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VOLUME 17 - ISSUE 52

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021

Happy New Year!

PAULDING FFA HAD AN EVENTFUL YEAR!



Pictured here is the 2021-2022 FFA Officer team left to right Jamy Hunt, Lathan Schneider, Mason Schlatter, Sydney Trahin, Paige Jones, Kyle Mobley, Tyler Schlatter, Carter Manz, Jaylyn McCloud and Ally Jo Merriman.

By: Reporters, Carter Manz and Jaylyn McCloud
The Paulding FFA Chapter

has had a very fun and eventful year. Despite facing many unforeseen circumstances this

last year with the continued pandemic, the chapter has found many new ways to still give back to the community and stay on track with our annual projects.

(Continued on Page 4)

PAULDING COUNTY TAX SALES ADDED TO ON-LINE BIDDING

The Paulding County Sheriff's Office will be conducting all sales of real estate, foreclosures and tax sales, with on-line bidding.

Foreclosure sales have been on-line since April 1, 2021. Tax sales will be added beginning January 1, 2022. Pursuant to House Bill 390, RealAuction was contracted with the Ohio Department of Administrative Services for sales to be on-line. The process and procedures under which the sales will be completed are detailed at RealAuction's website: <https://paulding.sheriffsaleauction.ohio.gov>. All prospective bidders should familiarize themselves with this new process.

Payment in full will no longer be required with tax sales; however, a deposit will need to be on account with RealAuction in order to bid.

All sales will continue to be (Continued on Page 5)

PAULDING VETERANS MEMORIAL WREATHS



2021 is the 4th year for the Wreaths Across America Ceremony in Paulding County and it was a huge success! 828 wreaths were ordered, this included pick ups and cemetery placements. The ceremony took place at St. Paul Cemetery in Paulding.

The VFW Post 587, Paulding Sheriff's Department, Scout troop 312, and Flatrock Junior Farmers 4-H all volunteered to participate in this special occasion. Many other county residents also participated on a not-so-wonderful weather day, but it was a good time to lay wreaths to Cele-

(Continued on Page 2)

Community Calendar

MON & WED

• Antwerp Comm. Food Pantry @ Antwerp UMC, 9a-12p

December 22

• Advent service @ St. John Luth. Church, Hicksville, 11a or 6:30p

December 24

• Christmas Eve Service @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm
• Christmas Eve Service @ St. John Luth Church, Hicksville, 9pm

December 25

• Merry Christmas!

December 26

• Lessons & Carols Service @ St. John Luth Church, Hicksville, 10:15am
• Bluegrass Praise Band Concert @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

December 30

• New Years Celebration @ PC fairgrounds, 11a-2p

January 1

• Happy New Year!

January 2

• Prayer Meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 9:30am
• The Chosen @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

January 5

• Anger: Master or Servant @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

January 15

• Blue Ribbon Workers meeting @ PC Youth Leadership Bldg.
• Food Distribution @ Cecil Comm. Church, 12-3pm

Add event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net



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Yrs	MOs			BL	WH	GR	BD	TA	BR	YE	RE				

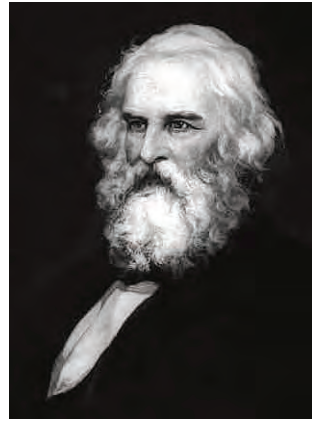
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A penalty in an amount equal to the registration fee shall be assessed if Dog License is not secured on or before January 31, or within 30 days after the dog becomes 3 months of age, is acquired, or is brought from outside the state. ORC Sec 955.01,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



OBITUARIES

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY



By: Angel Steiner, editor

ANTWERP, OH
Joe Messmann, 70, of Antwerp, passed away Saturday, December 25, 2021, at Lutheran Hospital, Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Joe was born in Ft. Wayne, Indiana on December 1, 1951, a son of Myrtle Rekeweg (Saurer) & the late Glenn Messmann.

He worked at Paragon for 34 years. Joe was a big sports fan. He was an avid San Francisco Giants fan and spent many Sundays rooting on the Chicago Bears. Most of all, he loved cheering on his grandkids in all they did.

Joe will be sadly missed by his wife, Linda; children, April (Mike) Krouse, Andrew (Tammy) Messmann, & Abigail (Ben) Clem; mother, Myrtle Rekeweg; siblings, Joy Messmann, Margie (Dan) Gordon, & Marsha (Mike) Rohrs; & grandchildren, Luke, Lydia, Faith, & Hailey.

He was also preceded in death by his brother, Richard Messmann.

Viewing is Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021, from 4-8 PM, at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W River St, Antwerp, Ohio 45813.

Service is Thursday, Dec. 30, 2021, at 10:30 AM with viewing one hour prior at Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, 3497 County Rd 424, Antwerp, OH 45813.

Guests must wear nose and mouth covering masks at all times, maintain social distancing, and refrain from contact to keep everyone safe while participating in his viewing and funeral service.

He will be laid to rest in Maumee Cemetery.

Memorials are to Mt Calvary Lutheran Church, 3497 County Rd 424, Antwerp, OH 45813 or Worship Anew, 5 Martin Luther Dr, Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com.

It's a few days after Christmas and as we bask in the aftermath of family gatherings and parties and messy houses, and gear up for the commencement of yet another epic year that was... this time ... 2021, let me tell you a story of the origins of a beloved Christmas carol, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Capturing the essence of the times in which a person lives, is exactly what Longfellow did with I Heard the Bells...

Longfellow was born at the turn of the 19th century in New England, and attended Bowdoin College studying foreign languages. He is best known for his literary works such as "The Song of Hiawatha". Despite his seemingly cushioned lifestyle, he was no stranger to tragedy. His first wife passed away while they were on holiday in Europe. His second wife died from severe burns she sustained when her dress caught fire from a candle she was using to melt wax to seal envelopes. Longfellow himself had serious burns on his face from his attempts to save his wife from the flames. His oldest son was permanently injured from a gunshot while he served as a lieutenant for the northern army during the Civil War.

Needless to say, Longfellow struggled to find the joy this time of year elicits in most of us. His depression was deeply rooted in light of his circumstances as he penned these words on Christmas morning 1863.

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet The words repeat
 "Of peace on earth, good-

will to men!

"And thought how, as the day Had come, The belfries of all Christendom Had rolled along The unbroken song
 "Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

"Till, ringing, singing on its Way, The world revolved from night To day, A voice, a chime, A chant sublime
 "Of peace of earth, good-will to men!

"Then from each black, Accursed mouth The cannon thundered in the South, And with the sound, The carols drowned
 "Of peace on earth, good-will To men!

"It was as if an earthquake Rent The hearth-stones of a continent, And made forlorn, The households born
 "Of peace on earth, good-will To men!

"And in despair I bowed my Head; "There is no peace on earth," I Said: "For hate is strong, And mocks the song
 "Of peace on earth, good-will To men!"

"Then pealed the bells more Loud and deep: "God is not dead; nor doth he Sleep! The Wrong shall fail The Right prevail,
 "With peace on earth, good-will to men!"

With these words, Longfellow tells the world of his despair at life's curve balls hurled in his direction. He comes full circle from awe and wonder to gloom and anguish, and concludes that God is good and He is in control no matter what this life slings in our faces.

Mull over Longfellow's journey which birthed these stanzas as you browse the West Bend News this week. Reflect on the happenings of 2021 as we are about to close the door on another year for the history books.

PARSON TO PERSON

By: Dr. James Bachman

*Dear Parson,
 Are there seers today?*

Yes, but not true reliable ones in the sense the Bible prophets were. Most of today's seers are false prophets because they are not 100% perfect with their prophecies as the Bible requires. Deuteronomy 18:22 - "When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath

not spoke, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously; thou shalt not be afraid of him."

All that God wanted us to know about the future for now He gave us in the book of Revelation. In Revelation 1:19 Jesus told John to write the things which shall be hereafter, referring to chapters four through twenty-two. I believe He meant that to be conclusive because of the end, when He closed the cannon of Scripture in Revelation 22:18-19, He pronounced a curse on anyone who added any further prophecy to it. "For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book."

Paul told us in I Corinthians 13:18 that the time would come when prophecies would fail, which means Bible prophecies would fall away, or cease. Hebrews 1:1-2 - "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, which he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds."

Though our curiosity is great, we should avoid those who claim to have new revelations since God shut them off in Revelation 22:18-19. Nearly all cults claim extra revelation in addition to the Scripture.

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

JANUARY EVENTS AT CECIL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Prayer Meeting
 Prayer meetings on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. Bring or text your prayer requests to 419-564-8383.

Food Distribution
 Food Pantry hours on Saturday, January 15th 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Chosen
 Cecil Community Church will show *The Chosen* on Sundays 6:00 p.m. beginning January 2nd

Scripture of the Week

"Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name. Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits—"

— Psalm 103:1-2

(Continued from Page 1)



brate the Deceased Veterans.

From the Revolutionary War to present day conflicts, our veterans are devoted sons and daughters, fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers. They come from all backgrounds in life to place those lives on the line for our freedoms. Wreaths Across America coordinates wreath-laying ceremonies at more than 2,500 locations across the United States, at sea and abroad.

While coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies

each December on National Wreaths Across America Day is a big part of the national organization, Wreaths Across America, work and mission to Remember, Honor and Teach. And this is carried out throughout the year. From our Remembrance Tree program to the Wreaths Across America Museum in Maine, there are many different ways in which you can get involved!

For more information, visit the Wreaths Across America website and locate our local chapter.

Anger: Master or Servant

Living Free group covering Anger: Master or Servant will begin on Wednesday 6:00 p.m. in January 2022 at Cecil Community Church. Sign up by calling 419-564-8383.

Cecil Community Church is located at 203 S Main, Cecil OH 45821.

PASSIONATE GODLY LOVE

By: Doris Applegate

Recently my very heart was thrilled and quickened by reading of General William Booth, the founder and commander of the Salvation Army administration. This man was unique with a Godly passion to save souls (be born again) by the power of God and help people prosper and live better lives.

As a teenager he accepted the Lord Jesus Christ into his life and would do street ministry, urging people to be saved (born again). Later in life he and his wife saw the great need to help in the slums of East London, England where there was such sin, crime and poverty.

In a small tent he started preaching and soon things grew. He would stay with a drunkard until the poor guy would kneel, repent and get born again. So this "rag-tag" army was born with drums,

bands playing, marching soldiers, flags waving, trumpets and cornets blowing and singers singing.

Nothing like this ever was seen in the name of religion. He endured many rebukes and much disfavor from the critics but this man of God could not be stopped. He loved people and wanted to see change in their lives. With God in their hearts and food in their stomachs, clothes and work, farms, he helped those in England, India, Australia, New Zealand, United States and the world.

Onward Christian soldiers was not just a song sung in church but was out and about everywhere. This was a 'wake-up' call for sure. No more was he frowned on but now honored, respected and loved. Traveling the world, speaking, praying and commanding this arm kept him young in spirit and vibrant. Such passion and love could not be stopped. As he pulled souls from falling into Hell and giving new hope to children, men and women everywhere, he became one of the greatest of all times. His life is surely an example for us to follow but we must hate evil and love the good. We can't just sit and do nothing for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Amen

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Be not dismayed for I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will help you. Isaiah 41

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TWINKIES, POPSICLES AND KOOL-AID

Penny For Your Thoughts, By: Nancy Whitaker

Let me say this, "Grocery shopping for one is challenging. I love to cook and was used to cooking large quantities, so adjusting to eating alone and cooking for just me is just not the same. Now I think to myself, "Hey I can eat what I want for lunch or dinner and no one can tell me what to eat or when to eat it. I am guilty of eating chips and dip, ice cream, and bowls of cereal for supper, however, it is always a treat to have the family in and cook a regular nice meal

at home and they were always a treat to pour that creamy melted marshmallows over the rice cereal and eat the wonderful finished product. Now, they have them in the stores in all shapes and colors. They have ghosts, pumpkins, rabbits, Santas and trees. They have come out with chocolate Rice Krispies and even ones with orange colored candies on them. Are the minds today just more creative than 50 years ago?

