

## NEW DANCE STUDIO OPEN IN PAULDING COUNTY



Pictured L to R: Tim Copsey, Deedi Miller, Desirae English-Hagerman, Tatem Varner (owner and instructor) with her children Thomas Varner and Paisley Varner, Derek Varner, Shane Stallard, Mayor of Oakwood Brian Ripke, and Kyle Weisenburger.

Tatem Varner, graduate of Paulding High School and resident of Oakwood, opened a dance studio in October of this year. The dance studio is located at 113 N 1st St in the former Oakwood Eye Care facility.

Varner was in jazz, tap, ballet, and pointe at Dance Dolls in Antwerp. Dance Dolls is where she found her passion for dancing and learned to master the fundamentals. Varner shared, "Opening a dance studio has always been a dream of mine. Watching

the studio that I grew up at close in May was hard. I decided now was the time to open my own. It was a quick decision, but it was such a good one to make! My students and their families are great. I'm glad they trust me to

Growing up a dancer,

## WOODBURN LEAF PICKUP END DATE

The City of Woodburn has discontinued leaf pickup for the season as of Friday, November 18th. If you are within the City limits and you have leaves remaining, feel free to drop them off at the compost

site on Tile Mill Road just east of State Road 101. If you have questions or concerns, call City Hall at 260-632-5318.

## PC RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

The Paulding County Retired Teachers Association

will meet at 9:30 on Tuesday, December 6 at the Cooper Community Room located in Oakwood at the Library. There will be no business meeting, just a gathering of friends for coffee and cookies.

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I Cor. 10:31 - whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

## OTTOVILLE RECEIVES PPEC LOAN FOR INDUSTRIAL PARK EXPANSION PROJECT



(L-R) Adria Petrick, Ottoville Mayor Ron Miller, PPEC CEO George Carter, and Council President Joe Moreno during the check presentation. PPEC presented the Village of Ottoville with a \$360,000 loan for industrial park expansion through the USDA.

Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative (PPEC) recently gave the Village of Ottoville a \$360,000 loan for industrial

park infrastructure expansion through the United States Department of Agriculture

(Continued on Page 3)

## MUSEUM ANNOUNCES FESTIVAL OF TREES WINNERS



Smith tree: A Christmas tree decorated by the Smith Family of Antwerp won a prize at the John Paulding Historical Society's Festival of Trees.

The John Paulding Historical Society has named the winners of its recent Festival of Trees and the dates and theme for next year's event.

The 27th Festival of Trees ran Nov. 4-12 with more than 1,200 people attending.

The Smith Family from Antwerp won the prize for the tree most closely following the theme, "Let Heaven & Nature Sing." Their stunning creation, in memory of Louise Huebner Smith, was decorated with Christmas sheet music, velvet ribbon with golden musical notes, and natural elements in shades of red, gold and brown. The family members are Donna Snyder, Doris Smith and Donald Smith.

The trees that won for most "votes" by placing money in the jars were St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church in the adult category, and Gifted Students group in the youth category.

Winner of the annual Weidenhamer/Borkosky OSU (Continued on Back)

## Monroeville American Legion Post 420

260-623-6679  
★ BINGO! ★  
Wednesday Night  
Doors open 4 PM  
Early Birds 6 PM  
Bingo 7 PM Lic# 144707  
Full Pack \$30

## Community Calendar

### MON & WED

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

### November 28

• Merry & Bright Festival, Paulding, 6pm  
• Paulding Holiday Window Decorating Contest Begins  
• Antwerp Business Decorating Contest begins

### November 30

• Antwerp Business Holiday Lighting Contest Begins

### December 2-4

• Shrek by CC Banks @ Huber

### December 3

• Holiday Fantasies Bazaar @ NH UMC, 9a-3p  
• Christmas Open House @ Oakwood Elem gym, 10a-2p  
• Holiday vendors @ Grounded, Paulding, 9a-3p

### December 6

• PCRTA meeting @ Cooper Comm. Library, 9:30am

### December 7

• Craft Bazaar @ Martini Luth. Church, NH, 9a-2p  
• OPERS meeting @ PC Senior Ctr, 10am

### December 8

• Merry Grinchmas @ Paulding Library, 5:30-6:30p

### December 9

• Hicksville School Music Concert @ Huber, 7pm  
• VW Council On Aging Bus Trip & Dinner, LaComedia

### December 10

• Five Star Dance Christmas Show @ Huber

Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

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**OBITUARIES**



**OAKWOOD, OH:**

**Rosemary Hall**, 63, of Oakwood Ohio, passed away on Friday, November 18, 2022 at St. Vincent Medical Center in Toledo, Ohio.

She was born on June 30th, 1959 in South Williamson KY to Isom and Betty (Estep) Hall.

In the late 70's, Rosemary met and fell in love with Randy Jasso, with whom she had three children with, Randolph (Tarrah) Jasso of Hicksville, Heather (Jeff Ruoff) Jasso of Hicksville and, Shagene (Ashley Wright) Jasso of Edgerton.

At the time of her death, she had four grandchildren, Drake Bigger, Aaliyah Bigger, Tayden Jasso and Remi Rose Jasso. All children and grandchildren survive. Also surviving is her father, Isom, and her three siblings, Sherry (Terry) Wilhelm of Paulding, Vicky (Tim) Steele of Paulding, and Ernest Hall, of Hicksville. She was preceded in death by her mother, Betty.

Rosemary was a homemaker that loved to be outdoors, planting and gardening, like her dad. She enjoyed hunting for antiques and getting a good bargain. She had a soft heart for animals and was rarely without a four legged friend. Rosemary was a free spirit and lived her life exactly how she wanted to, with little regrets.

A private graveside service will be held on December 2nd, at 11 am at Sherman Cemetery, Oakwood.

**PARSON TO PERSON**

**By: Dr. James Bachman**

Note: This is a continuation from last week concerning steps for a Christian to take to stop smoking.

*Dear Parson,*  
*I have been a Christian for some time now, but one thing I have not been able to conquer is my smoking. I have tried to quit but without success. Have you any suggestions?*

After steps of full surrender and attempting to increase your hate for the habit of smoking, you must CONFESS IT AS A SIN. Many call it a bad habit, or a filthy habit, or a habit which they wish to quit, but it needs to be confessed to God for what it is: a

*(Continued from Page 1)*

help their kids learn the love of dance."

Oakwood Dance Studio classes are open to children ages 3-12 in ballet and jazz. Varner also offers toddler classes for children ages 2-3. To learn more about Oakwood Dance Studio, check them out on Facebook or call 419-438-5425.



**BROUGHTON, OH:**

**Sharon A. Dugan**, age 84, and **Charles H. Dugan**, age 87, passed away on Thursday, November 17, 2022 due to injuries sustained in a car accident in Fort Wayne, IN.

Sharon was born November 15, 1938 in Jackson Township, OH to the late Raymond and Avanelle (Howell) Tempel. Charles was born July 15, 1935 in East Palestine, OH to the late Charles and Mildred (Southerin) Dugan. Charles and Sharon were married on June 13, 1964.

Sharon and Charles are survived by their children: Linda Lee Pancoe, Spring Hill, FL; Charles Daniel (Donnette) Dugan, Briceton, OH; grandchildren: Daniel Dugan, Dustin Dugan, Brandy (Mike) Marks, and Leah Pancoe; five great grandchildren: Jewel, Jax, Addie, Hunter, and Benjamin; Sharon's brother, Bob (Donna) Tempel, Broughton, OH; Charles' brother, David Dugan, East Palestine, OH; Charles' sister, Deanna Dugan, Naples, FL.

They were also preceded in death by their daughter, Lynnette Dugan in 1978;

Sharon's brothers: Jack and Edwin Tempel; Charles' brother, Wayne Dugan.

Sharon and Charles were members of St. John Lutheran Church, Briceton. Sharon retired from Zeller Corp., Defiance, after 30 years. She also worked at Campbell Soup in Napoleon. Sharon loved keeping a neat and tidy home. Charles retired as a truck driver at Schwerman Trucking in 1996. He was a member of the National Rifle Association, Paulding Eagles #2405, and the Paulding County Fish and Game Club.

Funeral services and visitation for Charles and Sharon are currently pending. Burial will be in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding Township.

Memorial contributions may be made in Sharon and Charles' memory to: American Heart Association, P.O. Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284 or Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter, 8180 Greensboro Dr., Suite 400, McLean, VA 22102.

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

**HOW I OVERCAME THE VICIOUS CYCLE OF WORRY AND FEAR**

**By: Stan Popovich**

Do you ever get stuck in the vicious cycle of worry and fear in your life? As a published author of a managing fear book, I struggled with fear and anxiety for over 20 years.

Here is a brief summary of what I did to overcome the cycle of fear and anxiety in my life.

1. I got advice from the professionals: The first thing I did was to talk to various counselors since they know how to conquer fear and anxiety. Whenever I talked to the counselors, I would bring a notebook and take notes so I would not forget the advice that was given to me.

2. I became an expert on dealing with fear and anxiety: I did everything possible to learn as much as I could in removing my fears and anxieties in my life. I talked to professionals, read books, joined support groups, and learned from my experiences.

3. I surrounded myself with helpful people: I made it a habit of surrounding myself with supportive people who understood what I was going through. This really helped me out when I was really struggling with my anxieties and stresses.

4. I learned how to manage my fearful thoughts: The key in getting the edge off of your anxieties is by managing your fearful thinking. Whenever I would get a negative

To be continued!  
Send questions and comments to: [jamesbachman@juno.com](mailto:jamesbachman@juno.com)

**Scripture of the Week**

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

— Colossians 3:17

**MATT'S MISHAPS**

*"Serving overseas as a small-town boy in America has been intense, stressful and humorous! Enjoy a light-hearted story with me from our last 20 years overseas!"*

—Matt



Could you imagine our local officers driving little compact cars that can barely make it to the speed limit? Their symbol may be intimidating, but not the vehicles they drive.



**Saying much without words**

I was at the perfect age when a new TV station came to our area of Indiana in the 1980s. My favorite thing about the new station was their Saturday programming where they'd show two or three black and white movies in a row of the same type: "Monster Theater" (old Japanese movies with bad dubbing), Jungle Theater (old Tarzan movies) and my favorite, Western Theater. I loved brave lawmen with the prominent, star-shaped badge, who had to keep law and order in the rough and tough world of cowboys. Every time I look at the gold star of the Sheriff's Department, I get transported back to Western Theater on Saturdays.

We have lived overseas in a country where one branch of their law enforcement has never changed. Its name, uniforms, attitude and even symbols are the same that were

present when they had a fascist dictator and operated as his special military police. Today small rural towns are overseen by this branch of their police force. The symbol for this police force is the "fascist," a battle axe from Roman times that had logs wrapped around the long handle to create more force. It is little wonder that this country still struggles with tensions and divisions from their unresolved past.

Another country I regularly visit had a dictator during that same fascist era of the 1930s and 1940s. However, the symbol they have for their present day rural police force is an Edelweiss flower. A dramatic change from their dictatorship has taken place and it is a country that has largely come away with success from their dark years.

Small-town America can be thankful for our police forces. We have so many good symbols of proud American living around us.

Something similar ever happen to you? Contact me and let me hear your story! [mattsmishaps@gmail.com](mailto:mattsmishaps@gmail.com) Matt's Mishaps, PO BOX 114, Grabill, IN 46741

and fearful thought, I would challenge that thought with positive statements and realistic thinking. I also made it a habit to focus on the facts of my current situation and not on my negative thinking.

5. I was persistent: There were times I felt like giving up because my fears and anxieties were so powerful and I didn't know what to do. I worried about what would happen and that just made my fears that much stronger.

