding the following proposed projects.

### PAULDING COUNTY

State Route 114 culvert replacement and bridge repair (PID: 106401) - ODOT is proposing to replace a culvert carrying B.C. Foster Ditch under state Route 114 near the western end of the village and Roselms (mile marker 19.88). This project will also provide repairs to a bridge over the

Little Auglaize River on state Route 114 approximately 0.75 miles west of the village of Mandale (mile marker 22.50). Construction activities will result in temporary roadway closure. Vehicular traffic will be detoured. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.

Construction is anticipated to occur in the summer of 2019.

Work at these locations will occur in regulated floodplains. Impacts to these floodplains are anticipated to be minor and result in no rise in localized flood levels. A statement of findings detailing the results of the final floodplain analysis will be made avail-

able on the ODOT District 1 environmental website: <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/districts/D01/PlanningPrograms/Pages/environmental.aspx>

State Route 114 culvert replacements and repair (PID: 105580) - ODOT is proposing to repair or replace four culverts carrying small waterways under state Route 114 at the following locations:

1.50 mile marker - at the county Road 17 intersection, approximately 6.5 miles southwest of the village of Payne

3.00 mile marker - at the county Road 33 intersection, approximately 5 miles southwest of the Village of Payne

5.01 mile marker - at the township Road 49 intersection, approximately 5 miles southeast of the Village of Payne

9.02 mile marker - at the county Road 87 intersection, approximately 2.5 miles west of the Village of Haviland.

All the intersections listed above will be temporarily closed during construction, except the state Route 114 and township Road 49 intersection at mile marker 5.01. Vehicular traffic will be detoured at the temporarily closed intersections, while lane closures are expected at the 5.01 mile marker. Access to all properties will be maintained throughout construction.

Construction is anticipated to begin in the summer of 2021.

U.S. Route 24 slope repair (PID: 107124) - ODOT is proposing to rep Tiffany rider air the slope embankment at two locations along U.S. Route 24: County Road 176 bridge over U.S. Route 24, approximately 1.5 miles east of the

## Minick Farm Auction

Wednesday, January 23 • 6pm  
 Allen County, Indiana



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Home • Barns • 60.5± Acres offered in 5 Tracts

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**PROPERTY LOCATION:** 11403 Schwartz Road • Located 4 miles south of Grabill Road & 3 miles north of SR 37

**AUCTION LOCATION:** Promise Ministries • 7323 Schwartz Road • Located just 2 miles south of Auction Property

**Preview Dates • Meet a Schrader Representative at the home on the following dates and times:**

Saturday, December 22 • 11AM-1PM | Monday, January 7 • 4PM-6PM | Saturday, January 12 • 11AM-1PM or call our office to set up a private showing.

**SELLER:** Marcella T. Minick Marital Trust, Donna J. Rondot & Dianne J. Meadows Co-Trustees

**AUCTION MANAGER:** Jerry Ehle AC63001504 AU19300123

260-749-0445 • 866-340-0445  
[www.SchraderFortWayne.com](http://www.SchraderFortWayne.com)



## IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

Lou Ann Wannemacher, Plaintiffs,  
 VS.  
 Samuel Hunsaker, et.al. Defendants,

**TO: Samuel Hunsaker, Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of int Hunsaker; Nellie Hunsaker, Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of Nellie Hunsaker**

**LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: Unknown**

Please take notice that a complaint has been filed in the above-captioned action against you seeking a foreclosure of tax liens and a public sale of real property owned by **Samuel Hunsaker, Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of Samuel Hunsaker; Nellie Hunsaker, Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of Nellie Hunsaker** to pay delinquent real estate taxes owed by you.

The real property in question is situated in the Village of Grover Hill, County of Paulding, and the State of Ohio and more fully described as follows:

**Situated in the Village of Grover Hill, County of Paulding, and State of Ohio:**  
**Lots Number Fifty-four and**

Judge Tiffany Reighter-Beckman  
**Case No. CI 18 199**

**Fifty-Nine of the Original Plat of the Village of Grover Hill, Paulding County, Ohio.**

**Parcel ID Nos. 26-08S-011-00, 26-08S-012-00, 26-08S-013-00, 26-08S-014-00 Address of Property: W. Jackson Street, Grover Hill, Ohio**

You are required to answer in the above-captioned cause twenty-eight (28) days after the last publication hereof, or a default judgment seeking sale of your real estate will be sought. Your answer should be filed with the Clerk of Courts, Courthouse, 115 N. Williams St., Paulding, Ohio 45879.