A product which came out a few years back called "Gold-



fish Crackers," are very popular with kids and are on a lot of school menus. They are shaped like a fish and were always gold colored. Now, all gold fish must not be gold because I saw a package of multi-colored Goldfish Crackers and I wondered why the change in color? Do the kids eat the multi colored ones better than the gold ones?

We used to make Chex mix every year around the holidays, but now, they make Chex mix in a bag. There are all kinds of flavors such as peanut butter, Ranch, and even a chocolate mixture.

The people who are employed by food producers must be thinking outside the box all of the time. Another product is V-8 juice. There is now a fruit flavored V-8. I have never tried it, but to me V-8 means eight kinds of vegetables made into a juice.

I could go on and on about changes in our food. Another item is Kool-Aid. Years ago they came in small packages and we only had cherry, orange or grape flavored. You added 2 cups of sugar to the package and some ice cubes and wow that made the best drink on a hot summer day. Today Kool-Aid is in big cans, sugar-free, and comes in all kinds of flavors. They even have a lemon-ade tea flavored. Does anyone recall making popsicles out of Kool-Aid? Speaking of popsicles, I see now they have a Jolly Ranchers candy flavored popsicle.

Oh and by the way, Peeps and Cadbury eggs are not just

for Easter anymore, and candy corn is just not for Halloween. They are all appearing for each holiday. I have observed red and green and pink and purple candy corn. Oh my!

We are fortunate to live in a country where we have so many choices. While I still prefer the homemade, old fashioned products, it seems everything changes. Sometimes changes are good and sometimes we question them. Now if you ever want to spend three hours in a grocery store, you will get an education on the past and present of food products. It is hard to say what our future food choices will be. I will probably do my three hours of food browsing next week and I wonder what will be the next new item?

Have you ever shopped for food for three hours? Do you notice all the changes being made to food products? Do you remember the foods of the past? Let me know and I'll give you a *Penny for Your Thoughts*.

MAYFLOWER PILGRIMS "WAMPAOAG NATIVE AMERICANS"

By: Caroline Longardner

Wampanoag Native Americans had lived in the North Eastern coastal area for several thousand years when French explorer, Samuel Champlaine dropped anchor at Plymouth Harbor (Patuxet) in 1605. The Patuxet people were a loose confederation of tribes of Wampanoags located in SE Mass. and R. I. linked by language and custom.

Each community controlled a well defined territory and had a sachem (over which a head sachem presided). Like many indigenous people in the American NE, the Wampanoag had a matrilineal culture in which property and status was passed down thru a mother's line. Sachems were usually chosen thru the mother's lineage or chosen with the consent of the elder women.

Wampanoags had lived in this area for thousands of years. The women farmed and raised the children while the men hunted and fished up and down the coast. Their dwellings were made from sapling trees bent into a dome shape and covered with bark or mats from moss, grass or reeds. It was called a "Wetu", and could be built into a long formed structure for 50 or more people (or a round smaller hut for a small family).

These early Native Americans had thriving communities with roads, cemeteries, and recreation areas for story telling and dancing by both men and women. Children had dolls made of corn husks. (Dogs were kept in camps, but historians say if food was short, "Fido" might be eaten)

Between 1616 and 1619 the Wampanoag fell victim to a "virgin soil epidemic". This was a contagion that attacks a population that has had no prior exposure to the disease and so has no immunity to it.

Some historians speculate that the illness was smallpox or bubonic plague, which was brought to their shores by European fishermen. Another theory is that the disease was "leptospirosis" caused by the "leptospira" bacteria spread by rats aboard European ships (the rats came off the ships that were anchored by anchor

ropes). Whatever the disease — it was an epidemic killing 9 in 10 coastal Indians. Wm. Bradford wrote: "In many Wampanoag coastal villages neither man, woman, nor children remained". By 1620 when the Pilgrims arrived in the area, the remaining Wampanoags had learned to be wary of the Europeans and their ways. European boats had sailed into their bay for 100 years, but some were only interested in slaves". Now Patuxet was a ghost town with mysterious graves on the beach.

To be continued....

FORGIVABLE LOANS AVAILABLE FOR MERCY COLLEGE BSN PROGRAM

Mercy College of Ohio is exploring innovative ways to recruit more students to pursue nursing.

In partnership with the Mercy Health Foundation - Greater Toledo, Mercy College will offer a limited number of forgivable loans to incoming Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) students who are direct from high school. Incoming students can now apply for the Mercy Health BSN Nursing Forgivable Loan that will begin the fall semester of 2022.

While the selected students are enrolled in the BSN program their loans will be deferred and upon graduation and becoming successfully employed at Mercy Health, their loans will be forgiven over a four-year period.

Susan Wajert, PhD, President of Mercy College says, "This is a great opportunity for students to finance their education so we are very happy to have more forgivable loans available for incoming students."

Visit mercycollege.edu/forgive for complete details and the application process for the Mercy Health BSN Nursing Forgivable Loan and mercycollege.edu/nursing for the array of options that Mercy College offers.

STATE PATROL INVESTIGATING SERIOUS INJURY CRASH ON SR 12

Putnam County, Riley Township - The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Lima Post is investigating a serious injury crash that occurred at 4:22 PM, December 18, on State Route 12, near County Road 4.

A 2006 Dodge Stratus, driven by Tonna Gossard, age 17, of Columbus Grove, Ohio was traveling westbound on State Route 12. Ms. Gossard drove off the left side of the roadway, came back on to the roadway and then went off the right side of the roadway. She then struck a tree and several cemetery headstones.

Ms. Gossard suffered life-threatening injuries as a result of the crash and was transported by Putnam County EMS to Mercy Health, St. Rita's in Lima. She was later transported to Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus. Ms. Gossard was wearing her safety belt and the crash remains under investigation.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol was assisted at the scene by the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Putnam County Fire, Putnam County EMS, and 419 Towing.

The deadline for the West Bend News is Fridays at 5pm for the following issue. Send your news, ads, and classifieds to info@westbendnews.net Call 419-258-2000 for information or printing quotes.

MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY



By: Mark Holtsberry

When we see names of people who served in the military, we assume that they served in one war. Well, here is the story of a man from Paulding County, who served in three wars, and here is his story.

Riley Finley Ennis was born April 23, 1897 in Paulding, Ohio. The son of Samuel Wilson and Martha Riley (Findlay) Ennis. Samuel was born July of 1866 in Maryland and Martha was born March of 1874 in Ohio. The couple was married in 1894. Samuel was Captain of Company M. 2nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Spanish American War.

The family was living in Paulding on North Cherry Street by 1900. Samuel was a lawyer building his base for clients. Riley, being the only child, was sure to receive a lot of attention. By 1910, with the family still living on North Cherry Street, Riley was a student at Paulding School. Riley's interest in the military was unclear, but as war loomed in Europe, he apparently set his sights on serving. He was at Fort Sheridan, Illinois serving as a corporal in 1918. He received a promotion to 2nd Lieutenant September 20, 1918. Also served with the 10th Replacement and Training Troop Company, Grant, Illinois, to May 1, 1919. Then was Camp Supply Depot Company, Grant, Illinois where he received an Honorable Discharge, October 28, 1919. Riley went to the Universities of Miami and Ohio State where he graduated.

By 1920, Riley was back home with his parents in Paulding on North Cherry Street, still single and 22 years old. That changed December of 1920. He married a gal named, Helen Margaret Pemberton, the daughter of Carl

H. and Ada (River) Pemberton. Helen was born in Ohio, January 12, 1900. Riley went to Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant, July 1, 1921.

Riley stayed in the Military, and the couple moved to Beecher Avenue, Apartment 4, Galesburg, Knox County, Illinois. The army sent Riley for training in Honolulu, Hawaii, May 27, 1923. While in the military, Riley was an Assistant Professor of Military Science and Tactics. Riley had been at Knox College since 1928. Also in 1928, Riley graduated from Infantry School for Company Officers



Course.

By 1930, Riley and Helen were still living at Beecher Avenue and Riley was still an Assistant Professor. In 1933, Riley completed Tank Courses and Tactics Courses. Sometime before 1935, Riley and Helen moved to Ft. Devins, Mount Desen, Massachusetts. By 1936, Riley was promoted to Captain. In 1939, Riley graduated from Army War College. He also completed Field Officers Chemical Warfare Studies. They moved to Washington D.C. at 4550 Connecticut Avenue North West, Washington D.C. In 1940, Riley and Helen lived in Salinas, Monterey County, California. In April of 1941, Riley was promoted to Captain. Also in 1941, Riley was sent to Honolulu, Hawaii, April 3, 1941, then on to Singapore, unclear what the trips were for, he returned to San Francisco on August 28, 1941, on the ship "Anzac Clipper". October 1, 1941, he was assigned with the British Army in the Libyan Campaign as an observer. After that, he stayed with the British Middle East Forces.

With a Second World War looming, this story will continue!

Until Next Time...

Thank you very much ...
 ... once again for supporting Christmas for Kids in Paulding County. We were able to help 75 families this Christmas season.
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 Becky Michael
 Jennifer Ramsier

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MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN MAKES DONATION TO GUILD OF CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



Pictured are Joyce West of Mt. Calvary presenting the check to Diane Hartmann, Guild Financial Secretary.

Recently, Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Antwerp, OH donated \$1,175 to the Guild of Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne. This

amount was enough to complete one of the Guild projects of supplying a new freezer for the Food Co-Op at the Seminary.

(Continued from Page 1)

In January, The Paulding FFA started off the new year by putting the final touches on the state and American degrees applications as well as the officer books. In February, the FFA chapter held many events in honor of FFA week. They started off the week with a short ag quiz for a cookie, a cornhole tournament with the student body, the annual teacher appreciation lunch, and finished off the week with the annual Country Ag Olympics! In March, the chapter participated in the spring CDEs including equine judging and poultry judging.

In April, the chapter had their annual FFA banquet where they recognized the chapter's accomplishments of the last year, elected new officers, and awarded community members for their support. The aquarium management team made up of Carter Manz, Lathan Schneider, Tyler Schlatter, and Mason Schlatter placed 5th at the state competition and got a banner. In the month of May, the chapter helped with the annual greenhouse sale with a record breaking number of sales! We would also like to congratulate Kyle Harris, Isaac Smalley, Baylee March, Jalynn Parrett, Kyle Mobley,

Jaylyn McCloud, and Ben Weible for receiving their state degree in May during the state convention! The month of June brought the Paulding County Fair where members received several awards, and the fair court was made entirely of Paulding FFA members! The chapter members also helped serve lunches at the summer lunch program in June.

In the month of August, the Paulding FFA officer team went on an officer retreat for three days to Hocking Hills, Ohio. During the officer retreat the officers scheduled events for the upcoming year and did many team building activities. Andrew DeLong, an FFA advisor from Chief Logan, talked to the officers about leadership and trust in a team.

During September the members attended a farm science review which was held in London Ohio. Members also started preparing for job interview and food science contests. At the end of September 5 FFA officers traveled to Columbus for the Ohio Legislative Leadership Conference.