During those times, I would consult with a professional and I made it a point to learn from my experiences so that I would be better able to handle these situations in the fu-

ture.

6. I did not make excuses: With a lot of practice, I became very good at reducing my fears and anxieties. I realized that the answers to my problems were out there, however it was up to me to find those techniques that would get my life back on track. Making excuses would not improve my situation.

7. I realized that you can't predict the future: I realized that there are always factors and circumstances that I cannot predict or anticipate that could make a difference in my stressful and fearful situations. (A person may be 99%

*(Continued on Page 3)*

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—Hudson Taylor





**ONE POTATO**

**Penny For Your Thoughts**

**By: Nancy Whitaker**  
One potato, two potato, three potatoes, four. Remember playing that game? Also there was a game called Hot Potato. We can't forget Mr. Potato Head, a game I think is still around. Of course instead of playing games with the name of potato, I would rather just eat them. While talking at the beauty salon, a girl said she thought potatoes were a gift from God. She noted, "You can fix potatoes so many ways and they are used as snacks and can be eaten at almost every meal."

Derry, N.H.

My kids loved to eat raw potatoes and I like potatoes cooked many different ways. I especially like mashed potatoes. I remember my Mom and my grandma having a potato masher which had a wooden handle and a holey bottom. They would not only mash potatoes, they would take a big spoon and beat them adding lots of butter.

I did not know this but instant mashed potatoes came around in 1955. I don't think



I tried the instant until years later. Today, in addition to instant mashed, there are potatoes already mashed and all you have to do is microwave them. Those are tasty also.

Another tasty way to fix potatoes is to bake them and put out all sorts of toppings out to go on top for your family and friends. Sounds great!

Here are a few potato questions and I was surprised at some of these answers.

What fast-food chain introduced the baked potato to its menu in November of 1983? Wendy's

What fast-food restaurant features the potato product "Potato Ole"? Taco Johns

What month is traditionally designated as "Potato Lover's Month"? February

What are the names of the 4 potato head kids? Potato Puff, Lumpy, Dimples & Spud

What famous comedian gave Mr. Potato Head a voice in the movie "Toy Story"? Don Rickles

On what TV show does Elaine claim her fictitious boyfriend, Art Vandelay, imports potato chips? Seinfeld

What potato-related activity makes the Brady Bunch family happiest in the "Brady Bunch Movie"? Potato Sack Racing

I found this recipe in an old cookbook:

**POTATO CANDY**

Place potato in a small pot, cover with water, and boil until very tender. Add 4

cups powdered sugar and mix until blended (will be a sticky mess and this point). Lay down a large sheet of wax paper and sprinkle generously with powdered sugar. Spread some peanut butter evenly over candy.

I also have a question: Why do some people call potatoes "taters?" What is your favorite way to fix potatoes? Do you like new potatoes? Let me know and I'll give you a Penny for Your Thoughts!

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT WEST MILFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST**



On Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 10:30 a.m., the West Milford Church of Christ will be hosting a Christmas Concert.

Performing will be Gospel Artists, The Craguns. This will be during regular worship service and a special love offering will be taken.

The Craguns are a dynamic, family group, comprised of husband and wife, Jordan and Elena Cragun, Ray Cragun (Jordan's Father) and Savannah Cragun (Jordan's Sister).

Ray and Victoria Cragun were married on May 26,

1984 and shortly after saying I do, the couple entered full time ministry together when they accepted the call to pastor. They served together in this capacity for 25 years.

In 2013 God officially brought the Cragun family together again from different ministry positions, to embark on the musical journey of a lifetime!

Make plans to hear The Craguns in concert on December 11th at West Milford Church of Christ (4855 Casebeer Miller Rd, Hicksville, OH) at 10:30 a.m.!

*(Worry and Fear... Cont'd from Page 2)*

correct in predicting the future, but all it takes is that 1% to make a difference. The key is to focus on the present.

8. I made the choice to get better: You have to make the effort to find the answers to

*(Continued from Page 1)*

(USDA)'s Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Program. This is PPEC's first USDA loan to establish a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), which will help future community and business expansion efforts.

These initial zero-interest loans help local villages, cities, and nonprofit entities - they cannot go to for-profit companies.

"Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative is proud to help support local economic development and job creation efforts," said PPEC President and CEO George Carter. "This loan would not be possible without the USDA. We look forward to working with the

overcome your situation. It will not always be easy, but you can overcome the cycle of fear and worry with hard work and a willingness to learn from your everyday experiences. It is important not to give up.

Village of Ottoville as they further develop the industrial park and prepare for the next phase of attracting businesses and jobs to our region."

To learn more about economic development or other community programs the coop participates in, contact PPEC at 800-686-2357 or visit [www.ppec.coop/economic-development](http://www.ppec.coop/economic-development).

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

**WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 10/17/22**

The City of Woodburn Council Meeting Minutes for October 17, 2022. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Martin, Thompson, Gerig, and Watts. Chief Parker was not present. David Dominguez with Baker Tilly was also present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.  
Superintendent's Report: Nothing to report.

Mayor's Report: The mayor has confirmed the expectation of INDOT regarding the Stellar Sidewalk and Trail project that was discussed at the last meeting and is in general agreement. Councilman Watts moved to allow discussion on payment to INDOT for this project, which was tabled at the last meeting, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. The clerk-treasurer asks that if damages occur,

neither he nor his office are held responsible as a result of 'prepayment' that goes away in the future. He did confirm with the SBOA that this method will not result in an audit exception. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to approve, and immediately release, the check to INDOT in the amount of \$334,229.41 and to hold the clerk-treasurer harmless of unknown damages as a result of this payment, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the October 3rd meeting. After discussion, Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to accept the minutes from the October 3rd meeting as presented, second by Councilman Watts, all in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. The summer meters are almost all returned at this point and approximately \$5,000 was adjusted on resident sewer bills this year.

Councilmen's Report: Councilman Thompson explained that the fundraiser for the Santa Toy Patrol was a success, and

**The deadline for the West Bend News is THURSDAYS at 5pm for the following issue. Send your news, ads, and classifieds to [info@westbendnews.net](mailto:info@westbendnews.net) Call 419-258-2000 for information or printing quotes.**

**MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY**



**By: Mark Holtsberry**

Charles Alvin Riley was born in Dennison, Texas May 14, 1891. The son of Dr. Charles W. and Eva May (Dix) Riley. Charles W. Riley was born in New York July 22 1851. Eva May was born in Van Wert, Ohio, May 27, 1873. She was the daughter of Dr. Peres Alvin and Sarah Elizabeth Dix.

The couple was married in 1890. A daughter, Sadie, was born in 1895. By 1900, the family had moved to Cecil, Ohio from Texas. Little Charles was the only living child as their daughter, Sadie died February 4, 1899 and is buried in Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding.

On October 30, 1900, while visiting a patient in Cecil, Dr. Charles W. Riley was thrown from his buggy and hit his head, causing a concussion on the brain and never regained consciousness. He is buried with his daughter at Live Oak Cemetery. On October 13, 1906, Dr. Peres Alvin Dix passed away in Toledo, Ohio and is buried in Woodland Union Cemetery, Van Wert, Ohio.

Little Charles moved to Paulding and live at 106 Water Street. By 1910, Charles mother Eva, remarried a guy named Willis Deal, and lived on Water Street in Paulding. Willis was a real estate salesman.

By 1917, Charles joined the military and was stationed at Ft. Harrison, Indiana. On August 15, 1917, Charles was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. He was in charge of 2nd Truck Company, 308th Mechanical Supply Train and served with this unit until January 12, 1918.

Charles was promoted to 1st Lieutenant January 14, 1918, and then promoted to Captain on October 17, 1918 and in charge of Company B. 308th Supply Train to October 30, 1918. He was then placed with 2nd Department Motor Transportation Department until June 28, 1919. He served at Camp Sherman, Ohio and Camp Mills, New York.

After military life, Charles seemed to go out of sight. By 1920 he had moved to Oakland, California. On March 4, 1924, Charles grandmother, Sarah Elizabeth Dix passed away and is buried beside her husband Dr. Peres Dix in Van Wert.

On February 1, 1926, Willis Deal passed away in Michigan. By 1930 after Eva's husband Willis Deal died, she remarried again. William C. Timmis became her third husband.

On April 7, 1932, Charles Alvin Riley passed away from an accidental death in Oakland, California. His body was cremated and sent to Lagrange, Indiana to his mother, Eva. She brought the ashes back to Paulding, where services were held at the Crowell Funeral Home on Tuesday September 27, 1932. His remains were buried with his father and sister at Live Oak Cemetery. In May 1945, Eva passed away in Lagrange, Indiana. Her body was brought back to be buried with her husband and children in Live Oak Cemetery in Lot 14.

...Until Next Time!

that the Santa Toy Patrol event will take place on December 4th. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Tonya Thompson at 260-255-0075 with questions. Councilwoman Sarrazine inquired about a resident's concern for a zoning proposal. The mayor went over relevant details with the Council. Councilman Watts discussed the BF Goodrich contract proposal that was discussed at the Board of Works earlier this evening.

Audience: David went over details from the water study report that Baker

Tilly has prepared for the council's consideration. Proposals and changes were considered and the clerk-treasurer will implement these into an ordinance for future consideration.

Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilwoman Thompson all in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.

Go to [www.cityofwoodburn.org](http://www.cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

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**18th Annual Craft Show**  
Fairview Elementary School  
corner of US 127 & Blosser Rd., Sherwood, OH  
**Saturday, December 3, 9 am to 3 pm**  
\* Free Admission!  
\* Lunch Available!  
\* Hallway & Gym full of crafters & vendors!  
Sponsored by the Fairview Athletic Boosters  
"Like" Facebook - Fairview Athletic Booster Craft Show

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Great Selection of CHRISTMAS ITEMS  
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**LOBBY SALES**  
**DECEMBER**  
1<sup>ST</sup> Us Borne Books 9am-2pm  
6<sup>TH</sup> Origami Owl Jewelry 9am-3pm  
8<sup>TH</sup> Tastefully Simple 11am-12pm (delivery of prior orders & Place Orders)  
12<sup>TH</sup> Four Boys Chocolates 10am-2pm  
14<sup>TH</sup> Mary Keller Gifts 10am-2pm  
19<sup>TH</sup> Scentsy 9am-2pm  
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# PAULDING JH VISIT CAMP CLAY



Pictured from left to right: Annabell Martinez, Delaney Scott, Trevor Durham, Tyson Manz, Javvon Stlitner, Dianne Cooper and Ava Leatherman.

The Paulding Junior High seventh graders went on a field trip to Camp Clay in September with the financial support from the Cooper Family. The 100 students that attended the field trip enjoyed several outdoor activities planned by the staff of Camp Clay. The students participated in team building activities, canoeing, zip-lining, gaga ball, 9 square, and were able to eat Pizza Hut pizza, fruit, and ice cream.

The students were very excited to participate in all of the field trip events that were

planned for the students to enjoy. Some students were able to overcome their anxieties and participate in new and awesome physical activities that got them out of the typical classroom setting, which provided lots of laughs and memories for this great group of students. We are so thankful for the staff at Camp Clay and the Cooper Family Grant that allowed the students to break out of their normal daily routine, and enjoy the day with the company of their peers!

## HONOR FLIGHT NORTHEAST INDIANA TO ORGANIZE ALL PURPLE HEART HONOR FLIGHT

Honor Flight Northeast Indiana (HFNEI) will add a 5th flight in 2023 celebrating veterans who have received a Purple Heart medal. Recently selected as the 75th annual Penny Pitch recipient by WOWO radio, HFNEI proudly announced that the proceeds of this fundraiser will be dedicated to a flight in appreciation of this distinguished group of veterans.