Ann Pease, Clerk  
 Court of Common Pleas  
 Paulding, County, Ohio

By: *[Signature]*  
 Deputy

Respectively submitted  
*[Signature]*

Joseph R. Burkard, (#0059106)  
 Paulding County, Ohio  
 Prosecuting Attorney  
 120 S. Walnut Street  
 Paulding, Ohio 45879  
 419-399-8270



# PAULDING PUTNAM ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVE (PPEC) TO GIVE \$1.9 MILLION BACK TO MEMBERS



Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative is a member-owned electric utility serving over 12,900 member-owners in Paulding, Putnam, Defiance, Van Wert and Allen counties in Ohio, and Adams and Allen counties in Indiana. For more information visit us on the web at [www.PPEC.coop](http://www.PPEC.coop) or follow us on Twitter or Facebook.

Paulding Putnam Electric (PPEC) members will see a lower electric bill around the holidays. That's because PPEC's Board of Trustees recently approved to return \$1.9 million to the cooperative's current and former members. Eligible members will see a credit on their December electric bill. The money is being returned to members in the form of capital credits, also known as profits or margins.

PPEC is a not-for-profit, community-focused organization. One of PPEC's 7 Cooperative Principles is "Members' Economic Participation," which means members contribute equitably to the capital of the co-op in which they are part-owners. The unique part of the co-op model means members also receive a financial return on their capital.

"Simply put, this means that PPEC members contribute a portion of the capital necessary to grow the co-op

and upgrade electric reliability," stated PPEC President and CEO George Carter. "Eventually, as the co-op is financially able to do so, the board approves the capital be returned, or "retired" back to those members who contributed it originally."

Including this year's capital credits return, PPEC has returned almost \$23 million to its members. According to Carter, this process is what sets PPEC apart from other utilities.

"We're not in business to make a profit for shareholders," Carter said. "If there is leftover money, we give it back to members. We return the money to members around the holidays because that's when many people need it the most."

Anyone with questions about their capital credits refund should call PPEC at 1-800-686-2357. Learn more at <https://ppec.coop/capital-credits/>.

they are beneficial. Sponges were used to represent each wetland type as wetlands act like sponges to soak up and filter toxins along with acting as a mechanism for flood control. Riparian wetlands occur on riverbanks and provide a vegetative barrier between upland uses and the waterway and includes vegetation such as trees, shrubs, or grasses. Riverine wetlands are found within the channel of moving water and are permanently flooded with vegetation consisting of floating plants such as lily pads that help to slow the rate of flowing water.

Farm wetlands serve as a transition zone between a farm field and water sources to act as a natural filter for erosion and runoff from the farm field. Farm wetlands help trap topsoil and nutrients (fertilizers) and pesticides used by the farmer. Each of the above wetlands

were set in place across the model with the same pollution scenario being run. With this second simulation, students were able to see how the wetlands acted as sponges, trapping the pollutants and filtering out the water before it was discharged back into the environment.

Would you like this program or a similar one? Contact the Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District at 419-399-4771 and we will get you taken care of!

## SECRETARY PERDUE STATEMENT ON RELEASE OF FARM BILL CONFERENCE REPORT

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue issued the following statement regarding the release of the 2018 Farm Bill conference report:

"I welcome the introduction of the Farm Bill confer-

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Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and \$.15 for each additional word.

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**MOTORCYCLE FOR SALE: 1978 Honda CX500. Asking \$2000 obo. Txt or call 419-506-0266. tf**

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ence committee report, and hope the Congress can approve this legislation expeditiously. This legislation maintains a strong safety net for the farm economy, invests in critical agricultural research, and will promote agriculture exports through robust trade programs. While we would have liked to see more progress on work requirements for SNAP recipients and forest management reforms, the conference agreement does include several helpful provisions and we will continue to build upon these through our authorities. As farmers prepare to make decisions about next season, I commend the leadership of the conference committee in producing a bill that can be passed before the year's end. If Congress passes this legislation I will encourage the President to sign it."

## USDOT AWARDS INDOT \$40 MILLION FOR INTERSTATE 65 EXPANSION PROJECTS

The Indiana Department of Transportation will receive two Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD) grants totaling \$40 million, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced late yesterday. INDOT will be awarded two \$20 million grants to help fund two projects to expand and rehabilitate Interstate 65.