The next three months of October, November and December were busy times for the FFA members. In October, the greenhouse class

Painted small pumpkins for Halloween, which were given to the residents of The Gardens of Paulding and the Country Inn. Members also made up snacks for our annual feeding the farmers program where we visited over 100 farmers and gave them a snack pack as a thank you for feeding our country. At the end of October 12 FFA members traveled to Indianapolis for the National FFA Convention. These members watched the general sessions, a rodeo, a concert, and went to a scream park. We would also like to congratulate Jen Stahl, Jonathan Reinhard, Riley Noffsinger, Shannon Hale, and Jordyn Merriman on receiving their American degree during the convention. The chapter also received the three star chapter award at convention which was a Huge accomplishment for our chapter after many years of competing in the national chapter program.

In November Kyle Mobley, Jamy Hunt, Sydney Trahin, Jalyln Klopfenstein, Carter Manz, Paige Jones, Brooke Kilgore, Tytus Manz, Caydence Rue, and Colby Singer participated in the job interview contest and Paige Jones made it to the state contest in December. Also, in November the chapter was excited to kick off their annual fruit sales which was very successful this year thanks to our community support.

December brought the end of the fruit sales and the delivery of our fruit. We had a food science team made up of Paige Jones, Jamy Hunt, Ally-Jo Merriman and Carter Manz who competed at the state level and placed 7th as a team. Jamy Hunt placed 9th out of 72 members. Paige Jones completed in the State Job Interview Contest and placed 3rd in the Senior Division. Our members went Adopt-a-Family shopping, this year we adopted four families and wrapped the presents during class. We also helped with the Salvation Army bell ringing at our local Chiefs. During Christmas break members are working hard to prepare their State and American FFA degrees for evaluation in January. 2021 has been a very successful year for the members of the Paulding FFA and we look forward to what 2022 will bring! Thanks to our community supporters and our FFA Alumni for all their support of our chapter.

USDA OPENS 2022 DAIRY MARGIN COVERAGE; EXPANDS SUPPLEMENTAL PRODUCTION PROGRAMS

As part of the Biden-Harris Administration's ongoing efforts to support dairy farmers and rural communities, today the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) opened sign-up for the Dairy Margin Coverage (DMC) program and expanded the program to allow dairy producers to better protect their operations by enrolling supplemental production. This sign-up period - which runs from Dec. 13, 2021 to Feb. 18, 2022 - enables producers to get coverage through this important safety-net program for another year as well as get additional assistance through the new Supplemental DMC.

Supplemental DMC will provide \$580 million to better help small- and mid-sized dairy operations that have increased production over the

years but were not able to enroll the additional production. Now, they will be able to retroactively receive payments for that supplemental production. Additionally, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) updated how feed costs are calculated, which will make the program more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses.

"Dairy Margin Coverage is a critical safety-net for producers, and catastrophic coverage is free. These DMC updates build on other efforts of the Biden-Harris Administration to improve DMC and other key USDA dairy programs," Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Robert Bonnie said. "We encourage dairy producers to make use of the support provided by enrolling in supplemental coverage and enroll in DMC for the 2022 program year."

Eligible dairy operations with less than 5 million pounds of established production history may enroll supplemental pounds based upon a formula using 2019 actual milk marketings, which will result in additional payments. Producers will be required to provide FSA with their 2019 Milk Marketing Statement.

Supplemental DMC coverage is applicable to calendar years 2021, 2022 and 2023. Participating dairy operations with supplemental production may receive retroactive supplemental payments for 2021 in addition to payments based on their established production history.

Supplemental DMC will require a revision to a producer's 2021 DMC contract and must occur before enrollment in DMC for the 2022 program year. Producers will be able to revise 2021 DMC contracts and then apply for 2022 DMC by contacting their local USDA Service Center.

After making any revisions to 2021 DMC contracts for Supplemental DMC, producers can sign up for 2022 coverage. DMC provides eligible dairy producers with risk management coverage that pays producers when the difference between the price of milk and the cost of feed falls below a certain level. So far in 2021, DMC payments have triggered for January through October for more than \$1.0 billion.

For DMC enrollment, producers must certify with FSA that the operation is commercially marketing milk, sign all required forms and pay the \$100 administrative fee. The fee is waived for farmers who are considered limited resource, beginning, socially disadvantaged, or a military veteran. To determine the appropriate level of DMC coverage for a specific dairy operation, producers can use the online dairy decision tool.

Updates to Feed Costs
USDA is also changing the DMC feed cost formula to better reflect the actual cost dairy farmers pay for high-quality alfalfa hay. FSA will calculate payments using 100% premium alfalfa hay rather than 50%. The amended feed cost formula will make DMC payments more reflective of actual dairy producer expenses.

The announcement is part of a broader package to help the dairy industry respond to the pandemic and other challenges. USDA is also amend-

AN AFTERNOON OF ROOTS, ROCK & BLUES



The Village of Convoy Historical Society would like you to join us for an Afternoon of Roots, Rock and Blues, an acoustic jam session, on Sunday January 9, 2022 from 2 till 4pm at the Convoy Opera House located at 111 South Main Street in Convoy, Ohio. Free admission to the 2-hour session.

The line-up will feature Mike Bouillon, Tim Laukhuf,

Ed Burwell, Jim Hyitt and your Humble servant Jerry McIntosh. There may be additional folks added later. Refreshments will be available. So come on out for some music and take a look at the beautiful work the Historical Society has done up to this point on the Convoy Opera House and Annex Building.

Handicap accessible.

ing Dairy Indemnity Payment Program (DIPP) regulations to add provisions for the indemnification of cows that are likely to be not marketable for longer durations, as a result, for example, of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances. FSA also worked closely with USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service to target assistance through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program) and other conservation programs to help producers safely dispose of and address resource concerns created by affected cows. Other recent dairy announcements include \$350 million through the Pandemic Market Volatility Assistance Program and \$400 million for the Dairy Donation Program.

Additional details on these changes to DMC and DIPP can be found in a rule that will be published soon in the Federal Register. This rule also included information on the new Oriental Fruit Fly Program as well as changes to FSA conservation programs. To view a copy of the rule, you may view the Dairy Margin Coverage rule (PDF, 537 KB).

To learn more or to participate in DMC or DIPP, producers should contact their local USDA Service Center.

Service Center staff continue to work with agricultural producers via phone, email and other digital tools. Because of the pandemic, some USDA Service Centers are open to limited visitors. Producers should contact their Service Center to set up an in-person or phone appointment. Additionally, more information related to USDA's response and relief for producers can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov

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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

Antwerp Conservation Club

Event Schedule

It's time again for our annual New Year's Day Meat Shoot. Doors open at 11am. Shoot starts at noon. Funds raised that day go to our yearly scholarship program.

January 13 - Monthly meeting at 7pm. We will be discussing and setting dates for 2022 events.

ACC 2022 Memberships are now available. \$35 - single ; \$50 - family

For more info & range rules, go to ACC website & check out membership application.

Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates!

WWW.ANTWERPCONSERVATIONCLUB.COM • On Facebook!

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 speech and press. In saying that, we do not hold agreement with the content that is printed. We are just the messengers. However, any letters that attack a person rather than the discussion will not be printed. 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 address to confirm validity of content for our readership area. You can respond or submit a new letter by email, USPS or fax.

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

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Antwerp, OH 45813

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Our Failing Government
I wonder how many other people read the story in the local newspapers that I did that shows how corrupt our government is getting?

AOC, that transplant from France who is going to "save the world" with never-ending ridiculous ideas, now wants our government to forgive 1.7 trillion dollars in student loans??? At taxpayers expense, of course, because these people are having trouble paying them off. Too bad, you take

out a loan you work and pay it off, that's what I was taught and if you can't afford to then don't get over your head in debt.

Too many of these people just seem to want to go to college to float along doing as little as possible but protesting, partying, and not concentrating on a career that will make them money to live and pay off debts.

Of course there's something in it for her, she still owes \$17,000 for her schooling. Are you kidding me?? Here's a person, who at taxpayers expense, flies in her private jet, drives expensive cars and tells we that are paying outrageous prices for gas and everything else we need to stop using gas products. Talk about a hypocrite. These people make 5-6 figure incomes in government jobs at our expense and can't pay off a \$17,000 loan??? I'm just wondering what she majored in, ignorance 101 maybe, because she doesn't realize the ramifications of her ridiculous ideas she comes up with.

Ruining this country financially seems to be the goal of that whole administration and they would be the kind that would forgive those student loans just to win favoritism. I can't believe any sensible person would listen and believe anything she says, it's just unbelievable thinking about. She just insults herself and our country every time she speaks and scary that the administration and some people believe it.

That this administration would consider this and want to pay illegal immigrants \$450,000 is completely out of control. How about helping veterans, seniors, homeless people and America with

these outrageous sums of money. These college students need to grow up, accept responsibility for their actions and realize its a hard world out there and you better be prepared. People aren't going to hold your hand, pat you on the back and tell you don't worry about paying back loans. Nobody has ever paid mine or forgiven them and I never expected them too. If I couldn't afford to pay a loan I didn't take one, you have to plan well ahead to make sure you will be able to pay them off.

Too many of these young people only look at the next day or week not a year or two or have a plan if things don't work out. Hopefully this forgiving crap will not be taken seriously, it would only make these people think they don't have to be responsible for anything and too many are already like that. America can not afford these ridiculous ideas that taxpayers will be stuck with.

I hope everyone feels the same way, be responsible for your own debts and actions.

—Gregg Gorman
Paulding, OH

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

On the opening weekend of early waterfowl hunting season, State Wildlife Officers Adam Smith and Houston Wireman, assigned to Logan and Champaign counties, respectively, were contacting waterfowl hunters on Indian Lake when they observed a small vessel heading into a nearby channel with two individuals on board. The individual on the front of the boat was holding a shotgun. The two subjects appeared to be running the small vessel through the marsh in hopes of jump shooting ducks. The officers conducted a vessel stop on the two subjects for a hunting license check and possible loaded firearms on a moving vessel. Upon stopping the subjects, the officers noticed the vessel did not have visible Ohio registration numbers, and both subjects had a loaded shotgun on board. A summons was issued for having a loaded firearm on a moving vessel.

Several state wildlife officers in central Ohio have assisted wildlife management staff with ring-necked pheasant releases. Pheasants are released on five different dates on specific public hunting ar-

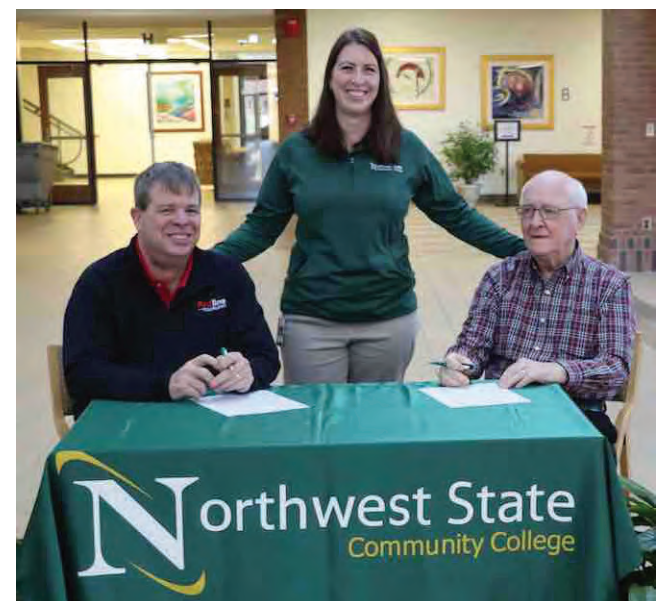
as throughout Ohio to provide additional hunting opportunities. Just before Thanksgiving, Delaware Area Career Center students joined the officers on a pheasant release at Delaware Wildlife Area. Students discussed education and career opportunities with Division of Wildlife staff, as well as learned about the history of the ring-necked pheasant in Ohio. The event was a great opportunity for the students to get hands-on training and network with wildlife professionals, while increasing hunting opportunity ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Officer Charles McMullen, assigned to Sandusky County, and State Wildlife Investigator Brian Bury, assigned to the Lake Erie Unit, were patrolling on Lake Erie conducting sport fish enforcement. The yellow perch bite was hot, and hundreds of boats were anchored in pursuit of the popular fish. Officer McMullen and Investigator Bury were contacting anglers to check for fishing licenses and bag limit compliance when they saw one vessel make a hard turn and appeared to be looking for something. A closer inspection revealed that one of the gentlemen had lost his ball cap in the wind. Because of the chop on the water, the anglers were struggling to retrieve the cap. Investigator Bury quickly maneuvered the patrol vessel into place and Officer McMullen netted the cap. The anglers thanked the officers for their assistance and continued to enjoy their day fishing.