Veterans who received the Purple Heart were wounded during their military service and for some, multiple times over. These veterans went above and beyond to defend and protect our country and our freedoms.

Honor Flight Northeast Indiana President Cathy Berkshire states, "We have 4 traditional Honor Flights planned for 2023; 2 in the spring and 2 in the fall for veterans on our ever growing waiting list. This special funding, separate from our normal gifts and donations, will allow us to add this extra 5th flight for our Purple Heart veterans. This flight will not displace any deserving veterans currently on the waiting list nor use donations designated for regular trips. We are thankful

to WOWO for selecting Honor Flight as their Penny Pitch recipient for 2023, and the generosity of their audience, allowing us to honor these extraordinary heroes!"

If you are a Purple Heart recipient veteran, have not previously flown on an Honor Flight and have not signed up - regardless of when you served, visit this website, [www.hfnei.org](http://www.hfnei.org) and apply today. In the notes of the application, identify you are a Purple Heart recipient and HFNEI will make contact for verification and add you to the list for the special flight. Honor Flight NEI will be taking the first 85 Purple Heart veterans that apply. If you are a veteran already on the waiting list and you are a Purple Heart recipient, please send an email to: [purpleheart@hfnei.org](mailto:purpleheart@hfnei.org) and they will update your application and add you to the list.

"The Honor Flight Network is enthusiastic to support this first-of-its-kind all Purple Heart veteran Honor Flight trip by Honor Flight Northeast Indiana," said Meredith Rosenbeck, Honor Flight Network CEO. "I share in the excitement of the Honor Flight Northeast Indiana team as they begin the planning process to provide these Purple Heart veterans with a unique opportunity to

share their stories with other Purple Heart veterans."

For more information about Honor Flight Northeast Indiana, their mission and flight information, visit [www.hfnei.org](http://www.hfnei.org).

## NORTHWEST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SET TO OPEN VAN WERT CAMPUS IN 2023

Northwest State Community College plans to open their first branch campus in the Van Wert/Paulding area. The new location is still under renovation but the College plans for local classes to start in 2023. The college is expanding to a 50,000 SF facility with enough office space for classrooms and industrial space for equipment. The college plans to have multiple new hires in the area.

Stage one of the new operations will include student services and offices for personnel. An academic Dean has been hired for the Van Wert campus, Dr. Jon Tomlinson. Teachers will be hired as needed and they will be full time and part time employees. This will be a full-service campus including admissions, advising, financial aid, and all other standard wrap-around student services such as tutoring and career assistance. Class offerings will include two-year associate degrees, short-term certificates, and skilled trade and apprenticeship opportunities.

The College investigated the metrics study of the Paulding and Van Wert area and determined the current Archbold campus was too far of a commute to fully serve the needs of area learners. Therefore, the search began over the past two years and the Kennedy building provided that ideal fit.

Jim Drewes, Vice President of Workforce Development of NSCC stated, "After a long search for the perfect location and building, 520 Sycamore with its 12,000 SF office space for classrooms and the 30,000 sf of industrial space for the equipment located just off downtown Van Wert was an ideal opportunity for the college." Dr. Tomlinson added "Northwest State is excited for the opportunity and looks forward to serving the area to improve the lives of individuals and strengthen the communities of Paulding and Van Wert counties."

Tim Echemann with Industrial Property Brokers commented, "the enthusiasm from the city of Van Wert for the new state college is very high. It was an amazing match being able to utilize the former historic Kennedy facility to bring a state college to the Van Wert and Paulding region. Hands-on technical training and education is the ideal match for local industry which desperately needs access to a well-trained workforce."

## MERCY HEALTH - TIFFIN HOSPITAL & DEFIANCE HOSPITAL NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED WITH 'A' FROM LEAPFROG HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADE

Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital and Mercy Health - Defiance Hospital each were awarded 'A' grades in The Leapfrog Group fall Hospital Safety Grade, a national distinction recognizing these hospitals' achievements providing safer health care.

Defiance Hospital earned an 'A' during the Spring 2022 safety grade, while Tiffin Hospital elevated its grade from a 'B' in spring to an 'A'.

"A top grade from The Leapfrog Group is a reflection of the commitment to quality care that our Mercy Health teams show every day to the patients in our communities. Coupled with the recent distinction of both hospitals being named among Modern Healthcare's Best Places to Work in Healthcare, these grades show that the physicians, nurses and entire staff at Mercy Health in Tiffin and Defiance are both proud of where the work and excel at the care they provide," said Bob Baxter, president, Mercy Health - Toledo. "I'm excited to celebrate our teams and am grateful to them for the outstanding work they do every day."

The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization with a 10-year history of assigning letter grades to general hospitals throughout the United States, based on a hospital's ability to prevent medical errors and harm to patients.

"There has been a lot to celebrate in Tiffin and I'm thrilled to see that the hard work being done by our entire team has been both nationally recognized and rewarded," said Andrew Morgan, president, Mercy Health Tiffin Hospital. "Our patients are at the heart of everything we do as a health care ministry, and Leapfrog's rating is proof of that commitment to delivering quality care in a safe, healing environment."

"This safety score reinforces that the care provided at Mercy Health - Defiance Hospital is among the top in the nation, and I thank our clinical providers and support staff for what they do every day to help our patients," said Sonya Selhorst, president, Mercy Health - Defiance Hospital. "I am proud of this team and look forward to continued recognition of the amazing care delivered to the Defiance community."

The Leapfrog group grading system is peer-reviewed, fully transparent, and free to the public. Hospital Safety Grade results are based on more than 30 national performance measures and are updated each fall and spring.

"I applaud the hospital leadership and workforce for their strong commitment to safety and transparency," said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "An 'A' Safety Grade is a sign that hospitals are continuously evaluating their performance, so that they can best protect patients. Your hospital team should be extremely proud of their dedication and achievement."

For more information or to access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit <http://www.hospitalsafetygrade.org/>.

In October, both hospitals also earned rankings among healthcare providers and insurers in Modern Healthcare's 2022 Best Places to Work award program. Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital was ranked number 50, which is up from the 2021 ranking of 60, and Mercy Health - Defiance Hospital made its debut on the Best Places to Work list at 75.

2022 is the fourth consecutive year that Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital was named on this Best Places to Work list.

# NEW HAVEN LIONS \$1000 DONATION TO NEW HAVEN FOOD BANK



PDG Don Cooper presents a check for \$1000.00 to Tom Kneller, Director of the New Haven Food Bank. On left are two volunteers at the food bank.

# NEW HAVEN LIONS DONATE \$250 TO WOWO PENNY PITCH



This year, Penny PITCH is giving the proceeds to Honor Flight, to send Veterans to Washington, DC to see the Veterans Wall and other sights along with a nice lunch. PRESENTING A CHECK for \$250.00 to WOWO Program Directors Mike Ragozino and Kayla BLAKESLEE are New Haven Lions, Bob and Susie Hudson.

## WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 11/7/22

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Thompson, and Gerig. Chief Parker and Council Members Martin and Watts were not present. Elyssa McGauley with Allen County Department of Planning Services was also present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.  
Superintendent's Report: Leaf pickup has been nonstop this week and the utility workers will get to every location as time allows. Due to the amount of leaves to pick up, the city asks residents to be patient as they move around the city.

Mayor's Report: The mayor mentioned that new banners have arrived and that new wreaths and bows should be ready to be picked up within the week. These are all to be placed on Main Street. The mayor explained that the annual hydrant fees are being questioned by both the Townships and the Fire Territory but that he will look further into this and determine a future course of action.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the October 17th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to accept the minutes from the October 17th meeting as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all present in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. The clerk-treasurer asked for the Council's permission to zero out previous customer balances on closed accounts that have not been known to maintain a current balance to collect. For those accounts with a known balance remaining, the office will continue to monitor should those individuals attempt to resume service at either the address in question or a different address within the service area of the city of Woodburn. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved as proposed, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor.

Councilmen's Report: A rezoning re-

quest was submitted through Allen County and has come for final approval at tonight's meeting in the form of Ordinance 22-1412 (Rezoning Request RE: 21801 Woodburn Road). After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to read Ordinance 22-1412 in full, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Councilman Gerig moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance 22-1412, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Baker Tilly has provided information for the City's consideration regarding water rates via Ordinance 22-1411 (Amend Water Rates). After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to read Ordinance 22-1411 by title only, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. Councilwoman Thompson moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance 22-1411, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. The Santa Toy Patrol event will take place on December 4th. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Tonya Thompson at 260-255-0075 with questions.

Audience: Elyssa passed the reasons to introduce and pass Resolution 22-268 (Authorize Allen County Economic Development Commission to Act on Behalf of City). After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to read Resolution 22-268 by title only, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Councilwoman Thompson moved to accept the first reading of Resolution 22-268, second by Councilman Gerig, all present in favor. Councilwoman Thompson moved to adopt Resolution 22-268 as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. Resolution 22-268 is ratified as presented. A resident came in to discuss the lights that are out on Main Street. The fixtures that are out currently have been on backorder for over 6 months at this point and because they are more complex, there is no reasonable replacement to the city's knowledge. The mayor will attempt to reach out to the company again later this week.

Councilwoman Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Go to [www.cityofwoodburn.org](http://www.cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

# 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

**DEC 8 - Monthly meeting @ 7pm; we will be nominating officers at this meeting.**

**DEC 17 - NRL22 Rifle Event: Registration @ 9am, Match begins @ 10am**

**• Annual memberships Now available for 2023! Join for the first time or renew your membership now! Annual memberships run from Jan 1 - Dec 31.**

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

Follow us on Facebook for the latest updates!

[WWW.ANTWERPCONSERVATIONCLUB.COM](http://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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**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Insane or stupid**  
Do you wish/pray America to remain a free people and world leader? Okay, but we can only succeed by returning to Christian faith filled morality and law working together. If we don't regain our senses, I believe you can expect China or Russia to gain control of America. The very best you can expect is to duplicate them.

It is not possible to survive under today's Marxist/communist Democrat Regime. We

have no White House leadership. They appear to be allowing anti-God, anti-America AOC and her female counterparts have too much of a say. They have no room for God. Democrats took God from education and are now working overtime to remove God from our military.

They've also heavily weaponized most government branches like the CIA, IRS, FBI, SMITHSONIAN and others. What do you think could happen once they feel they have secured total control? I picture them imitating Russia/China who both destroy those who are weak, sick, old or Christian. Death might be welcomed.

That isn't as far fetched as you may think. Stalin did it! Hitler did it! Mao did it! It's happening today and every time people have a mad leader. What makes you think it can't happen here? Look how fast America started falling the instant this ruthless Biden-Harris took control. Biden signed his name and thousands lost their jobs, things beneficial canceled plus gas, food, cost of living and everything shot up. What's to stop him or someone else from something worse?

You democrats need to forget what your anti-Christian saint Obama said about there being many ways to Heaven. I believe he said it only to mess up your thinking. Just remember, Obama followed his anti-Christian, anti-America pastor for twenty years before you made him our president. I didn't vote for him because I saw no that a Muslim could properly lead a Christian nation.

The Obama-Biden administration was an evil guided by Satan. I believe their goal was

to destroy Christian America with Biden being the perfect gullible puppet to carry on what I call "Obama's Destruction Plan." I believe today's Biden-Harris administration is doing just as Obama wants. In simple language, I don't feel they are worth a plug nickel.

This 2022 election told me things about Americans that give me great concern for America's future. It told me that Democrats don't know or don't want to know Jesus. How else can you explain voting in favor of murdering babies and driving God out of society. Are any of you deciding yourself by thinking you are a great Christian? You may wish to change the way you operate.