"More than 1.5 billion tons of freight and millions of people rely on Indiana's interstate system every year, and freight movement on our interstates is forecast to grow by 60 percent in the next 30 years. With that growth in mind, I have identified widening our busiest interstates as an infrastructure priority for my administration," Governor Eric J. Holcomb said. "Our interstates are vital to attracting and retaining Hoosier jobs and growing our state and national economy. I want to thank Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao for partnering with Indiana to invest in our infrastructure and our Indiana congressional delegation for supporting these efforts."

The funds awarded to Indiana will support projects

to add lanes to I-65 between S.R. 32 and S.R. 47 in Boone County and between S.R. 58 and S.R. 46 in Bartholomew County. Existing pavement will be rehabilitated and various bridges will be rehabilitated or replaced along both segments.

"Through the Governor's Next Level Roads plan, Indiana is making record investments in our highway system coupled with a surge of investment in local roads through partnership programs like Community Crossings and Local Trax. Our state is making a historic commitment to infrastructure," Indiana Department of Transportation Commissioner Joe McGuinness said. "Indiana's efforts are being noticed across the country, including in Washington D.C. I want to thank the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration for partnering with us to enhance our transportation network."

More information about BUILD grants is online at <https://www.transportation.gov/BUILDgrants/about>.

## BANKS APPLAUDS ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW WOTUS RULE

Congressman Jim Banks (IN-03) issued the following statement in favor of the Trump Administration's announcement of a new proposal to redefine the "Waters of the United States" (WOTUS) rule:

"I have fought for months

## NOTICE

"A special meeting of the PCBDD will be held at 12 noon on Thursday, December 20th at the Board offices. The purpose of the meeting is to open bids for the sale of property at 900 Caroline St. The Board will also be going into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters."

to permanently repeal the Obama-era WOTUS rule, and I applaud the Administration's announcement of a new WOTUS rule that would end the uncertainty currently faced by Hoosier farmers and landowners. The Obama-era WOTUS rule is the poster child for government overreach, as it gave unelected bureaucrats at the EPA the power to broadly interpret what is a navigable waterway. With this announcement, Hoosier farmers and agriculture producers are closer to receiving relief from this massive government power grab. This new rule will provide much-needed clarity and end federal overreach."

Earlier this year, the House passed an amendment authored by Banks that would have permanently repealed the Obama-era WOTUS rule. Banks spoke about his amendment on the House floor.

Last year, Banks led the Republican members of Indiana's congressional delegation in sending a letter to the EPA Administrator calling for a review and repeal of the WOTUS rule.

## SECRETARY PERDUE ANNOUNCES \$9.4 MILLION TO SUPPORT SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED & VETERAN FARMERS AND RANCHERS

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will issue \$9.4 million in grants (PDF, 750 KB) to provide enhanced training, outreach, and technical assistance to underserved and

## Sudoku solution from page 13

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

veteran farmers and ranchers. This funding is available through the USDA's Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program (also known as the 2501 Program), managed by the USDA Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE).

"From the beginning of this Administration, USDA has focused on increasing rural prosperity and how to best serve our veterans and underserved farmers and ranchers. Helping those who served our country and assisting the disadvantaged is at the heart of our motto at USDA to 'Do Right and Feed Everyone,'" said Secretary Perdue. "The 2501 grants ensure veterans and underserved farmers and ranchers are well positioned to start their careers in agriculture and continue to give back to the American people. These resources will help strengthen the American economy and provide assistance for those who need it most."

### Have Something to sell?

Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and only \$.15 for each additional word.

## PARK AVE VILLAS

in Antwerp OH is accepting applications for our beautiful 2 bedroom Villas. Water, Sewage and Trash included. Waiting list is available.

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in Woodburn IN is accepting applications for our beautiful 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartments. Rents based on income. Water, Sewage and Trash included. A barrier free and rental subsidy waiting list is available.

CALL TODAY: 260-632-0400 OR 419-258-2603 OR VISIT AT 22156 MAPLE CT WOODBURN IN 46797

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## WOODLAND GLEN

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# Merry Christmas



*At West Bend Printing & Publishing  
We wish you all a Merry Christmas!*

We thank the Lord for our business, our friends and our relationships with you!  
We ask that you keep us in mind for your printing & banners, internet advertising, and newspaper advertising.  
Together we can shop locally and keep our communities strong!