This fall, State Wildlife Officer Michele Butler, assigned to Erie County, was working at Pipe Creek Wildlife Area during the early teal and goose hunting season. As she was observing several groups of hunters, she heard shots from one of the groups but was unable to see if they harvested any waterfowl. Officer Butler contacted the group at the end of their hunt. After speaking to the hunters, it was discovered that one had shot a pintail duck, which was out of season at the time. Officer Butler seized the duck as evidence and a summons was issued for harvesting a duck out of season.

NORTHWEST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES NEW AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP



The Northwest State Community College Foundation in collaboration with the NSCC Agricultural Studies Program is pleased to announce the development of the Ag Grows Here scholarship. This scholarship is supported by donations from local agribusinesses and individual donors. Redline Equipment of Archbold is the first donor to initiate a gift that will be awarded fall of 2022. Robbin Wilcox, Executive Director of the NSCC Foundation, states: "When students are awarded an educational scholarship from the NSCC Foundation, they understand that we support them in their educational journey by removing financial barriers."

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

The scholarship will be awarded in \$1500 increments to learners enrolled in the agricultural studies program at Northwest State Community College. The number of scholarships provided each year depends on funds available. First preference is given to learners who attain American FFA Degrees and second preference is given to learners who achieved State FFA Degrees

or 10/11 year 4-H membership.

AG GROWS HERE

Agriculture is a vital part of the local economy with more than 75% of all land in the College's six-county service area (Williams, Fulton, Defiance, Henry, Paulding and Van Wert) being prime farm land producing more than 20% of the taxable value of real property. Food and agriculture combined rank as the #1 industry in the state of Ohio with one in seven people employed in related occupations.

John Wilson of Archbold has been a champion to Northwest State in many capacities, and is very knowledgeable about the Ag industry. Wilson currently serves on the Ag Advisory Board, and noted he "is excited to see the investment into our community for future farmers and 4-H members."

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

For more information on the Ag Grows Here scholarship, as well as all other NSCC Foundation and College scholarship opportunities, please visit NorthwestState.edu/scholarships or call 419.267.5511 today.

(Continued from Page 1)

posted on the Paulding County Sheriff's website (www.pauldingohsheriff.com)

as information only. A link will be provided to proceed for registration and deposit requirements with RealAuction.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: Antwerp Pharmacy, H2O, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor Assisted Living, Antwerp Public Library, Genesis House, Antwerp G Mart

Bryan: Chief, Town & Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General
Cecil: 127 Maramart, Vagabond Village

Charloe: Charloe Store

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

Defiance: Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Split Endz Salon

Edgerton: Kaiser Supermarket, US Post Office, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)

Grover Hill: N&N Quick Stop, Library
Hicksville: Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center

Ney: Marathon
Oakwood: Rhees' Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip

Paulding: Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa True Value, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co.

Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County Hospital, Paulding Kwik Mart, Library

Payne: Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library

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

Van Wert: CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Family Video, Orchard Tree

INDIANA LOCATIONS

Fort Wayne: Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Great Clips & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living

Grabbill: Save-A-Lot, Grabbill Hardware, Grabbill Country Sales
Harlan: Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank

Hoagland: Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub

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

New Haven: Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, The Duce, McDonalds, CVS, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's
Woodburn: Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Bob's Restaurant, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, Library
Milan Center: Milan Center Feed & Grain

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RAIDERS PICK UP NON-CONFERENCE WIN OVER ARLINGTON



Wayne Trace Sophomore Cale Winans gets in this jump shot to add two points to the Raider side! More pictures at westbendnews.net

By: Joe Shouse, Sports Writer

After allowing Lincolnville steal a sure win from the Raiders last Saturday the red, white and blue bounced back on Tuesday to soundly defeat Arlington 62-37. With the win the Raiders improve their season mark at 7-1. Wayne Trace continues to clamp down on their defense allowing 39 points per contest. With the loss the Red Devils fall to 5-3.

Leading scorer for the Raiders was Brooks Laukhuf with 22 followed by Kyle Stoller who bucketed 14. Six other Raiders scored with Cameron Sinn and Trevor Sinn each with six followed by four points from Hudson Myers, Cameron Sinn and Tyler Davis. Cale Winans added

two-points to round out the winners scoring.

Wayne Trace led from start to finish after gaining a 17-8 advantage after one quarter of play. WT took a 27-15 lead to the locker room at halftime and then continued to build their margin to 20 at 46-26 heading into the final eight minutes of play.

The Raiders shot 48 percent from the floor and was perfect at the foul line hitting all eight of their attempts. A huge difference in the contest was in the turnover department where the Raiders recorded just nine miscues and the Red Devils guilty of 21 turnovers. WT held a slight rebounding edge 27-23. Arlington connected on 15-35 from the field for 43 percent.

Arlington placed seven

players in the scorebook but no one hit double digits. Brady Kin hit for nine points to led the Arlington attack.

MILESPIT NAMED STRATEGIC PARTNER OF OHSAA XC & TRACK AND FIELD

The Ohio High School Athletic Association announces strategic partnership with MileSplit to support the mission of the OHSAA and provide enhanced opportunities for the OHSAA cross country and track and field tournaments.

"The OHSAA aligns with partners that add value to our member schools," said Doug Ute, Executive Director of the OHSAA. "Forming a partnership with MileSplit allows us to connect a great partner with member schools so that they can support our student-athletes."

Since its founding in 2001, MileSplit has been the definitive website for scholastic track and field registration, results, and meet coverage in the United States. The platform is already used by many events and member schools around Ohio.

"We are honored to partner with the Ohio High School Athletic Association," said Alonso Rodriguez, Director of Business Development at MileSplit. "We share a common vision of growing the sports. We are looking forward to working with the OHSAA for years to come."

MileSplit works with state editors to facilitate the business, as well as the publishing processes associated with the management of track and field and cross country meets. Its elaborate network is then able to provide in-depth coverage at the grassroots level from one state to the next. These state portals distribute content to a national database that expands MileSplit's unprecedented depth of national cov-

erage. The scope of that national coverage allows readers to view many of the vital aspects of tracking the sports -- through results, rankings, articles, videos, photos, statistics, and more.

ARCHERS MOVE ON TO FINALS

The Antwerp Lady Archers had a big second quarter and advanced to the championship of the Route 49 Holiday Classic with a 42-22 win over Edgerton at Hicksville High School Monday night.

Antwerp held a slim 7-6 advantage at the end of one period before taking control in the second stanza. The blue and white bucketed 19 points in the quarter while limiting the Bulldogs to six as the Lady Archers seized a 26-12 halftime advantage.

Quarter number three saw Antwerp picked up six points with Edgerton scoring five, giving the blue and white a 32-17 lead at the end of three periods.

The Lady Archers then wrapped up the game by adding ten markers in the final period while Edgerton scored five to seal the 42-22 Antwerp win.

Pacing the blue and white was Astianna Coppes with 16 points while Lydia Brewer and Kiana Recker chipped in six markers apiece. Hayleigh Jewell added five points for the Lady Archers and Grace Schuette recorded four points. Caroline Rohrs and Aewyn McMichael completed the scoring with three and two points for Antwerp, respectively.

Edgerton was led by Grace Schroeder with seven points while Taylor Smith bucketed five and Dominique Fort posted four markers. Clara Gerschutz and Casey Everetts added three markers each for the Lady Bulldogs.

CARDINALS RALLY LATE TO NIP PANTHERS DOWN



Paulding Junior Nick Manz escapes with the ball to get two points on this layup in the third quarter! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Visiting Cardinal Stritch trailed by one point entering the fourth quarter before rallying for a 64-55 victory over host Paulding in non-league boys basketball action Tuesday night.

In a high scoring first quarter, the host Panthers bucketed 21 points in the opening stanza and took a 21-15 lead at the end of one period.

Cardinal Stritch answered with 15 second quarter points compared to the maroon and white's six as the visiting Cardinals took a 30-27 halftime advantage.

Paulding, though, responded in the third quarter by picking up 16 markers and

limiting Cardinal Stritch to a dozen as the Panthers grabbed a 43-42 margin entering the final period.

The Cardinals took control in the fourth quarter, rallying with a 22-point stanza and posting the 64-55 victory.

Clarence Brown led the way for Cardinal Stritch with 16 points and Owen Carter added 13 markers. Demontri Whitehead and Breon Hicks chipped in eight apiece for the Cardinals followed by Kam Hughes (seven), Owen Yost (six), Tommie Taylor (four) and Tyler Bohnsack (two). With the victory, Cardinal Stritch improves to 5-2 on the season.

Nick Manz topped a quartet of Panthers in double figures with 15 points while Ethan Foltz added 14 points and Luke Zartman chipped in 13. Christian Bauer posted a dozen markers as well for the Panthers, who fall to 1-7 overall this year. Zach Gorrill had the remaining free throw for the maroon and white.

KROHN LEADS WARRIORS PAST HORNETS

Dakota Krohn led the way with 15 points and the Woodlan Lady Warriors posted a 48-43 victory over visiting Angola Monday evening in non-conference girls basketball action.

Addie Goheen and Taylor Kneubuhler added seven markers apiece for Woodlan, which improves to 10-3 overall on the season. Avah Smith chipped in six points for the Lady Warriors and Olivia Baumert recorded five points.

Gabi Klopfenstein (three), Katlyn Crosby (three) and Ashton Widenhoefer (two) completed the scoring for Woodlan.

Smith also grabbed six boards to top the Lady Warriors with Krohn, Klopfenstein and Crosby all picking up five. Kneubuhler pulled down four rebounds as well for Woodlan.

Krohn dished out three assists with Goheen and Crosby having a pair each and Baumert finished with five steals.

TO ALL OF OUR CLIENTS & READERS...

Thanks for making 2021 a great year to live & work in Paulding County!

... FROM THE STAFF OF WEST BEND PRINTING & NEWS

The office will be closed Fri., Dec. 31st; deadline for January 4th issue is Thurs., Dec. 30th @ 5pm

Happy New Year

LADY ACES CLAIM ROUTE 49 TOURNAMENT TITLE



Antwerp's Caroline Rohrs uses her whole body to shoot and score! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Host Hicksville controlled the middle two quarters as the Lady Aces rallied from an early deficit to post a 39-30 win over Antwerp in the Route 49 Girls Basketball championship game Tuesday night.

It was the Lady Archers who jumped in front early as the blue and white took a 13-8 lead at the end of eight minutes of action.

However, the second stanza belonged to the Lady Aces as Hicksville kept Antwerp off the scoreboard while scoring seven points for a 15-13 halftime lead.