I will never understand how any Christian can vote for a Democrat knowing what they support which is anti-God or anti-American. Look at their sick list that follows: Murder babies, gay marriage, transgenderism, remove God from schools and military, close church but leave beer joints open, open southern border, massive China drug influx, shut down oil and coal, destruction of emergency oil reserve, bigger government, higher taxes and cost of living.

We were warned of this day many years ago. I can only describe them Insane or Stupid.

—Richard Mastin, Hicksville, OH

**ROUNDUP: FRIEND OR FOE**

Roundup or glyphosate (RR) is the most common agricultural herbicide used to kill broadleaf and grass weeds. In the USA, 280 million pounds of RR annually is used on about 298 million cropland acres. Worldwide, about 19 billion pounds RR (almost 10 million tons) have been applied since 1974. Roundup (RR) is a common generic name for glyphosate but it also called Rodeo, KleenUp, Accord, Imitator, Eraser, Pronto, Touchdown, Cornerstone, Buccaneer etc. The USA is the biggest user of RR in the world.

Since many crops have been genetically modified to tolerate RR, it is commonly used on corn, soybeans, canola, sugar beets, cotton, and alfalfa. But it is also used as a weed burndown or to terminate cover crops before crops are planted or emerge including wheat, oats, sunflowers etc. Glyphosate (RR) is used almost everywhere because it kills most weeds effectively and cheaply.

Over time, many weeds have become weeds resistant to RR because of over usage.

Weeds are very resilient and often mutate to find a way to survive. At least 41 weeds species are classified as RR resistant (18 in North America) including horseweed (marestail), ragweed (common and giant), pigweeds (Palmer, waterhemp), some lambsquarter, Johnson grass, ryegrass, etc. After nearly 50 years, the agricultural benefits of using RR to kill common weeds is decreasing.

Other problems are occurring with using RR especially due its ability to chelate or tie up minerals. RR is a chelator that binds most metal minerals with a 2+ chemistry valence. Iron, magnesium, manganese, zinc, copper, cobalt, and nickel are tied up and have reduced plant availability due to RR chelation. RR crops sprayed with glyphosate generally have lower concentrations of these minerals in the food we eat or a lower nutrient density. All these nutrients are important plant, animal, and human minerals needed for our survival and existence. All crops, even organic crops and food, has some RR in them due to wind, water or soil runoff.

Roundup or glyphosate (RR) was always considered safe for humans. RR kills plants by tying up minerals that activate and produce certain key amino acids in the shikimate pathway. Since humans do not have this pathway, RR was considered safe. That is until we learned that RR hurts our gut microbes (bacteria) which are very similar to plants which do have this pathway. The microbes in our gut synthesize many important amino acids, proteins, and enzymes. Even though humans are not directly affected by RR, indirectly the gut microbes are hurt and this may disrupt human health slowly hurting us over time.

The link to possible human health concerns with RR is quite long. Human diseases like Alzheimers, autism, diabetes, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, kidney and liver disease, obesity, pancreatic cancer and thyroid cancer have all been correlated to increased RR exposure. Important note, "Correlation does not equal Causation!" meaning that it has not been absolutely proven. A common saying, "Where there is smoke there is fire." Right now, we see a lot smoke but the actual

**PAULDING FFA AQUARIUM TEAM PLACES 2<sup>nd</sup> AT STATE TO EARN A BANNER!**



The Paulding FFA Aquarium places 2nd at state the team was made up of left to right Tyler Schlatter, Carter Manz, Clayton Manz and Jamy Hunt.

**By: Caydence Rue, Paulding FFA Reporter**

On November 8th, the Aquarium Management team consisting of Carter Manz, Jamy Hunt, Clayton Manz, and Tyler Schlatter competed at the Ohio State Fairgrounds in the State Aquarium CDE. The members had to identify different types of freshwater and saltwater fish, aquarium equipment, take a written test, and complete practicums on aquarium care. This year's practicums included bagging fish and aquarium cleaning.

The team placed 2nd in the state of Ohio, earning them a banner for the second year in a row. The top placer was Carter Manz scoring 1st out of 78 individuals. He will get to walk across the stage at the Ohio FFA State Convention this year, this is the second year in a row that Carter has placed 1st in this contest. Jamy Hunt 9th in the contest and she will receive a state plaque at the Ohio FFA State Convention. The Paulding FFA would like to congratulate this team for their hard work and achievements.

flames are much harder to observe at this time. However, mathematicians can statistically look at all these possible correlations with a possible biological link to human health and the statistics are grim. There's about 1 chance in 100,000 that there is not some detrimental health effect linked to RR usage.

Roundup and glyphosate (RR) have been around for a long time and will probably continue to be used by farmers. Up until now, there were not many good substitutes for killing weeds. However, new ways of killing weeds are becoming available. New herbicides like Reviton and Harpe (an organic herbicide) are now coming on the market. Planting cover crops suppresses weeds along with crimper crop rollers (mechanical weed control). New robotic electrical weed zappers along with propane and targeted flame throwers can also control small weeds between the rows.

Other herbicides like Liberty (glufosinate, more expen-

sive) and Gramoxone (paraquat, corrosive desiccant) can also be used to burndown weeds in place of RR. Sharpen or Verdict (saflufenacil) is a popular choice to minimize RR usage. Lumax or Lexar (atrazine + metolachlor (Dual II Magnum + mesotrione (Callisto)) can be used to control dandelions and most winter annuals. Dicamba (Banvel) + 2,4-D controls broadleaf weeds as an early burndown but famers may need to wait a period of time before planting. Dicamba + Atrazine and some older herbicide chemistry can be used to minimize RR usage. Always read and follow the herbicide label. Although generally a little more expensive, farmers have some herbicide alternatives to reducing or eliminating glyphosate (RR) usage. Your gut microbes and your long-term health may thank you!

—James J. Hoorman, Hoorman Soil Health Services

**READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

**OHIO LOCATIONS**

**Antwerp:** Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows

**Bryan:** Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General

**Cecil:** 127 Maramart

**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

**Edgerton:** Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)

**Grover Hill:** N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library

**Hicksville:** Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center

**Ney:** Marathon

**Oakleaf:** Oakwood 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, Kwik Mart, Library

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

**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

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

**Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar Exchange, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank

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

**Milan Center:** Milan Center Feed & Grain

**Monroeville:** Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, The Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General

**New Haven:** ACP Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, McDonalds, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's

**Woodburn:** Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACP Library

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# SCHROEDER MAKES 1000<sup>TH</sup> POINT!



Kenzie Schroeder scored her 1000th point on November 21st against Woodlan. Photo by Sarah Harris



Pictured here is Kenzie with fellow Hicksville 1000 point scorers Chelsey Taylor, Melissa (Headley) Stork, and Melissa (Jones) Smith.

On November 21<sup>st</sup>, the Woodlan Lady Warriors crossed the border into Aces territory to play Hicksville in high school girls basketball.

The JV started the evening with the Lady Warriors pacing the court action leading the Aces for the duration of the game.

Score by the Quarter:  
Hicksville - 6 6 1 2 = 15  
Woodlan - 10 7 8 5 = 30  
Aces Leading Scorers:

Porter 6, Sanders 4  
Moving to the Varsity game, the same Warrior momentum continued as Woodlan kept the upper hand on the scoreboard each quarter, awarding the Lady Warriors the win over Hicksville.

Score by the Quarter:  
Hicksville - 13 17 7 14 = 51  
Woodlan - 16 18 8 22 = 64  
Top Scorers:  
Hicksville - Schroeder 28, Adams 10, Perna 5, Neidhardt

5, Bergman 3  
Woodlan - T Kneubuhler 20, B Kneubuhler 16, Smith 15, Roney 5, Goheen 3, Klopfenstein 3, Wiedenhoffer 2.

## WAYNE TRACE BOYS BASKETBALL 2022/23 PRESEASON INFORMATION

### GENERAL TEAM INFORMATION

School: Wayne Trace  
Nickname: Raiders  
Last Year's Record: 22-3  
Division: III  
Green Meadows Conference Record: 7-0  
Tournament Results: Lost in District Final to Ottawa Glandorf

### COACHING INFORMATION

Head Coach: Jim Linder  
School Phone: 419-399-4100  
Email: linderj@waynetrace.org

Years Coaching: 34  
Years as Head Coach: Entering 15th  
Current Record at School as Head Coach: 233-107

### 2022-2023 TEAM INFORMATION

Letterman Lost To Graduation

Cameron Sinn: PPG 10.0; RPG 3.3; 59 assists, 52 steals, 49 3-pt FG

Trevor Sinn: PPG 7.7; RPG 1.3; 54 assists, 36 steals, 38 3-pt FG

Cameron Graham: PPG 5.8; RPG 3.9; 26 assists, 28 steals

### Returning Letterman

Brooks Laukhuf (Jr.), 6'0", Guard; 16 ppg, 69 assists, 62 steals, 53 3ptFG

Kyle Stoller (Jr.), 6'2", Forward; 14.2 ppg, 7.4 rpg, 57 assists, 47 steals

Tyler Davis (Sr.), 6'4", Forward; 4.5 ppg, 4.4 rpg, 26 steals

Hudson Myers (Jr.), 6'2", Guard/Forward; 1.9 ppg, 1.2 rpg, 21 steals

### Top Prospects/Newcomers

Tanner Laukhuf (Fr.), 5'10", Guard

Cale Winans (Jr.), 5'10", Guard

Kyle Forrer (Jr.), 5'11", Forward

Brady Miller (So.), 5'9", Guard

Tyson Gerber (So.), 5'10", Guard

Caden Sinn (Fr.), 6'0", Forward

# OH REPS RIEDEL & HOOPS RECOGNIZE ATHLETIC ACHIEVEMENTS AT WT & OG



(l-r) State Representative Jim Hoops (District 81), Alexa Fortman, Rachel Stoller, Kiara Bahena, Gracie Shepherd, Sydnee Sinn and State Representative Craig S. Riedel (District 82).

State Representative Craig Riedel and State Representative Jim Hoops recognized four young women from their districts for state championship achievements recently. The girls were awarded House Resolutions Wednesday, November 16, 2022 and were also recognized during session in front of the entire 134th Ohio

General Assembly.

"It was an honor to recognize Sydnee Sinn, Kiara Bahena, Rachel Stoller and Gracie Shepherd from Wayne Trace High School on their Division IV women's 4X400 relay state championship win. Sydnee was also able to independently win the state championship for the Division IV

women's 400 meter dash. I was also fortunate enough to assist Representative Jim Hoops in recognizing Alexa Fortman from Ottawa Glandorf High School in winning the Division III state championships for the women's 400 and 800 meter dashes," stated OH Rep. Craig Riedel.

Carter Clemens (Fr.), 6'2", Forward

### Strengths for the Season

We have some key players back both at guard and forward so that gives us some stability on both ends of the floor. Developing players around that will be a key and how some of our younger players develop at the varsity level will be an area to watch. We will count on our upperclassmen to provide quality leadership.

### Concerns for the Season

We will need to work on developing depth on both ends of the floor. While we have some very quality players back, we are also going to have a lot of players that have not played extensively at the varsity level this year. How those players adapt to the varsity level is going to be a key for us and we are going to need our role players to step up and adjust.

### Conference Outlook

The league race should be very interesting this year. I don't know that there is a dominant favorite in the league but there are going to be some quality teams as well. Any team is going to be capable of beating another on a given night and we are going to have to be ready to play for each conference game.

### Overall Outlook

We want to get better each day, each week and each game. We have some experience back but we also have to get some quality time from some new faces. Developing the chemistry with those two groups is going to be a key for us. We also need to continue to learn the game and as well as learning and accepting each individual's roles.

2022-2023 Schedule (All games with \* are GMC games)

Friday, November 25: vs. Columbus Grove, 6:00

Saturday, November 26: vs. Parkway, 6:00

Friday, December 2: at Bryan, 6:00

Friday, December 9: at Liberty Center, 6:00

Saturday, December 10: vs. Lincolnview, 6:00

\*Friday, December 16: vs. Ayersville, 6:00

Saturday, December 17: vs. Van Wert, 6:00

Friday, December 23: at

Arlington, 6:00

Monday, December 26: vs. Woodlan (IN), 6:00

\*Friday, January 6: at Hicksville, 6:00

Saturday, January 7: at Delphos Jefferson, 6:00

\*Friday, January 13: vs. Tinora, 6:00

Saturday, January 14: vs. Crestview, 6:00

\*Friday, January 20: at Antwerp, 6:00

Saturday, January 21: at Miller City, 6:00

\*Friday, January 27: vs. Edgerton, 6:00

Saturday, January 28: at Kalida, 6:00

\*Friday, February 3: at Fairview, 6:00

Saturday, February 4: vs. Tiffin Columbian at Ottawa Glandorf, 3:15

\*Friday, February 10: at Paulding, 6:00

Saturday, February 11: vs. Lima Shawnee, 6:00

Friday, February 17: vs. Ottoville, 6:00

## LADY WARRIORS GET NON-LEAGUE WIN OVER LIONS

LEO - In a battle of Allen County high schools and East Allen County School districts, it was visiting Woodlan that held on for a 59-54 victory over Leo Friday night in girls basketball action.

Brooke Kneubuhler led the way for Woodlan with 15

points while Taylor Kneubuhler chipped in 13 for the Lady Warriors. Avah Smith also reached twin digits with a dozen markers.

Briana Roney also had nine points for the Warriors followed by Addie Goheen (six) and Kaitlyn Crosby (two).

Smith topped Woodlan with six rebounds and two steals while Taylor Kneubuhler picked up five rebounds and dished out five assists.

Gabi Klopfenstein also had four boards for the Lady Warriors and Roney contributed three rebounds and four assists. Goheen also totaled three rebounds and five assists with Klopfenstein picking up two steals.

Woodlan returns to action for a non-league battle on November when Eastside visits the Warriors before Adams Central travels to Woodburn for an ACAC battle.



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# ARCHER HISTORIC SEASON COMES TO AN END



Linebackers Xander Smith, Archer #51, and Derek Hines fend off some Thunderbirds as Carson Altimus gets ready to throw a pass. More pictures at westbendnews.net



Antwerp Archers are 2022 Division VII Region 26 Regional Runners-up! Isn't it GREAT to be an Archer?! More pictures at westbendnews.net



At some points in the game, it was near whiteout conditions on the field and in the stands. More pictures at westbendnews.net

**FINDLAY** – A tremendous season by the Antwerp football team came to an end Saturday night at Donnell Stadium in Findlay as Lima Central Catholic posted a 43-7 victory over the Archers in the Division VII, Region 26, championship game.

It was a case of the Thunderbirds dominating the night on the ground, racking up 367 yards overall in rolling to the win.

Lima Central Catholic jumped in front 14-0 at the end of one period, getting a pair of touchdowns from Gabe Cira on runs of five yards and 11 yards.

The Thunderbirds expanded the margin to 27-0 at the intermission after a ten-yard plunge for a score from Carson Parker before the LCC signal-caller added a 20-yard scramble for a touchdown.

In the third quarter, the T-Birds pushed the game into the running clock with another 20-yard touchdown run by Parker that widened the LCC lead to 36-0.

Payne Cutlip then provided the final Thunderbird touchdown with a five-yard scott to make it 43-0 in favor of the T-Birds.

Antwerp broke up the shutout in the final period as

Carson Altimus hooked up with Landon Brewer on a 31-yard scoring strike to set the final at 43-7.

The Thunderbirds ended the night with 417 yards of total offense in all as Lima Central Catholic improved to 10-4 on the season.

Antwerp wrapped up its historic season with a record of 13-1, recording the most wins in school history and the first Green Meadows Conference championship in school history. Seniors Parker Moore and Kedric Robinson concluded their Archer football careers in the loss as each played in their final game.

## McMICHAEL LEADS ARCHERS PAST BOMBERS

**ANTWERP** – Aewyn McMichael scored 21 points to lead the Antwerp Lady Archers to a 56-23 victory over Edon Monday evening in non-league girls basketball action.

The Lady Archers jumped out to an 18-4 lead at the end of one period and widened the margin to 27-6 at the intermission in route to the victory. Antwerp held a 44-10 advantage entering the final

period. Hayleigh Jewell and Emma Townley also reached twin digits for Antwerp with 15 and 10 points, respectively.

Caroline Rohrs (six), Lydia Krouse (two) and Katryna Fish (two) completed the scoring for the Lady Archers.

Grace Ripke and Addison Briner paced the way for Edon with five points apiece while Meghan Derck and Natalie Wofford both scored four.

Other scorers for the Lady Blue Bombers included Jaycea Craven (three), Maddie

Gearig (one) and Genna Ripke (one).

## LADY RAIDERS OPEN SEASON WITH HOME WIN

**By: Joe Shouse, Sports Writer**

**HAVILAND** - Just prior to Thanksgiving break the Lady Raiders tipped off their basketball season with a home game. Last Tuesday the red, white, and blue hosted non-conference foe Defiance on the hardwood and defeated the Lady Bulldogs in a low

scoring affair 36-31.

In the early season show-down shooting was a main concern for both teams. From the two-point area the Raiders shot 32 percent hitting on 13 of their 41 attempts. Behind the arc the shooting woes continued for Wayne Trace hitting just one trey on 16 attempts. From the floor the winners shot 25 percent. At the foul line Wayne Trace was good on seven of 20 tries for 35 percent.

Defiance, who falls to 0-2 on the young season fared not much better in the shooting department. From the field the blue and white shot 14-40 for 35 percent while hitting just one of 11 attempts at the charity stripe.

Scoring for the Raiders and leading the offense was Gracie Shepherd who finished the night with a double-double. The senior scored 19 points while recording 13 rebounds in a solid opening season effort. Rounding out the scoring with four points was Lexi Moore who also grabbed 11 boards. Careen and Caroline Winans each finished with three points each while Harper Myers and Ava Zartman added two points apiece. Carene Winans added seven rebounds and four steals.

The Raiders led 9-7 at the end of the opening eight minutes of play and increased it to 19-14 at the break. In the third frame Defiance made a dent in the score to trail by just a single point 23-22 heading into the final stanza. Wayne Trace enjoyed a slight lead throughout the closing minutes and managed to outscore their opponent 13-9 to secure the five-point win.

Wayne Trace played well off the boards with 43 rebounds while the Bulldogs hauled in 30. For an opening game, turnovers were high with the Raiders recording 15 and the Bulldogs adding 26 miscues. Defensively the Raiders were productive with 17 steals.

Defiance was led in scoring by the 14 points from Mira Horvath followed by Elizabeth Hoffman five, Alexa Garcia four, Kendallne Kroeckel three, Caroline McDonald three and Kinley Maynard two.

## VW COUGARS SLIP PAST BIG GREEN SLIPS

Last Friday night, the Van Wert Lady Cougars hosted Ottoville Big Green in high school girls basketball.

In the JV game, Big Green edged past the Lady Cougars, 32-26.

In Varsity, the Lady Cougars battled on the court for hoops with Big Green. The 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter shot action took Van Wert to the end earning them the win for the game, 51-44.

Score by the Quarter:  
Van Wert – 12 10 14 15 = 51  
Ottoville – 9 14 6 15 = 44  
Scorers of the Game:  
Van Wert – Houg 19, Welch 15, Bagley 5, Shaufelberger 4, Blythe 4, Jones 2, Wise 2  
Ottoville – Kramer 15, Thorbahn 8, S Turnwald 8, B Turnwald 5, Furley 3, P Turnwald 3, Burgel 2

## USDA ANNOUNCES ACTION TO DECLARE SALMONELLA AN ADULTERANT IN BREADED STUFFED RAW CHICKEN PRODUCTS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) is announcing that it will be declaring Salmonella an adulterant in breaded and stuffed raw chicken products.

"Food safety is at the heart of everything FSIS does," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "That mission will guide us as this important first step launches a broader initiative to reduce Salmonella illnesses associated with poultry in the U.S."

By declaring Salmonella an adulterant in these products, FSIS will be able to ensure that highly contaminated products that could make people sick are not sold to consumers. Since 1998, breaded and stuffed raw chicken products have been associated with up to 14 outbreaks and approximately 200 illnesses. Products in this category are found in the freezer section and include some chicken cordon bleu or chicken Kiev products. These products appear cooked, but they are heat-treated only to set the batter or breading and the product contains raw poultry. Continual efforts to improve the product labeling have not been effective at reducing consumer illnesses.

Breaded and stuffed raw chicken products will be considered adulterated when they exceed a very low level of Salmonella contamination and would be subject to regulatory action. FSIS will be proposing to set the limit at 1 colony forming unit (CFU) of Salmonella per gram for these products, a level that the agency believes will significantly reduce the risk of illness from consuming these products. The agency will

also seek comment on whether a different standard for adulteration – such as zero tolerance or one based on specific serotypes – would be more appropriate.

The notice is expected to publish in the Federal Register in the fall and FSIS will be seeking public comments that address what the standard should be as well as to inform a final implementation plan, including a verification testing program. Once published, the notice will be posted in FSIS' Federal Register & Rulemaking page for review and comment. When the proposal is finalized, FSIS will announce its final implementation plans and the date it will begin routine testing for Salmonella in these products.

This action is part of FSIS' broader efforts to reduce Salmonella illnesses associated with poultry. In October 2021, USDA announced it was reevaluating its strategy for controlling Salmonella in poultry, including whether Salmonella should be considered an adulterant in specific raw poultry products. Since launching this effort, USDA has been focusing on gathering information by meeting with stakeholders to hear their ideas, asking for recommendations from food safety experts, and soliciting ideas for pilot projects from industry to test drive different control strategies in poultry establishments. USDA plans to present a proposed framework for a new comprehensive strategy to reduce Salmonella illnesses attributable to poultry in October and convene a public meeting to discuss it in November.

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 safe, 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](http://www.usda.gov).



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# THE LEFT TURN



Kody Sawson in USAC Silver Crown action. Photo Credit: Linda Mansfield.

By: Ron Burt

Several area Dirt Late Model fans made the trip last week to Gaffney South Carolina for the Blue/Gray 100 at the famous Cherokee Speedway (The track your mama warned you about)! The track has links on their web page to watch all the races for free. The fans that messaged me said it was worth the trip for them. The car counts were big, and the races were competitive in every class. The big payday went to "Smokey" Chris Madden winning his 8th Blue/Gray 100 and picking up \$12,000.00 for his effort.

We have about 50 days until the biggest indoor racing event of the year. The Chili Bowl Nationals will be held January 9th-14th 2023, at the Tulsa Convention Center. This is the winter crown jewel for Midget racing. It started in 1987 by Racing Hall of Famers, Lanny Edwards, and Emmett Hahn. If you've never been, drivers competing in this Midget event come from all types of racing. NASCAR, USAC, World of Outlaws and other sanctions. I will keep you updated as we get closer.

Local Dirt Late Model drivers and racing fans already have their eyes on the Indiana Icebreaker set for March 18th at Brownstown Speedway. The race pays \$15,000.00 to win. Brownstown is an hour south of Indy.