The Defiance County squad expanded the lead in the third quarter, picking up eight points of their own compared to five for Antwerp giving Hicksville a 23-18 advantage entering the final period.

Hicksville then sealed the win with a 16-point fourth quarter while keeping the Archers to a dozen to wrap up the 39-30 victory.

Molly Crall topped the Hicksville effort with 11 points and Avery Slattery chipped in nine markers for the Lady Aces. Kenzie Schroeder posted eight points followed by Izzie Smith (six), Lindsay Bergman (four) and Hayden Neidhardt (one). The Lady Aces improve to 7-3 overall with the victory.

Antwerp was led by Grace Schuette with nine points and Ali Reinhart recorded eight markers. Aewyn chipped in seven for Antwerp, which falls to 6-3 on the season. Astianna Coppes and Hayleigh Jewell each bucketed three points as well for the blue and white.

EARLY LEAD HOLDS UP FOR WARRIORS OVER HERITAGE

A pair of local rivals hooked up in girls basketball ACAC play Saturday where visiting Woodlan jumped in front early and held on to post a 44-41 win over host Heritage at the home of the Patriots.

The Lady Warriors took an 18-11 lead at the end of eight minutes of action before the host Lady Patriots trimmed the deficit to 25-22 at the intermission. Woodlan extended the margin to 33-29 entering the final stanza and

then held off Heritage for the victory.

Dakotah Krohn paced Woodlan with 17 points and Taylor Kneubuhler chipped in nine markers for the Lady Warriors. Avah Smith recorded eight points for the Lady Warriors followed by Gabi Klopfenstein (six), Katelyn Crosby (three) and Olivia Baumert (one).

Heritage placed a pair of players in double figures with Claire Bickel scoring 13 and Ella Bickel bucketing ten. Abby Zelt (eight), Lydia Schultz (six) and Carly Gerardot (four) completed the list of Lady Patriot scorers.

Woodlan won the battle of the boards, 32-26, with Smith grabbing ten and Kneubuhler picking up eight. Klopfenstein and Krohn recorded five and four boards, respectively. Krohn finished with three assists and three steals while Kneubuhler added three assists and two steals.

Zelt topped Heritage with eight rebounds and Claire Bickel hauled in seven while Ella Bickel finished with five boards. Claire Bickel also recorded three assists and three steals with Ella Bickel and Zelt both posting two steals.

MOLITOR WINS AT PH

Hannah Molitor of Antwerp captured the all-around title in gymnastic action at Patrick Henry High School Tuesday night.

Molitor posted a total score of 36.3 to win the title after recording scores of 9.4 on the beam and 9.15 on the vault. She also took first place on the bars with a score of 8.95 and won the floor exercise with a score of 8.8.

Emily Meyer of Tinora finished second overall with a score of 29.9 and Paige Weaver of Napoleon was third with a 29.5.

CARDINALS RALLY LATE TO NIP PANTHERS

Visiting Cardinal Stritch trailed by one point entering the fourth quarter before rallying for a 64-55 victory over host Paulding in non-league boys basketball action Tuesday night.

In a high scoring first quarter, the host Panthers bucketed 21 points in the opening stanza and took a 21-15 lead at the end of one period.

Cardinal Stritch answered with 15 second quarter points compared to the maroon and white's six as the visiting Cardinals took a 30-27 halftime advantage.

Paulding, though, responded in the third quarter by picking up 16 markers and limiting Cardinal Stritch to a dozen as the Panthers grabbed a 43-42 margin entering the final period.

The Cardinals took control in the fourth quarter, rallying with a 22-point stanza and posting the 64-55 victory.

Clarence Brown led the way for Cardinal Stritch with 16 points and Owen Carter added 13 markers. Demontri Whitehead and Breon Hicks chipped in eight apiece for the Cardinals followed by Kam Hughes (seven), Owen Yost (six), Tommie Taylor (four) and Tyler Bohnsack (two). With the victory, Cardinal Stritch improves to 5-2 on the season.

Nick Manz topped a quartet of Panthers in double figures with 15 points while Ethan Foltz added 14 points and Luke Zartman chipped in 13. Christian Bauer posted a dozen markers as well for the Panthers, who fall to 1-7 overall this year. Zach Gorrell had the remaining free throw for the maroon and white.

WARRIORS COME UP SHORT TO EAGLES

Senior Joe Reidy scored a game high 26 points, including five in the final ten seconds, but it wasn't enough as Fremont posted a 52-49 victory over visiting Woodlan in boys basketball play Tuesday night.

OAKWOOD ELEMENTARY PRESENTS SANTA'S ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS EVE



Oakwood Elementary students in the fifth and sixth grade presented the Christmas Play "Santa's Rockin' Christmas Eve" to the Oakwood students and to their parents and friends on Thursday and Friday, December 16th and 17th. Shown are a couple of scenes from the play.

The Eagles led 11-8 at the end of one period before the Warriors cut into the deficit in the second stanza. Woodlan scored 13 points compared to Fremont's 11 as the Eagles held on to a 22-21 halftime advantage.

Fremont doubled up Woodlan 16-8 in the third quarter to expand the margin to 38-29 at the end of three periods. The Warriors put up 20 points in the final period but the Eagles held with a 14-point quarter to go on to the 52-49 victory.

Alex Miller added five markers for the Warriors while Dawson Lichty, Dejay Gerig and Braden Smith bucketed four points apiece. Trey Yoder and Lincoln Sparks chipped in three points each as well for Woodlan,

which falls to 4-5 on the season.

The Eagles were paced by Logan Brace with 13 points

and Ethan Bontrager posted 11 markers. Ethan Bock had ten points to reach double figures as well for Fremont.



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OAKWOOD ELEMENTARY 12 DAYS OF READING



Students in Mrs. Laura Stechschulte's classes at Oakwood Elementary are shown with "12 Days of Reading" boards and stockings full of prizes after completing a "12 Days of Reading" event.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition

Mark Allen Johnson, Antwerp, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; \$25 restitution; Placed on standard probation; Evaluation; No unlawful contact with victim; Probation to determine on-line classes; Risk assessment; Mental health evaluation

Ronald L. Blankenbeker, Mark Center, OH; Resisting arrest, Case dismissed per state; Case dismissed per state

Nicholas M. White, Paulding, OH; OVI/refusal, Case dismissed per state, with prejudice; Case waived; Left of center, Case dismissed without prejudice, Costs waived; Seat belt/drive, Case dismissed without prejudice; Costs waived

Alvin Schmucker, Woodburn, IN; No deer tag; Guilty;

Case was waived by defendant **Teagan Lapage**, Mount Hope, WV; OVI/under influence; Case dismissed without prejudice; Costs waived; Loud exhaust, Case dismissed

Justin M. Kipker, Payne, OH; OVI/refusal, Count A dismissed; OVI/under influence, Defendant appeared in court with Mr. Ed Hatcher, Pled guilty, Proof of insurance provided, ALS vacated, Pay all fines and costs, SCRAM may be removed today; Marked lanes, Count D dismissed

Kevin J. Hartsock, Fort Wayne, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Defendant paid in full

Randy N. Verhoff, Continental, OH; Seat belt/drive; GUILTY; Case was waived by defendant

Kirk Parrish, Peru, IN; Failure to yield emergency vehicle; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Leaundra S. Jackson, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving under non FRA suspension; Count A dismissed

Derek P. Mann, Fort Wayne, IN; Physical control;

Guilty; Defendant appeared in court with Mr. Sondergaard, Pled Guilty; May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail; ALS vacated; Pay all fines and costs

Jay G. Ridgeway, Continental, OH; No motorcycle license; Defendant appeared in court without counsel, Pled guilty; Proof of insurance provided; Pay costs by 12/31/21

John D. Smith, Greenwood, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Donovan J. Ray Jr., Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Michelle L. Geiger, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Alonzo G. Adrian, Louisville, KY; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

A K M Wadud, Noblesville, IN; Display plates; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jeremy W. Whitney, New Castle, IN; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Permit violation, Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Bret T. Baldus, Avon, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jenessa G. Sparks, Convoy, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Matthew G. Meyers, Toledo, OH; Distracted driving; Guilty; Defendant completed the online course

Travis C. Couts, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

James Shisler, Oakwood, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

WINTER SAFETY FOCUS OF ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION NORTHWEST OHIO CHAPTER ADVICE FOR ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVERS

Wintertime, with its colder temperatures, snow, ice and early darkness, can be particularly treacherous, in particular for those living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. For the more than 220,000 unpaid caregivers in Ohio caring for someone with Alzheimer's and other dementias, the Alzheimer's Association

offers guidance for how to keep their loved ones safe during the winter months.

The continuing COVID-19 pandemic has added additional complexities that can make providing care more overwhelming than ever. As winter ramps up, preparing in advance can make a big difference for caregivers of individuals living with Alzheimer's.

"Caregiving is a challenge any time of the year, but there are added concerns during the winter season," said Pamela Myers, Alzheimer's Association Northwest Ohio Chapter program director. "The Alzheimer's Association website, www.alz.org provides valuable resources concerning safety, wandering behaviors, and preparing for emergencies. Caregivers can also call us directly at 419.537.1999 for specific answers or assistance."

Advice regarding winter safety includes:

Be prepared
• Winter storms can be dangerous; check weather conditions and recommendations regularly, and have emergency plans in place.

• Tackle to-do lists in one trip to avoid having to make multiple trips.

Bundle up
• Help the person living with Alzheimer's dress warmly for winter weather conditions by wearing dry, loose-fitting layers and covering as much exposed skin as possible. Consider several layers of lightweight clothing for easy movement.

• A hat is important, as body heat escapes from an uncovered head. Mittens keep hands warmer than gloves and may be easier to help get on and off.

Prevent slips
• Balance and mobility are often a challenge for people living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Assume all surfaces are slick and assist the person by taking smaller steps and slowing down to a safer gait and speed.

• Visual perception problems can make it difficult for the person living with Alzheimer's to see ice on sidewalks or realize that ice is slippery or that snow is not a solid surface.

Buddy up
• According to an Alzheimer's Association survey, a whopping 84 percent of caregivers said they would like more support in providing care for someone with Alzheimer's or another form of dementia, especially from their family.

• Don't hesitate to ask others for help with errands, grocery shopping, or snow and ice removal. It can be difficult for caregivers to find time to complete simple tasks outside of the home.

Prevent wandering
• It is estimated that 60% of people with dementia will wander and become lost at some point; many do so repeatedly. If not found within 24 hours, up to half of wandering individuals will suffer serious injury or death.

• Wandering is one of the most frequent and challenging problems that caregivers face and can be extremely dangerous in colder conditions.

• Shorter days during winter months can also increase the risk of "sundowning," or increased confusion as night approaches.

FIRSTENERGY INVESTS IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; CONTINUING UPGRADES

This is an exciting time for economic development



in the greater Toledo area because more and more large companies are realizing what a great place northwest Ohio is to start or expand their business. We have witnessed this growth in Defiance and other areas around the state. Partners like FirstEnergy Corp. make economic development possible.

Toledo Edison, a FirstEnergy Corp. electric company celebrating its 100th anniversary in November, is proud to support work to help advance business development in the region while strengthening its electric system to meet the growing demand for safe and reliable power for many years to come.

FirstEnergy continues investing in upgrades to its Toledo Edison electric system to support a \$700 million expansion at North Star BlueScope Steel and to meet the projected energy needs of other industrial facilities in the area. FirstEnergy recently invested nearly \$2.5 million to upgrade equipment at the substation that delivers electricity to North Star BlueScope Steel in Delta. The upgrades include installation of two megavoltage capacitor banks - equipment that will help ensure a constant, safe flow of high-voltage electricity into the facility, especially during periods of high demand.