Asphalt Super Late Model fans if you're planning your Speedweek vacation to the Sunshine State, New Smyrna Speedway has announced their schedule. January 7th they will open with the Super Late Model Red Eye 50/50. February 10th will be the World Series opening night and the series will run through February 14th featuring several classes, but the Super Late Models will be the featured class on this historic half mile oval. After the World

Series the track stays open, featuring more nights of racing with the John Blewett III Memorial 76 on 2/15/23, the Richie Evans Memorial 100 on 2/17/23 and the Orange Blossom 100 on 2/18/23 to close out the two weeks. If you can't make the Florida trip, no worries because all of these races are normally on the racing channels or live streamed by the track with pay for view.

Indianapolis Raceway Park has announced the 70th Anniversary of the Hoosier Hundred will take place Sunday, April 23rd. Tickets are already on sale. The USAC Silver Crown Cars will be running 100 miles on this famous oval, featuring some of the biggest names in open wheel racing.

I can be reached at [ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com](mailto:ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com) or on [www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz](http://www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz) I have Facebook live high school football playoff and basketball scores every Friday and Saturday night from over 15 conferences. Ron out!

## ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS



11/6 - Officers were called for a domestic dispute on Woodcox St. One individual was arrested and both charged with domestic violence.

11/7 - After an investigation, it was determined a resident of 406 E. River St. had purchased a hand gun and provided it to a 19 year old male. That case was referred

to PC prosecutor's office.

11/10 - Officer provided traffic control while light was repaired.

11/10 - A semi driver struck the yellow pillar at Main and Canal Streets. An accident report was prepared.

11/11 - While patrolling, an officer observed a residence on Woodcox St. was in violation of the village junk ordinance. The resident was given a notice to clean up the property.

11/15 - An officer was called in reference to an individual that appeared to be intoxicated who was standing in the parking lot urinating on the ground. The individual was assisted in getting to his residence and cited for public indecency.

11/16 - An officer was called to Diamond Dr. in reference to unlocking a vehicle.

11/18 - An officer was called to a business on S. Main St. in reference to a person seen entering the business then leaving. The officer investigated and found it to be a person contracted to do maintenance. The individual doing maintenance simply went to the wrong building.

11/19 - An officer assisted the Antwerp football team by escorting them through the village.

11/19 - An individual at 406 W. River St. was cited for wrongful entrustment.

11/19 - A resident on E. Canal St. was warned in reference to open burning.

11/19 - A resident of 406 W. River St. was stopped and cited for driving under suspension, in addition to having a warrant with no bond that had been issued from Defiance County. The individual was cited, arrested and the vehicle towed.

11/20 - A theft was reported at Dollar General. The suspect was not identified and the case is under investigation.

11/20 - An officer assisted the Antwerp EMS at a residence on W. River St.

11/20 A resident called and said that his daughter was at her school spreading rumors about him. He had given his daughter a cell phone and provided service and she told him if he did not allow her to get on Instagram it would get worse. Officer explained, as a parent, he should just take the phone back.

11/20 - An officer was called in reference to a medical life line that went off. The officer responded to the resident and they were found to be okay.

If you would like to report any suspicious activity or if you have any questions, please contact the Antwerp Police Department, 419-258-2627. They are always ready to serve the residents of the Village of Antwerp!

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## FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

State Wildlife Officer Matt Teders, assigned to Madison County, received a Turn-In-A-Poacher (TIP) report of individuals cast netting within 1,000 feet of a posted dam at Deer Creek Spillway. Officer Teders observed three individuals netting near the dam. He contacted them to check for fishing licenses and bag limit compliance. Upon inspection of their bucket, 34 game

fish were observed, including bass, catfish, crappie, and bluegill. Officer Teders issued three summonses for taking game fish using a cast net. Reports of wildlife violations can be submitted anonymously via the TIP hotline at 1-800-POACHER (1-800-762-2437).

State Wildlife Officer Brian Motsinger, assigned to Union County, recently took the Division of Wildlife's archery trailer to a community event to teach shooting skills. It was well received, and both adults and children lined up throughout the event to participate. When asked why he allows such a diverse age range to shoot, Officer Motsinger stated that it may be someone's only chance to experience archery and it may be enough to spark an interest in the sport. Everyone who visited with Officer Motsinger walked away with a great experience and a story to share with their friends.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

Over the summer, State Wildlife Officer Matt Smith, assigned to Henry County, and Lake Erie Wildlife Investigator Brian Bury worked together at Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area. The two officers noticed that a large amount of trash had been discarded in the area and focused on litter enforcement. During that day, the two officers issued four summonses for litter and fishing without a license.

The Ohio Landowner-Hunter Access Partnership (OLHAP) helps Ohio hunters get access to private properties around the state. State Wildlife Officer Nathan Robinson, assigned to Van Wert County, has been an advocate for this program and has helped enroll multiple properties around his assigned county. This program is funded in part by the federal Farm Bill and is a great way to give hunters opportunities, especially in areas with limited public land. Anyone wishing to access an OLHAP property is required to first obtain a free daily OLHAP permit. To find out more or to get an access permit visit [wildohio.gov](http://wildohio.gov).

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Officer Nick Turner, assigned to Harrison County, recently received a tip about a white-tailed deer shot from the road. Officer Turner was fa-

miliar with the names that were reported, so he visited a residence to investigate the complaint. He determined that multiple deer had been poached. Two individuals received a combined seven summonses, resulting in \$800 in fines with additional court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Aaron Brown, assigned to Wayne County, received an anonymous tip regarding an individual who had killed three white-tailed deer bucks in one season. Officer Brown found that none of the three deer had proper tags accompanying them and none had been checked in the Ohio Game Check System. Moreover, the individual was hunting as a landowner-tenant but did not qualify as one. The individual was issued summonses for failure to game check a deer, taking over the limit of antlered deer, failure to acquire a hunting license, and possession of untagged deer. The individual was convicted in Wayne County Municipal Court and received \$534 in fines and court costs, probation for one year, a one-year hunting license revocation, and \$1,500 in restitution.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

State Wildlife Officer Ryan Donnelly, assigned to Athens County, was traveling home one evening when he noticed traffic in front of him slowing down to go around something in the road. When he got closer, he identified a red-tailed hawk that appeared to have been hit by a car. Officer Donnelly captured the bird and put it in his carrier to get it off the

busy road. He stopped at a nearby wildlife area to assess the bird's condition. When he opened the carrier, the bird flew away unharmed.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

In November, State Wildlife Officer Gus Kiebel, assigned to Adams County, received a phone call from a non-resident landowner who reported having killed two wild turkeys with one shot from his crossbow. Officer Kiebel and Wildlife Officer Supervisor David Warner met with the caller to work through the situation. Upon inspection of the kill site, the officers found a corn pile and cut turkey feathers on the pile. The hunter advised that the turkeys were standing on the corn pile when he shot. The officers issued him a summons for taking turkeys over a baited area. Both birds were seized as evidence.

State Wildlife Officers Brad Buening, assigned to Mercer County, and Houston Wireman, assigned to Shelby County, recently attended the Big Traders Days swap meet in Ft. Recovery (Mercer County). The annual four-day event brings in as many as 4,000 people. Vendors offer firearms, hunting dogs, knives, and many other items. Wildlife officers walked around the grounds, where they spoke to attendees and answered questions regarding the sale of wild animal parts. The event is held by the Ohio Progressive Sportsman Club. The club has donated thousands of dollars of their proceeds to local charities and entities in Mercer County.

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**OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL HONORS LAUX & SMITH**



**Tucker L. Laux**

Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper Tucker L. Laux has been selected the 2022 Trooper of the Year at the Van Wert Post.

The selection of Trooper Laux, 27, is in recognition of outstanding service during 2022. Fellow officers stationed at the Van Wert post, chose Trooper Laux based on his leadership abilities, professional ethics, courteous treatment of others, enthusiastic work attitude, and cooperation with supervisors, peers, and the public.

Trooper Laux joined the Highway Patrol in 2018 as a member of the 165th Academy Class. Originally from Celina, Ohio and a graduate of



**Arin M. Smith**

Celina High School, Trooper Laux served in the United States Coast Guard and attended Wright State University. Laux has also been awarded the Patrol's physical fitness, safe driving, and criminal patrol awards.

Trooper Laux and his family reside in Mercer County.

Radio Dispatcher Arin M. Smith has been selected the 2022 Dispatcher of the Year at the Van Wert Dispatch Center. Smith joined the Highway Patrol in 2021. She is a graduate of Van Wert High School.

Smith, 25, was honored in recognition of her outstanding service over the past year. Supervision and dispatchers chose Smith based on her technical job knowledge and ability, enthusiastic work attitude, teamwork, and prompt and courteous response to the public's request for information and assistance.

Smith resides in Van Wert County.

Both Laux and Smith are in contention for district and state honors as Trooper of the Year and Dispatcher of the Year. Those honors will be announced at a later date.

**SWANTON POST ANNOUNCES TROOPER OF THE YEAR**

Ohio State Highway Patrol



**Mitchell F. Ross**

Trooper Mitch F. Ross has been selected as the 2022 Trooper of the Year for the Swanton Post.

The selection of Trooper Ross, 32, is in recognition of outstanding service during 2022 at the Swanton Post. Trooper Ross was selected for this honor by his fellow officers and leadership team to represent the Swanton Post. The selection was based on his leadership abilities, professional ethics, enthusiastic work attitude and courteous treatment of others.

Trooper Ross joined the Ohio State Highway Patrol in 2017 as a member of the 161st Academy Class and was assigned the Swanton Post. He is originally from Delaware, Ohio, and graduated from Buckeye Valley High School in 2009. Trooper Ross also earned his bachelor's degree in 2013 from The Ohio State University. He was named Swanton Post Trooper of the Year in 2020, and is a recipient of the Patrol's Physical Fitness and Safe Driving awards.

**DEFIANCE POST AWARDS TROOPER OF THE YEAR**



**Tyler J. Blankemeyer**

Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper Tyler J. Blankemeyer has been selected as the 2022 Trooper of the Year for the Defiance Post.

The selection of Trooper Blankemeyer, age 26, is in recognition of outstanding service during 2022 at the Defiance Post.

Fellow officers assigned to the Defiance Post and dispatchers assigned to the Van Wert Post, chose Trooper Blankemeyer based upon leadership abilities, professional ethics, courteous treatment of others, enthusiastic work attitude, and cooperation with supervisors, peers and the public alike. This is now the third year in a row Trooper Blankemeyer has been selected for this recognition.

Trooper Blankemeyer joined the Ohio State Highway Patrol in 2019 and has served at the Defiance Post since then. He is originally from Pandora, Ohio and is a graduate of Fort Jennings High School. Some other Highway Patrol Awards received in the past include: Defiance Post Trooper of the Year in 2020, Defiance Post Trooper of the Year in 2021, Criminal Patrol Award in 2021, Ohio State Highway Patrol Heath and Physical Fitness Ribbon with Star, and Safe Driving Ribbon award for over three years of safe driving.

**OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL HONORS RADIO DISPATCHER TYREE**

Ohio State Highway Patrol Dispatcher Ashlee Tyree has been selected as the 2022 Dispatcher of the Year at the Findlay Dispatch Center. Dispatcher Tyree has also been selected as the 2022 Dis-



**Ashlee Tyree**

patcher of the year for the Findlay District.

Tyree, 37, was honored in recognition of outstanding service of the past year at the Findlay Dispatch Center. Sworn officers and dispatchers chose Tyree based on technical job knowledge and ability, enthusiastic work attitude, teamwork, and prompt and courteous response to the public's requests for information and assistance.

Dispatcher Tyree is now in contention for the State Dispatcher of the Year Award to be announced at a later date.

Dispatcher Tyree joined the Highway Patrol in 2014 and has served at the Findlay Dispatch Center since joining the Division. Originally from Tiffin and a graduate of Tiffin Columbian High School, Dispatcher Tyree has an Associate's Degree from Brown Mackie College. Dispatcher Tyree was Dispatcher of the year for the Findlay Post in 2018 and 2019. Tyree is a field training officer and has also received the Dispatcher Criminal Patrol Award in 2018.

Dispatcher Tyree resides in Tiffin with her cat Wilson.

**WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 9/6/22**

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Councilmen Voirol, Martin, Thompson, Gerig, and Watts. Chief Parker was not present. Dewayne Heckley with the Main Street Organization and Kaleb Dienelt with Reliance were also present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report. Superintendent's Report: There have been three fire hydrants that were struck in the last month that need replaced. The superintendent gave an update on the lagoon clean closure project.

Mayor's Report: The mayor went over details to revive an Economic Development Commission for the city of Woodburn and the expectation to create residential TIF areas in two locations contained within the city with this commission. Nothing was determined at this time, but additional discussion will take place at a future meeting. The mayor received an additional quote for landscaping from JP Landscaping and Lawn Care and is recommending that Council move forward with this quote. After discussion, it was determined to proceed with the quote from JP Landscaping and Lawn Care. The mayor requested permission to act on behalf of the city regarding the upcoming INDOT trail and sidewalk project that is to be let on September 14th. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to allow the mayor to act on behalf of the city to accept the lowest bid submitted to INDOT, assuming that it is no more than 15% over the engineering estimate, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the August 15th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to accept the minutes from the August 15th meeting as presented, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor. The clerk-treasurer presented the Council with the results of the budget priority survey based on submitted responses. The clerk-treasurer asked the council if there were any additional suggestions to implement within the 2023 calendar year budget, as the next council meeting will begin with a public hearing to consider the budget, followed by the first reading of the budget and both salary ordinances. The clerk-treasurer went over details regarding Ordinance 22-1407 (Authority Regarding ACH & EFT Transactions) and why it is necessary to consider. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to read Ordinance 22-1407 by title only, second by Councilman Voirol, all in favor. Councilman Voirol moved to accept the first reading of Ordinance 22-1407, second by Councilman Watts, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to suspend the rules to waive any additional readings and adopt Ordinance 22-1407 as presented, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor. Ordinance 22-1407 is ratified as presented. The

The West Bend News  
**Sudoku Puzzle**

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

clerk-treasurer had asked the attorney to review a current arrangement between the city and a local business regarding annual fire protection services. Suggestions were made and it was determined that it would be reasonable to implement the proposed changes in one form or another starting at the beginning of next year, but for this year, the arrangement would more than likely remain the same as before.

Councilmen's Report: On Sunday, December 4th, the Santa Toy Patrol will take place at the Woodburn Community Center. Interested parties should contact Tonya via text at 260-255-0075. Councilman Watts mentioned that there was a pole light that is still out. He also wanted clarification as to whom should take care of the high weeds at the Homestead Addition Phase III. He also wanted to smooth out the dirt at the old American Legion lot.

Audience: A resident came in to discuss the potential to adjust her utility bill as her usage was unusually high. It was determined that her dogs had turned on the outdoor spicket and it was discovered the next day. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to adjust the sewer portion of the bill to reflect the average bill for all affected months, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor. A resident came in to discuss the potential to adjust her utility bill as her usage was higher than normal. It was determined that her water softener was recycling excessively and that this water was not treated. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to adjust the sewer portion of

the bill to reflect the average bill for all affected months, second by Councilman Thompson, all in favor. A representative of a local church came in due to an unusually large water bill. After discussion, it was determined to not extend any discount at this time. Dewayne began a discussion about the Main Street Organization and what the board wishes to do at this point. He then went through a list of accomplishments that have been achieved since inception and informed the council that many members anticipate retiring at the end of this year. They are asking for volunteers to consider taking over this responsibility lest the organization be disbanded. Interested parties should connect via facebook at Woodburn Mainstreet or City Hall in person. Kaleb went over details regarding the potential of installing fiber at the previously established section of Homestead Addition, the new section of Homestead Addition, and Ashler Point. Due to extremely high costs associated with this project, he was asking for an engineer's estimate and possibly alternatives. A resident asked to sell barbecue during the city-wide garage sales at the old American Legion site. It was determined that this would be allowed.

Councilman Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Voirol, all in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm.

Go to [www.cityofwoodburn.org](http://www.cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADOPTION**

IN THE Probate COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO, Dan W. Bratka, Judge  
Case No. 20225005  
IN THE MATTER OF:

RYLIE ROYCE POSEY GRANT

To: MEGAN R. POSEY, ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that on the 15TH day of NOVEMBER, 2022, MARY H. GRANT AND TROY L. GRANT JR., filed in this Court a Petition for Adoption of RILEY ROYCE POSEY, a minor, whose date of birth is MARCH 24, 2016, and for change of the name of the minor to RILEY ROYCE POSEY GRANT. This Court, located at 115 NORTH WILLIAMS STREET, ROOM 202, PAULDING, OHIO 45879 will hear the petition on the 25TH day of JANUARY, 2023, at 1:30 o'clock PM.

It is alleged in the petition, pursuant to R.C. 3107.07, that the consent of MEGAN R. POSEY is not required due to the following:

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide more than the de minimis contact with the minor for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide for the maintenance and support of the minor as required by law or judicial decree for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

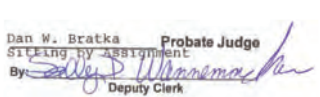
"A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, IF GRANTED,

W I L L FILED RELIEVE YOU OF ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO CONTACT THE MINOR, AND, EXCEPT WITH RESPECT TO A SPOUSE OF THE ADOPTION PETITIONER AND RELATIVES OF THAT SPOUSE, TERMINATE ALL LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE MINOR AND YOU AND THE MINOR'S OTHER RELATIVES, SO THAT THE MINOR THEREAFTER IS A STRANGER TO YOU AND THE MINOR'S OTHER RELATIVES FOR ALL PURPOSES. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE PETITION WITHIN FOURTEEN DAYS AFTER PROOF OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF THE FILING OF THE PETITION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING IS GIVEN TO YOU. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST ALSO APPEAR AT THE HEARING. A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION MAY BE ENTERED IF YOU FAIL TO FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE ADOPTION PETITION OR APPEAR AT THE HEARING."

RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY: You have the right to be represented by an attorney of your choice. If you are unable to afford an attorney, you must request an attorney when you receive this Notice and complete an affidavit of indigency form at the Court to determine if you qualify for an appointed counsel. You may contact the Paulding County Probate Court for more information at (419) 399-8256.

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide more than the de minimis contact with the minor for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

"A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, IF GRANTED,



**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR ADOPTION**

IN THE Probate COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO, Dan W. Bratka, Judge  
Case No. 20225006  
IN THE MATTER OF:

ZANE EDWARD POSEY GRANT

To: MEGAN R. POSEY, ADDRESS UNKNOWN

You are hereby notified that on the 15TH day of NOVEMBER, 2022, MARY H. GRANT AND TROY L. GRANT JR., filed in this Court a Petition for Adoption of ZANE EDWARD POSEY, a minor, whose date of birth is FEBRUARY 9, 2017, and for change of the name of the minor to ZANE EDWARD POSEY GRANT. This Court, located at 115 NORTH WILLIAMS STREET, ROOM 202, PAULDING, OHIO 45879 will hear the petition on the 25TH day of JANUARY, 2023, at 1:30 o'clock PM.

It is alleged in the petition, pursuant to R.C. 3107.07, that the consent of MEGAN R. POSEY is not required due to the following:

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide more than the de minimis contact with the minor for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide for the maintenance and support of the minor as required by law or judicial decree for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

"A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, IF GRANTED,

W I L L FILED RELIEVE YOU OF ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO CONTACT THE MINOR, AND, EXCEPT WITH RESPECT TO A SPOUSE OF THE ADOPTION PETITIONER AND RELATIVES OF THAT SPOUSE, TERMINATE ALL LEGAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE MINOR AND YOU AND THE MINOR'S OTHER RELATIVES, SO THAT THE MINOR THEREAFTER IS A STRANGER TO YOU AND THE MINOR'S OTHER RELATIVES FOR ALL PURPOSES. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE PETITION WITHIN FOURTEEN DAYS AFTER PROOF OF SERVICE OF NOTICE OF THE FILING OF THE PETITION AND OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF HEARING IS GIVEN TO YOU. IF YOU WISH TO CONTEST THE ADOPTION, YOU MUST ALSO APPEAR AT THE HEARING. A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION MAY BE ENTERED IF YOU FAIL TO FILE AN OBJECTION TO THE ADOPTION PETITION OR APPEAR AT THE HEARING."

RIGHT TO AN ATTORNEY: You have the right to be represented by an attorney of your choice. If you are unable to afford an attorney, you must request an attorney when you receive this Notice and complete an affidavit of indigency form at the Court to determine if you qualify for an appointed counsel. You may contact the Paulding County Probate Court for more information at (419) 399-8256.

That person is a parent who has failed without justifiable cause to provide more than the de minimis contact with the minor for a period of at least one year immediately preceding the filing of the adoption petition or the placement of the minor in the home of the petitioner.

"A FINAL DECREE OF ADOPTION, IF GRANTED,





# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS OF PAULDING COUNTY NOVEMBER MEETING



On Tuesday evening November 15th, the Young Professionals of Paulding County met at the Cooper Community Library. Discussions were centered around the future direction of the group. This new group has been meeting monthly since June and after discussion, they decided on their focus for 2023. They will be exploring Paulding County, participating in com-

munity events, and networking. Nine young professionals from around the county were in attendance (pictured above). Each shared interest in touring local businesses, partnering with community groups on events, and hosting panel presentations for topics of interest such as local government, entrepreneurship, and non-profit organizations. The group plans to put a calendar of events together for 2023. If you know anyone aged 40 and under who lives, works, or worships in Paulding County that would like to get involved, have them contact Kristen Schilt at office@pced.net or "Like" the Young Professionals of Paulding County page on Facebook to stay up to date on upcoming events.

ending of events together for 2023. If you know anyone aged 40 and under who lives, works, or worships in Paulding County that would like to get involved, have them contact Kristen Schilt at office@pced.net or "Like" the Young Professionals of Paulding County page on Facebook to stay up to date on upcoming events.

## NEW WGU OHIO NURSING PROGRAM TAKES ON OHIO'S HEALTHCARE STAFF SHORTAGE & ADVANCES STUDENTS' CAREER GOALS

To help address Ohio's healthcare staff shortage and advance students' career goals faster, Western Governors University Ohio has announced a new partnership with some of Ohio's largest hospital systems that allows students to simultaneously earn their Registered Nurse license and their bachelor's of science in nursing degree in just two and one-half years.

helping Ohio address the critical need for more healthcare professionals," said Dr. K.L. Allen, chancellor of WGU Ohio.

Dr. Allen expects the new program, which is approved by both the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education and the Ohio Board of Nursing, will make it possible for many Ohioans currently working in healthcare—as licensed practical nurses or in allied health jobs—to upgrade their training to advance their careers—and their earnings. The university's competency-based education model allows learning through mastery of concepts, not merely time spent in class. Self-paced, mentor-guided, online learning, and advanced simulation, coupled with in-person clinical experiences, give students access to a nursing education that meets them where they are—so they don't have to leave the health workforce to upskill.

In addition to WGU Ohio's Course Instructors and Program Mentors—faculty members who provide instruction and coaching from enrollment to graduation—students in the new program will have additional support during clinical training from Clinical Coaches, experienced staff nurses and clinical experts. During clinical rotations, stu-

dents accompany their Clinical Coach for entire shifts, creating an immersive experience that includes participation in multiple "care hand-offs," experiences integral to optimizing patient safety and quality. This difference in practical experience is crucial for nursing students to learn and develop competencies in patient care and to prepare for the realities of contemporary nursing practice.