Plans to upgrade FirstEnergy's transmission system in and around Defiance are also underway. They include upgrading equipment that will provide the ability to remotely isolate a section of a high-voltage power line impacted by severe weather or other unforeseen issues and reconfigure power flow to minimize the length and number of customers impacted by an outage. Work also includes installing a backup power feed that will help keep the lights on for customers if wires or equipment on their regular line are damaged or need to be taken

out of service. Additionally, Toledo Edison is upgrading infrastructure and installing technology to modernize its electric system to help prevent power outages and provide more flexibility in restoring power faster. The work is part of an initial three-year phase of the company's grid modernization plan and includes installation of new, automated equipment and technology in substations and along power lines serving more than 40,000 customers in parts of Toledo, Maumee, Holland and nearby areas.

While the company cannot eliminate the possibility of outages occurring due to reasons out of our control, like severe weather, it has taken steps to minimize the length and impact of service interruptions when they do occur. The work underway in Toledo will provide new technology and backup power lines for many customers, reducing many power interruptions to just a brief or momentary outage. This work builds upon system upgrades that were completed last year in the greater Toledo area. Additional modernization work is planned across the region through 2022.

Toledo Edison's commitment to customers extends far beyond the delivery of safe and reliable electricity. The company was recently recognized as a trusted and top performing utility in customer satisfaction during the COVID-19 pandemic in a national study evaluating the performance of electric, natural gas and combination utilities across the country.

Escalent, a consumer research firm, named Toledo Edison to its 2021 Most Trusted Utility Brands list within the Cogent Syndicated Utility Trusted Brand & Customer Engagement™ Residential study, which is based on a nationwide survey of more than 76,000 residential customers of the 140 largest U.S. utility companies.

During the pandemic, the company was able to help its customers get back on their feet by temporarily suspending service shutoffs, offering additional financial assistance programs and supporting community organizations that help those impacted by the pandemic, all while delivering the power our customers depended on more than ever as they worked and learned from home.

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PROVIDING RESTORATION SERVICES TO DEFIANCE & SURROUNDING AREAS



In 1969, Richard and Marilyn McCann began what today is known as ServiceMaster by McCann. The business began as a janitorial and residential service business, which today it is known as ServiceMaster By McCann Restore/Clean. The family soon realized the need for a professional restoration company to serve the insurance industry, which today is now known as ServiceMaster Restore.

Soon after the beginning, Richard and Marilyn's son Mike joined the business as Vice President. In 2000, Richard officially retired and Mike took over as president. In 2005, Mike's son Brandon joined the operation full time, and became Vice President in 2009. Brandon began running the day to day operations in 2014 along with a talented management team. Through the years the family business has grown into Northwest Ohio's leading cleaning and restoration business, serving Northwest Ohio and North East Indiana.

With more than 4,500 franchises around the world, ServiceMaster has been in the cleaning and disaster restoration business for more than half a century. We help you get your life back to normal, at work and at home. ServiceMaster Clean professionals are part of the ServiceMaster family, one of the world's largest and most versatile service networks with locations in the U.S. and Canada as well as 40 countries around the world. Each year, we serve millions of homes and busi-

nesses in the United States with cleaning and disaster recovery services, lawn care and landscape maintenance, termite and pest control, plumbing, heating and air conditioning maintenance and repair, appliance maintenance and repair, furniture maintenance and home warranties.

ServiceMaster by McCann now employs over 95+ team members offering a variety of services including a full restoration and repair service, as well as its full line of commercial and residential project cleaning. ServiceMaster by McCann is always looking to add to their amazing team. To view or apply for job positions for our restore & clean team, visit www.smbymccann.com.

STATE PATROL INVESTIGATING FATAL CRASH IN HANCOCK COUNTY

Findlay – On December 25, 2021 at approximately 6:44 PM, troopers from the Findlay Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol responded to a fatal pedestrian crash on I.R. 75 near mile post 165 in Allen Township, Hancock County.

A 2019 Ford Expedition, operated by Philip Wood, age 42, of Rochester, Michigan, was traveling south on I.R. 75 when it struck a pedestrian in the roadway. The pedestrian was headed west attempting to cross the southbound lanes of I.R. 75. The pedestrian was then struck by two additional vehicles. A 2012 Ford Escape, operated by Kelsey Flanigan, age 29, of Winston Salem,

North Carolina, was also traveling south on I.R. 75. The final vehicle to strike the pedestrian was a 2013 Ford Focus, operated by Lucas Row, age 27, of Oregon Ohio. Mr. Row was also traveling south on I.R. 75 at the time of the crash.

The pedestrian was pronounced deceased at the scene. Southbound I.R. 75 was shut down for approximately 4 hours for the crash investigation. The roadway has since been re-opened.

Assisting troopers on scene was the Hancock County Sheriff's Office, the Ohio Department of Transportation, Allen Township Fire and EMS, and D and D Towing.

The pedestrian has been identified as William J. Wells, age 43, of Columbus Ohio.

The crash remains under investigation.

PPEC & NWECC RETURN MORE THAN \$3 MILLION TO MEMBER-OWNERS OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Member-owners of North Western Electric Cooperative (NWECC) and Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative (PPEC) will see a lower electric bill around the holidays. This month, NWECC is returning \$732,432 while PPEC is returning \$2.3 million to current and former members. Eligible co-op member-owners will receive the refund as a credit on their electric bill or as a separate check in December. These capital credits represent the cooperative's margins, or money left over after all bills have been paid.

As not-for-profit community-focused organizations, co-ops like NWECC and PPEC use these margins for investments, such as building or replacing power lines, transformers, and other electric system upgrades to meet member-owners' evolving needs. This helps keep the co-op's service reliable.

"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."

Capital credits represent each co-op member's ownership — or equity — in his or her cooperative. This member-owned business model is what sets electric co-ops apart from municipals or investor-owned utilities.

"We return the money to member-owners around the holidays because that's when many people need it the most — especially this year with many member-owners struggling due to COVID-19," said NWECC President/CEO Darin Thorp.

To learn more about capital credits, contact your local electric cooperative. For NWECC, call 800-647-6932 or visit www.nwec.com. For PPEC, call 800-686-2357

FINDING RELIABLE IN-HOME CARE: NEWEST STRUGGLE FOR ALZHEIMER'S & DEMENTIA CAREGIVERS

Keeping loved ones with Alzheimer's or dementia at home has become a calling for many family caregivers in Ohio, especially as Covid-19 has raced through nursing

homes.

But the number of paid in-home care providers for patients with Alzheimer's disease and dementia is shrinking just as the need is skyrocketing. "The demand for home and community-based services is significantly higher at the same time as a reduction in the workforce," said Joe Russell, Executive Director for the Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice, a trade association serving more than 600 home care and Hospice programs. "The pandemic has exacerbated an existing untenable situation."

According to Alzheimer's Association statistics, 83 percent of help provided to older adults is provided by family members and friends. When the needs become too great for these unpaid caregivers, many families face a cruel dilemma. "You either place your loved one in facility-based care or keep them at home without in-home care," Russell said. "And then an acute episode can send them into the hospital and ultimately into a nursing home."

Eric VanVlymen, Regional Director for the Alzheimer's Association in Ohio, said families seeking help with home care is one of the top needs the Association hears about. "This is such a critical issue because we know that overall family caregivers are often stressed trying to ensure their loved ones' needs are cared for. Caring for someone with dementia can be emotionally and physically draining. Paid help helps fill the gaps."

Lelia Latta of Columbus has been struggling to find in-home caregivers for her 89-year-old husband, a retired pastor who began showing signs of dementia six years ago. "In the middle of a sermon, he would blank out," she recalled.

Latta had found the perfect solution, pre-pandemic, for keeping her husband safely at home: twice-weekly visits from an aide who helped with bathing, cooking and housekeeping. When that long-term aide left recently, her replacements have proven unreliable and inexperienced.

"You wake up wondering, 'Are they coming today?'" Latta said. "I have trouble sleeping because of the stress."

Experts say the shortage is particularly dire among agencies that accept patients with Medicaid, which reimburses at a far lower rate than Medicare. "I am worried about the future, because the reimbursement from the government can't keep up with the call for higher pay," said Lori Wengerd, owner of Home Care Assistance, an Upper Arlington agency that relies mostly on private-pay clients.

Private-pay patients and families fare much better, she said, because agencies can pay higher salaries and retain reliable employees.

As a private-pay client, Barbara Mullholand has succeeded in keeping her 84-year-old mother, who has dementia, in her familiar home surroundings.

"I've been lucky," Mullholand said. "My mom is still able to get up and walk. Would an aide have time to do that in a nursing home, when it is so much quicker to put her in a wheelchair?"

Mullholand and her brothers want to return the devotion that their mother had always shown to them, never

The West Bend News

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

missing a sporting event or extracurricular activity. They take turns and stay overnight with her on alternating evenings. In the morning, when they leave for work, they are relieved by a home care provider from the Toledo-based Arista Home Care Solutions.

Friends have shared horror stories of aides who have arrived late or not shown up at all, but that hasn't happened to Mullholand. On several occasions, Arista's owners, Paula and Clayton Birney, have arrived to cover for an aide who was sick or running behind.

The home care industry lost an estimated 342,000 employees in 2020, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"Initially we saw a lot of fear of the virus," said Arista owner Paula Birney. "We have tried to alleviate concerns with safety protocols, and at this point we are back to pre-COVID staffing levels. But we haven't grown the way we would have expected in the last 18 months, and the need continues to grow as families try to avoid putting their loved ones into assisted living."

Burnout is a growing concern for agencies that employ in-home caregivers. "The demand on the existing workforce is higher, and it's not as possible for people to take vacations and time off," Russell said.

In-home caregivers deserve praise for their dedication, Wengerd said. "Older caregivers realized they were more vulnerable, and some of

them decided to stay at home," she said. "But I am amazed at how many of our caregivers who kept going to work and told me, 'I am going to stay with this family.' People talk about doctors and nurses and what heroes they have been during the pandemic. The same is true for the people who go into homes every day to care not just for older people but for disabled people. They are heroes for sure."

NOTICE:

The following dates are for
The Paulding County Veterans' Service Commission's 2022 Board Meetings
 January 31
 February 28
 March 28
 April 25
 May 23
 June 27
 July 25
 August 29
 September 26
 October 31
 November 28
 December 12
Meetings begin at 9:00 a.m.
For information or appointments, please call 419-399-8285

TO WOODBURN RESIDENTS:

Woodburn City Hall will be changing their hours of operation beginning the first week of 2022. The new hours will be Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays from 7am - 12pm & 1pm - 4pm, and Thursdays from 7am - 1pm. The office will be closed on Fridays.

Any questions can be directed to City Hall at 260-632-5318.

PAULDING COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS CLEANING PROPOSALS

The Board of County Commissioners of Paulding County, Ohio, is requesting a proposal for cleaning the courthouse and other county offices during January 1, 2022, thru December 31, 2022. Specifications may be obtained in the Commissioners' office in the basement of the courthouse, Room B-1, Paulding, OH. The proposal shall be marked "2022 Paulding County Courthouse and other County Offices Cleaning" and addressed to the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners 115 N. Williams St. Room B-1 Paulding, OH 45879. The proposal must be received at the office of the Board of County

Commissioners not later than 11:00 a.m. on the 29th day of December, 2021. Specifications may be obtained at the Paulding County Commissioner's Office in the basement of the courthouse Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Paulding County Commissioners' Office at 419-399-8215.

The Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bids.

HEATHER BARNHOUSE, CLERK
 BY ORDER BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
 PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO
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PAULDING COUNTY WMEA RECYCLING

New Schedule For Large Villages

1st Weekend- Paulding , Fair Grounds

2nd Weekend- Grover Hill , VFW

3rd Weekend- Payne ,

(Paved lot east of Homier's)

4th Weekend- Antwerp ,

(13744 CR 43, sewer treatment plant)

New Schedule For Smaller Villages

3rd Wednesday of each month

Cecil 11:30-12:00 (Fire Station)

Junction 12:30-1:00 (Catholic Church)

Haviland/Scott 1:30-2:00 (SR 114 at Haviland Park)

Latty/Briceton 2:30-3:00 (Latty Park)

For Questions Call : 419-399-3630

or Visit : www.pauldingcountywmea.com

PAYNE ELEMENTARY ANNOUNCE DECEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Payne Elementary Students are working hard in this busy time of the year. The following students achieved December Student of the Month. Great job, students! Front Row: Hudson Burkley, Makenna Shaffer, Adley Morehead, Jerica Gonzales, Hank Mullins, Lydia Shepherd, Kaylee Miller, Sam Schabbing. Back Row: Kahne Mansfield, Knox Mills, Layla Shellenbarger, Owen Welch, Callen Stoller, Scarlett Neff, Aaron Bohland, Witt Stoller

GIVING UGLY FOOD A CHANCE

Explaining the value of misshapen vegetables—that they are as healthful as their picture-perfect counterparts and buying them helps reduce food waste—could help improve sales of “ugly” produce, new research suggests.

The study measured consumers’ responses to hypothetical shopping scenarios for carrots. Participants were most open to buying bunches containing imperfect carrots after being presented with both of those marketing messages promoting ugly carrots’ personal and societal benefits. Either message alone was not effective at convincing consumers to buy misfit carrots.

Findings also showed that respondents were willing to pay, with a small discount, for some level of mixed bunches containing both ugly and standard carrots, maxing out at 40% of misshapen carrots—a sign to regulators who set the tolerance level for cosmetic standards that such a practice could be profitable.

One 2018 study in North Carolina suggested that about 41% of unharvested food is edible but unmarketable because of its appearance. The researchers are assessing ways to “win” with ugly foods in the marketplace by testing consumer acceptance of imperfect foods that don’t come with a built-in discount—a tactic used by some brick-and-mortar and online retailers that hasn’t had much staying power.

cosmetically imperfect produce is somehow lesser, you’re stuck selling it for less and therefore you undermine the entire value chain,” said senior study author Brian Roe, professor in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics (AEDE) at The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES).

“We see that once you promote it as being more natural and as reducing wasted food, the discount is less than it otherwise would be—but there is also a cluster of folks who are actually willing to pay as much or more because they value reducing food waste and they value the fact that it’s got just as much nutrition as standard produce.”

Roe is the Van Buren Professor in AEDE and leader of the Ohio State Food Waste Collaborative, a collection of researchers, practitioners, and students who collaborate to promote the reduction and re-direction of food waste as an integral part of a healthy and sustainable food system.

Roe conducted the study with Danyi Qi and Jerrod Penn of Louisiana State University and Ran Li, an Ohio State PhD student. The research is published online ahead of print in the Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services.

The researchers surveyed 1,300 U.S. residents who shopped and cooked for their households. Participants in the online survey were randomly assigned to receive one or a combination of two mar-

keting messages: Ugly carrots’ nutritional quality equals that of blemish-free produce, and there are social costs linked to throwing away food with cosmetic flaws.

Participants also selected from images of their preferred 2-pound carrot bunches and price points, with six bunches—either with or without their greenery attached—containing 0% to 100% ugly carrots and prices ranging from \$2.18 to \$1.39 per pound. In another choice test, consumers could select from just two options—a bunch of all standard carrots or all imperfect carrots with or without green leaves attached—in a hypothetical purchase from either a farmers market or a conventional grocery store.

Participants consistently disliked bunches that included any ugly carrots at all, and the amount they were willing to pay for any number of imperfect carrots was always lower than what they’d pay for 100% standard carrots.

But a top contender in terms of profitability for farmers did emerge from the analysis of participant responses: Bunches containing 40% ugly carrots and 60% standard carrots with green leaves attached sold at farmers markets where consumers are exposed to the combined marketing messages.

“If you’re at a farmers market, you’re thinking more holistically. You’re not thinking about cosmetic perfection. You expect things to be more ‘real,’” Roe said. “So, I think then people realize this is what we might expect if we’re

getting produce directly from a farmer. There’s more room for imperfection because it’s probably not interpreted as imperfection. It’s interpreted as naturalness.”

The research team analyzed the tipping point in consumer willingness to pay that could make harvesting ugly carrots profitable—an important calculation for farmers who need a positive return on their investment into planting, picking, and shipping their crops. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) also has a say in the percentage of nonstandard produce that can be sent to market—a limit that may need to be revisited, Roe said.

“We hope these findings will change the viewpoint of the industry. If you want to move into the ugly produce space, you probably need to rebrand it rather than locking in a discount and saying, ‘This is ugly food that should be worth less, so let’s just lock it in as being an inferior good from the get-go,’” he said. “There hasn’t been a lot of rethinking of standards in light of food waste, so that would be one policy lever that could be re-examined to deal with food waste in the modern era.

PRECIOUS RESOURCES: SOIL, WATER & AIR

As we celebrate the holidays and look forward to a new year, we have many precious natural resources in this country to appreciate. Our soils, water and air are second to none! We need to keep reminding ourselves in these turbulent times, how great a nation we are and how important our precious resources are to feeding the 7 billion plus people on this earth. As a country, we export one-third of our crops overseas, so many people depend on the USA to keep them fed.

A common way to look at the importance of soils is to use an apple to represent the plant Earth. If the apple is sliced into four quarters, about 3 apple quarters or 75% of the earth is water located in oceans, lakes, and streams. The remaining one quarter apple slice represents the land area on Earth. Now cut that one quarter apple slice in half or into 1/8 sections. About 1/8 of Earth’s land is in swamps, deserts, mountainous areas, Arctic, and Antarctic areas that are not suitable for producing human food or for human habitation. The other remaining 1/8 apple slice represents land suitable for humans to live.

Next, slice the remaining habitable 1/8 apple piece lengthwise into four equal parts with four 1/32 sections of apple. The first 1/32 section represents areas of the world where the soil is too rocky or of poor soil quality for any type of food production. The second 1/32 piece represents the areas of the world too wet for food production. The third section represents land that has been developed by humans into cities, roads, parking lots, etc. Now, carefully cut the peel off the last 1/32nd section of apple. This thin sliver represents about 3% of the Earth’s landmass and is all the topsoil on the planet where food can be grown.

Each year agricultural land is being lost to development due to a 1.1 % annual growth rate in the human

GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY SPELLING BEE WINNERS



On Tuesday, December 21st, Wayne Trace Grover Hill Elementary held its annual Spelling Bee competition. Spelling "sardine" correctly to be the winner was 6th grader, Brooke Tigner, daughter of Eric & Andrea Tigner. Runner up was 6th grader, Ashlyn Manz, daughter of Greg & Julie Manz.

population. Almost 1 million acre of land in the USA is lost to land development every year or in five years, a land area equal to the state of Massachusetts. Ohio currently had 13.6 million acres of farmland with 77,800 farms. About 7 million acres of farmland have been lost to Ohio development since the 1950’s.

About 44% of Ohio’s farmland is considered prime farmland, the fifth largest in the country. Ohio has lost more high-quality prime farmland to development than any other state except Texas. Prime farmland is defined by its “good soil quality, growing season, and adequate moisture supply needed to produce economically sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods.” Prime farmland does not excessively erode or flood and is not saturated with water for long periods of time. Ohio is a leading agricultural state with food and agriculture being it’s #1 industry.

Water is another valuable resource. Only 3% of the water on the earth is freshwater but only 0.3% is usable for human consumption. About 69% of freshwater resides in glaciers and 30%+ is underground. The 0.3% resides in surface water in lakes, rivers, and streams and is the main source of water for human everyday use. Luckily, this area constitutes about 22,300 cubic miles of freshwater.

The Midwest and Ohio has abundant water resources. The Great Lakes represent 22% of the earth’s freshwater in lakes. Second only to Antarctica and

Greenland’s ice caps, the Great Lakes are the world’s second largest fresh water surface resource and represents approximately 95 percent of the usable fresh water in the USA. The Great Lakes contain enough water to cover the entire lower 48 states to a depth of almost 10 feet.

Ohio is blessed with water resources with Lake Erie supplying drinking water to at least 11 million people. Lake Erie contains more than 75% of all the fish in the Great Lakes because it is shallow and all the water that enters Lake Erie flushes through within 2-3 years. The Western Lake Erie basin has the highest level of sports fishing in all the Greats Lakes.

Finally, USA air quality has greatly improved due to the 1990 Clean Air Act. From 1980-2020, gross domestic product increased 173%, energy consumption increased 19%, vehicle miles driven increased 85% and the USA had a 46% increase in population growth; however, total air pollutant emissions dropped by 73%. Overall, we have a lot to be thankful for in this county! Let’s try to keep it going!

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services



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NHEG ANNOUNCES READING PROGRAM GROWTH

NHEG announces the continued growth of our current three-tier reading program. We are now launching four-tier and five-tier reading programs.

The programs will include a reading time for students from 2nd to 5th grade and also from 6th to 8th grade. You can learn about all of our reading programs by visiting <https://www.NewHeightsEducation.org/NHEG-educational-programs/virtual-reading-program/>. You will be able to listen to these readings via our YouTube channel and website at any time. A new reading will be released every week.

The new tier reading program coordinator will be Rachel Omodolapo Oladejo. Rachel is a voice actress and singer at Wabbit's Voices, a storyteller who performs voiceovers, and a writer whose words dance on paper.

A self-taught naturopathic chef, she runs a hospitality business, Raymensions, and is a DIY holistic remedies guru who loves nature. You'll catch her gardening or on food adventures hunting for new recipes you can eat and put on your skin.

Rachel was born in Kaduna, Northern Nigeria, to

late Navy Captain Professor Michael Olatunji and Bolaji Oladejo as the first of three children and only daughter. Her early schooling was at Hakda International School, Kaduna. Rachel learned much of her values, languages, culture and education from her father, and the art of running a business from her mother. Her father was an educationist who was well-spoken and her first teacher.

Her father's philosophy was "1,000% or nothing." He passed on October 6, 2021, and Rachel used the pain of her grief to craft creative content for kids and music to cope and heal. The hit single tribute song to her late father, "Angels came for the Mathematician," was birthed during this time of grief.

Her love for reading, teaching and entertaining fueled her to delve into media and communication strategy, which led her to do voiceover work that then spanned to video games, children's stories, audiobooks, commercials, animations and motivational nuggets coined "ray-motivate carrots," giving her audience something to nibble on to enhance personal development and self-discovery.

After relocating to Ibadan, Oyo State, Western Nigeria, for high school at LifeForte International High School in 1999, she better learned her mother tongue and culture, Yoruba. While growing up in Northern Nigeria, she learned mostly English, Hausa and Pidgin English, as well as a bit of Yoruba.

At only age 16, Rachel began to study for her bachelor of science degree in economics at Eastern Mediterranean University (Dogu Akdeniz Universeti) in 2005. There she was part of the Famagusta

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church choir, the Nigerian female basketball team and worked in the international student liaison office, helping African students settle in Northern Cyprus. Her teaching career began here as a hobby, when she tutored her friends in mathematics and other subjects, especially for exams.

Two years later she relocated to the capital Lefkosa to continue her economics degree at Near East University (Yakin Dogu Universeti). Here, Rachel joined the international student liaison, danced in cultural dance shows and performed in church Christmas carols.

Rachel grew up singing in choir, and gifted with a soothing and uplifting voice, she yearned to be a music megastar. The headmistresses of her primary and secondary schools noticed this gift and encouraged her to harness it.

After graduating from university with a bachelor of science degree in economics at Near East University Northern Cyprus (a Turkish colony) and completing N.Y.S.C. in Nigeria, she decided to start her music career. It was rough and required a lot of financing, so she decided to work at various jobs and run businesses to help fund her passion.

Rachel is a certified voice actress and team lead providing communication strategy services at Wabbit's Voices Media House and a certified hairstylist providing beauty and holistic spa services at Hair Candy by Rachie Salon & Spa, she also provides naturopathic culinary services at Raymensions Hospitality Empire in Lagos, Nigeria.

IMPROVING PHOTOSYNTHETIC POTENTIAL

Farmers do not often think about how their management practices can influence the rate of photosynthesis. Photosynthesis has always been assumed to be constant, but it is not. Photosynthesis does not occur at a constant rate, it varies each second, depending on light, carbon dioxide (CO2), water availability, temperature, leaf chlorophyll content, microbial impact on plant nutrient availability, and genetics. Some factors can be manipulated directly, others indirectly. Farmers can manage many of these factors, but

not all, to improve yields.

In a given year, water may be either limited or in excess supply while temperatures can also be extreme, either too cold or too hot. These factors often reduce nutrient cycling, resulting in reduced plant growth and yield. Soil compaction and poor soil structure can have a direct impact on microbial activity plant nutrition, water availability, soil temperature, and CO2 storage. Fall tillage is a major disrupter of the carbon and water cycle. Every time a soil is tilled, CO2 is lost to the atmosphere within minutes and most of it is deposited eventually in our oceans. Most of the nutrients that are released with tillage also are lost, either in surface water (example nitrogen or phosphorus) or to the atmosphere (nitrogen). The best way to preserve the carbon and nutrients in the soil is to plant fall cover crops, restoring the natural biological cycle.

When the soil environmental and crop nutrition is optimized, plants can photosynthesize much more rapidly than is commonly considered normal. An extreme example comes from Netherlands greenhouses where tomato yields are reaching 890,000 pounds (445 tons) per acre or 20 pounds tomatoes per square foot. USA field tomato yields range from 20-50 ton per acre. Greenhouse growers have the ability to manipulate lighting, CO2 levels, plant nutrition, and genetics to maximize crop yields. Farmers may not be able to manipulate lighting directly, but crop density, population, and spacing can be manipulated. Farm management practices have a direct impact on CO2 levels, microbial activity, plant nutrition, and genetic potential.

Farmers often manipulate their fields to produce lower yields by creating field conditions that are challenging and stressful. Farmers can also improve the soil environment, increase the photosynthetic rate, and improve yields by creating a healthier soil environment. Adding cover crops increases carbon sequestration and increases plant roots turnover, leading to more CO2 for plant growth. About 60-80% of all plant carbon is recycled with only 20-40% being stored in the

Sudoku solution from page 9

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

quester or hold more soil nutrients. This leads to environmental improvements in air and water quality.

As the photosynthetic rate improves, root exudation increases which feeds the microbes and improves nutrient cycling. With higher photosynthetic rates, plants become healthier so insect pests and diseases decline. Healthier plants canopy faster and reduce weed populations due to increased competition for light and soil nutrients. Healthier plants and soils respond better to microbial inoculants and low salt fertilizers. Generally, healthier plants produce more lipids (fats) and the grain has higher nutrient density; all leading to much higher crop yields. The end result is that improving soil health leads to better yields, higher profits, and higher quality nutrient dense food while protecting the environment.

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Service

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Start Date: **As Soon As Possible**
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Job Objective: Serves as confidential executive secretary to the superintendent. Provides administrative support that assists with the effective management of career center operations. To view minimum qualifications and the full posting please visit www.vantagecareercenter.com, employment.
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HELP WANTED

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Vantage Career Center Adult Education Position Posting
Posting Date: **12/23/21 - 1/6/22**
Position: **CDL Instructor As Soon As Possible**
Start Date: **As Soon As Possible**
Job Objectives: Instruct assigned CDL classes. Plans, implements and assesses student-learning experiences. Completes all required student reports in a timely manner. To view minimum qualifications and the full posting please visit www.vantagecareercenter.com, employment.
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PAULDING EAGLES LADIES AUXILIARY GATHER TO WRAP PRESENTS



Those pictured from left are: Lisa Clinton-Auxiliary member, Rocky Dangler, Liz Pessefall, Tammy Clark, Cindy Kauser-Auxiliary Trustee, Rena Rager-Auxiliary member, Jackie Pease, Chris Dangler, Beckie Bennet-Auxiliary Secretary, Marsha Bennett-Auxiliary President. Not pictured Chris Huelsmeyer.

Members and friends of the Paulding Eagles Ladies Auxiliary recently gathered to wrap Christmas presents for three area families, one from each school district in the county. The Ladies Auxiliary raises funds throughout the

year to help where there is a need in the community. They wish to thank those that have supported them!

GOVERNOR SIGNS HB 169, PROVIDING PROVIDER RELIEF & WORKFORCE INVESTMENTS

Governor Mike DeWine signed into law House Bill (HB) 169, allocating \$4.18 billion of federal American Rescue Plan funding awarded to Ohio earlier this year. The aging network and long-term care services and supports sector will benefit from the \$529 million dedicated in HB 169 for home- and community-based services provider relief and workforce investments. As older Ohioans and those that care for them are responding to and combatting COVID-19, the Department of Aging is appreciative of the General Assembly and Governor DeWine's support for frontline workers and providers.

"As a nation, we have seen an ongoing critical shortage of direct care workers. During this pandemic, we have reached a tipping point, with the direct care worker shortage, especially those serving older Ohioans, individuals with complex health care needs, or those residing in hard to reach, rural, and remote communities. HB 169 will provide timely relief to this critical workforce, support our caregivers, and help fast track retaining and hiring critically needed workers. Our number one priority is ensuring the health and safety of older Ohioans," said Ohio Department of Aging Director Ursel McElroy.

Direct relief can be provided in multiple ways to guarantee maximum potential of one-time stimulus funding and alleviate strain on the workforce by reducing overhead costs and redirecting those funds to support efficiency in direct care. We firmly recognize the importance of attracting, recruiting, and retaining dedicated individuals to Ohio's provider workforce. Recruiting and retaining critical staff, and reducing turnover, are essential to sustaining this ever growing and diversifying industry. The Department of Aging will continue to work with our stakeholders, advocates, providers, the administration, and the legislature on these most essential opportunities.

OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY NAMES CLAIRE SINN TO 2021 FALL DEAN'S LIST

Ohio Dominican University has named Claire Sinn of Haviland, OH to its 2021 Fall Dean's List. Sinn is among 319 students who earned a place on the list this past semester.

In order to make the Dean's List, full-time undergraduate students must have achieved a 3.5 GPA or better after taking a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Ohio Dominican University is a comprehensive, four-year, private, liberal arts and master's institution, founded in 1911 in the Catholic and Dominican

tradition by the Dominican Sisters of Peace. The University has approximately 1,350 students and offers undergraduate degrees in 39 majors and eight graduate degree programs. At ODU, students connect their passion with a purpose.

NSCC & PARTNERS ANNOUNCE SEVEN LEARNERS COMPLETE INTRO TO WELDING COURSE

OhioMeansJobs-Hancock County, the City Mission, Northwest State Community College, and the Fostoria Learning Center are excited to announce that seven learners have completed their Introduction to Welding course, and are OSHA 10-hour certified. This great accomplishment could not have been possible without the partnership of the aforementioned organizations. The seven individuals also participated in a job fair at the Fostoria Learning Center, featuring JK-Co Specialty Railcar, Werk-Brau, Mennel Milling, Callies Performance Products, Vaughn Industries, and General Dynamics. This event has led to the seven participants being invited to additional interviews and welding tests at local companies.

Randall Galbraith, Director of Hancock County Jobs and Family Services, is thrilled with the results of this group. "I am very pleased with the outcome of this inaugural class. The seven individuals, who worked so hard to learn a new skill, are re-

markable people. I wish them all the best as they launch themselves into a new and successful career." Galbraith went on to speak about the importance of the partnerships developed through this program. "I want to thank our partners, without which none of this would have been possible: Northwest State Community College, City Mission of Findlay, Fostoria Learning Center, Fostoria Economic Development, the staff of the Ohio Means Jobs - Hancock County, and of course the Hancock County Commissioners who have been so supportive of our workforce development collaborations."

The City Mission continues to utilize this opportunity to find solutions for their residents. In doing so, the City Mission has been impacted beyond training for their residents. "The City Mission reached and exceeded our goals for Giving Tuesday, I believe, in part, because people want to give to programs that are helping find permanent solutions to someone's homelessness, or unemployment and that is what City Mission wants to do." Stated City Mission Executive Director Kathryn Bausman. The seven men participating in this program have shown determination, kindness, and a willingness to learn a new skill. Neal Martin, OSHA instructor for Northwest State Community College was thoroughly impressed with the group. "I thought this group of gentlemen were one of the best classes I have taught in my three years of teaching the OSHA course. They were all attentive, all asked questions, all answered questions, and were very involved in each

ANTWERP MANOR RESIDENTS GRATEFUL FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Pictured are Thadd Smart (l) and Jerry Adams (r) with the flower arrangements that the residents received for Christmas.

The residents and staff once again want to extend their heartfelt appreciation to their wonderful community around them. The residents are so blessed to live in a community where they are loved and cared for. It has been an amazing year de-

spite the pandemic that continues to surround us. All are praying to go back to a more normal way of life in 2022.

Happy New Year from everyone at Antwerp Manor Assisted Living!

day's training session. I wish them the best, they were a great bunch of guys!"

The course completed by the seven learners was an introductory course, intended to supply individuals with entry level knowledge and skills. Each learner traversed 78 hours of training, including their OSHA certification. "Impressed, that is all I can say. These seven individuals have been an inspiration to all of us." Said Jim Drewes, VP of Workforce Development at Northwest State Community College. Drewes went on to say, "This is a life changing moment for these seven men, and goes to show how important partnerships are to mak-

ing communities and their citizens better. I would like to thank all involved parties, this is a win for Hancock County."

The Fostoria Learning Center continues to be a great partner, not only providing a facility, but assisting with a job fair, and much more. Renee Smith, Executive Director of the Fostoria Economic Development Corporation, looks forward to more collaboration. "The Fostoria Learning Center was a proud partner in this pilot initiative. It was an absolute pleasure to work with the men involved in the Welding Cohort and we look forward to future partnership opportunities."

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce would like to say

Thank You

to business partners, service organizations and friends of the Chamber for their support in 2021. The primary source of income for the Chamber is through its membership and without your support we would not be able to provide the events and projects that benefit our business community.

It has been an "almost back to normal" 2021 for us all! We appreciate all the support received from the Antwerp community - businesses and friends alike. We encourage anyone who has interest in helping to make the Antwerp Business Community, **your community**, a better place to live, work and do business, please consider joining the Chamber. We are here to **"Promote, Preserve and Protect"** all businesses for the advancement of the Antwerp community. You do not have to own a business to be a member. Single memberships are available as a "Friend of the Chamber." Home-based businesses and direct-sales representatives memberships is a growing level as well! Membership in the Chamber is an investment in your community and in Antwerp's future. We meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please join us! For more information contact us at antwerpchamber@gmail.com and 'Like' us on Facebook at "Antwerp Chamber of Commerce".

We would like to thank the 2021 members of the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce:

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If we have forgotten anyone, we sincerely apologize. Thank you to the Town of Antwerp for supporting the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce. It takes a village!

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