The university operates on a 12-month calendar, and student cohorts can be enrolled at the beginning of any month.

## OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND BOARD HOLDS MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING AS IT WORKS TO ESTABLISH FOUNDATION TO DISTRIBUTE FUNDS

The OneOhio Recovery Foundation, a newly created private, non-profit corporation charged with distributing funds for substance-abuse relief, recovery and prevention efforts, held its sixth public board meeting on October 12.

The 29-member Foundation Board has been meeting in recent months to establish ground rules for the organization and create an endowment to fund the Foundation's future needs.

"I am proud of the work our board is doing to set up the Foundation with the goal of ensuring that recovery settlement dollars are used to directly address, or work to prevent, the awful ways that drug addiction and abuse have impacted our families, local resources and quality of life," said Foundation Board Chair Kathryn Whittington, who also serves as an Ashtabula County Commissioner.

At the October board meeting, members:

- Reviewed an organizational and operational checklist of actions completed or in progress as the Foundation establishes its operational, fiscal and policy framework.
- Reviewed a proposed schedule for monthly board meetings in 2023, which will take place at the Foundation's new office space at COhatch Polaris.
- Reviewed a draft Conflict of Interest Policy to supplement existing federal and state laws preventing Foundation transactions that could potentially benefit a Foundation officer, director or member of

- the Expert Panel.
- Reviewed a draft Diversity and Inclusion Policy to ensure that the Foundation practices and promotes diversity and inclusion in all its work.
- Heard an Operations Report from Temporary Chief Financial Officer Jim Quinn detailing actions to establish Foundation office facilities, prepare revenue projections, draft a FY2023 budget, hire a CPA auditing firm and adopt other fiscal policies.
- Heard reports from chairs of the board's Audit & Finance and Grant Oversight committees, as well as an update on the board's search for a permanent Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer.
- Established a public link to the Foundation's Code of Regulations, adopted at the board's September meeting.

Additionally, in her update to the board, Chairman Whittington announced that an application process is being developed for members of the public to apply for the six board-appointed seats to the Foundation's nine-member panel of addiction, pain management and public health experts.

The Foundation's Board of Directors will not meet in November. The next board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14 at 12 p.m. ET at COhatch Polaris (1554 Polaris Parkway, Suite 325, Columbus, OH 43240).

Members of the public and media may access video of all board meetings and related board documents at OneOhioFoundation.com/Meetings.

## IMPROVING HIGH CLAY SOILS

Working with clay soils can be difficult when trying to grow crops. Sticky when wet and rock hard when dry, a high clay soil can drive you crazy! However, clay soils have many great qualities. Compared to sand and silt, clay has higher water holding capacity and greater cation exchange capacity (CEC). CEC means the clay has a negative charge and can hold many positively charged soil nutrients. Water and soil nutrients are needed for plants to optimize yield. Yet, clay has several problems.

First, even though a soil has plenty of water, plant roots have to access that water. Roots need oxygen to grow and tight clay soils that are saturated have limited oxygen for roots to grow. The tight pore spaces in clay soils limits root growth and does not allow atmospheric oxygen from getting into the soil. Limited roots and oxygen lead to poor plant growth. It also tends to facilitate conditions for microbes that cause many diseases. Plants growing on saturated clay soils or compacted clay soils tend to have shallow roots and tend to lodge more often.

The second problem on tight clay soils; water infiltration is reduced because water cannot enter the pore spaces easily. Water tends to bead and has high surface tension, so even if a soil is dry; sometimes the water cannot enter the soil until the surface tension is reduced. Clay soils tend to crack, shrink and swell, so moisture is often lost from these soils when temperatures are hot and the soil dries out. Often clay soils cling

# PIGEON CREEK WELCOME CENTER TO REOPEN AHEAD OF HOLIDAY TRAVEL SEASON



STUBEN COUNTY, Ind. – The Indiana Department of Transportation announces the reopening of the Pigeon Creek Welcome Center in time for the holiday travel season.

While the main facility will open again for use by 12 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23, the new private restroom facility will remain closed at this time. Drivers should also use caution in the area as the contractor will continue to finalize cosmetic features over the next several weeks.

The facility, located on southbound I-69 near mile marker 345, closed in September for INDOT and its contracting partners to safely provide multiple improvement projects including:

- All new parking lot
- Safer, expanded

access to the facility and services

- Separated parking for passenger vehicles and trucks

- Approximately three times the capacity of the original lot with a total of 90 parking spots

- A new private restroom facility with four individual locking units that include showers and toilets

- New sidewalks fronting each parking lot and the Welcome Center

- New general and safety lighting for all parking lots and buildings

- Renovated interstate entrance and exit ramps

- New site and lot drainage

- A new garbage and recycling containment stockade

to the water that is in the soil, so clay soils can become droughty because the plants cannot get access to soil water. With reduced infiltration, more water runs off, taking nutrients with it as surface runoff or if it does infiltrate through deep cracks, it often flows with the nutrients down to our tile lines. Even though clay soils have a high water-holding capacity and fertility; the lack of oxygen, shallow roots, lack of nutrient availability, and poor water infiltration means crops do not grow well.

Here are some tips to improving clay productivity. It starts with improving soil aggregation and increasing soil organic matter (SOM). SOM has 10X higher CEC than clay, and together the two can

hold even more water and nutrients. Aggregation means that soil clumps together, to allow air and water to move into the soil easily where it can be stored. Aggregation combines clay (the tiniest soil particles) with silt and sand into soil particles that crumble and are about 3/8 inch in diameter. Soils with good aggregation have high calcium content, high SOM, lots of earthworm activity, and biological exudates from microbes and plant roots which glue the soil particles together. Soil microbes call mycorrhizae fungi produce glomalin (a sugar nitrogen compound) reddish-brown in color that is the main ingredient for improving soil aggregation. Soil aggregation is destroyed by tillage, keeping

## LAND AUCTION

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97±

acres

Offered in 4 Tracts, Combinations & as a Whole

- Mostly Tillable Land
- Quality Productive Soils

**Auction Location:** The Paulding County Fairgrounds, 501 Fairground Dr, Paulding, OH **Property Location:** Harrison Twp, Road 106, Road 33 & Road 96; Located north of Payne, OH (between Payne, OH & Woodburn, IN) & .75 mi. West of SR 49

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ENDING DECEMBER 15th

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10± acres selling in one tract. Mostly wooded with 30-ft wide lane from Coressel Road. Excellent hunting potential with signs of deer & other wildlife throughout the tract.

Located approx. 8 mi. North of Defiance, OH & 0.5 mi. East of US 66 on Coressel Rd. Defiance. Co. Parcel #: K14001300082, Tiffin Township

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### REYNOLDS SPEAKS AT HERITAGE LIONS MEETING



past year saw 27 teams compete, in all age groups, with both male and female participants. There were nine T-Ball teams in 2022, a record, and a good sign that future participation in the league may increase. A total of 280 kids played ball in the HYL last summer. Everyone who signs up gets a chance to play and the players come from all over the area.

Mr. Reynolds emphasized that the overall goal of the league was to develop good sportsmanship and positive values for our local youth. HYL tries to improve the ball diamonds every year. In recent years the league has installed two fenced-in batting cages with turf, and rebuilt the dugouts. On their wish list is to have lights and scoreboards for all diamonds.

Running the HYL is a year-round volunteer job. The leaders meet monthly to plan the next year. Practices start in April and games begin in May. Reynolds appreciates the community support his league has received in the past.

The Heritage Lions Club in Hoagland sponsors a team each year and provides free ice cream to every player on opening day.

soils fallow and devoid of living plants after harvest, and high soil temperatures.

Second tip: Grow live plants year-round and increase soil surface cover. Plant leaves and surface residue absorb the impact of falling raindrops and improve water infiltration. The surface residue is like a blanket in the winter, keeping soil temperatures warmer; and like an umbrella in the summer, keeping soil temperatures cooler. It's also helpful for beneficial soil organisms that recycle soil nutrients. Soils with good cover have much less water

and nutrient runoff and less soil erosion. Soils with good cover have less evaporation and less soil cracking than bare tilled soils. Better moisture and nutrients improve plant and soil health for higher yields.

Third, increase your microbial and earthworm activity. Earthworms are the best indicator of high soil health. High earthworm soil activity leads to 13X higher aggregation, and higher CEC (up to 4X), calcium (4X), potassium (3.5X), phosphorus (3X), and nitrogen (2.75X). Earthworms need adequate cal-

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**FORT DEFIANCE Antiques - 402 Clinton St. Downtown Defiance, OH. Hours M-Sat 10-5. Phone 419-782-6003 tf**

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**DEADLINE FOR THE CLASSIFIEDS IN WEST BEND NEWS IS FRIDAYS AT 12 NOON!!!**

cium, neutral pH, and high amounts of surface residue to survive. Tillage and bare (fallow soils) cause earthworm populations to decline. Tillage dries out worm eggs and exposes adults to predators, reducing worm populations.

Well aggregated clay soils that are high in SOM are quite productive. Regular cover crops, hay crops, and even some manure tend to improve soil aggregation and soil health. Tillage increases soil oxygen initially and may appear to improve crop productivity for a few short years; but in the long-run, it starts a downward spiral on soil productivity. Maintaining soil health by improving soil aggregation is the key to keeping clay soils productive. Adapted from Dale Strickland article, Green Cover Seeds.

—James J. Hoorman, Hoorman Soil Health Services

### CFAES CREATES FARM MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE TO ADDRESS CHANGING DEMANDS OF FARMERS

The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) launched the Farm Financial Management and Policy Institute (FFMPI) with the goal of sharing resource-based knowledge and best practices to help Ohio farmers manage their businesses as the agricultural industry changes and evolves. David Marrison, farm management field specialist with Ohio State University Extension, CFAES' statewide outreach arm, will serve as interim director.

"Today's farmers face a multitude of challenges such as adapting to climate change; meeting consumer demands for more, higher quality food; and adjusting to the increasing costs of supplies," said Cathann A. Kress, Ohio State vice president for agricultural administration and dean of CFAES. "We created the Farm Financial Management and Policy Institute to help Ohio farmers address these challenges and offer guidance into how to make their businesses become more profitable."

Housed within OSU Extension, the FFMPI will tap into departments within CFAES; schools and colleges

within the university such as the Moritz College of Law and the Fisher College of Business; and other universities across the country.

As interim director, Marrison will be responsible for developing a vision and structure for FFMPI; coordinating research, education, and OSU Extension educator networks; and engaging university academic units to help farmers apply research-based knowledge and best practices that increase productivity.

"David is highly skilled at developing new programs and building partnerships," said Jacqueline Kirby Wilkins, associate dean and director, OSU Extension. "In his 25 years at OSU Extension, he has accumulated a wealth of knowledge that will be invaluable to this position."

Marrison was an agricultural and natural resources Extension educator for OSU Extension from 1997–22, serving in Ashtabula and Coshocton counties. He is currently the co-leader of Extension's Ohio Ag Manager team, which authors a monthly farm and agribusiness management newsletter.

"I am excited to be transitioning into this role and to help all Ohio farm families and agribusinesses to enhance their management, productivity, and profitability," Marrison said. "This industry is multifaceted, and I'm glad to be able to use my specialization in farm succession planning and tax management to enhance the efforts of our team across the state."

Raised on a small Ohio dairy farm, Marrison is nationally known for his teaching in farm succession planning, and has authored numerous publications in succession and estate planning. Marrison received two of OSU Extension's highest honors when he was presented the 2007 Excellence in Extension Award and the 2015 Steve D. Ruhl Outstanding Agriculture and Natural Resources County Extension Educator Award. He also received the 2010 National Association of County Agricultural Agents (NACAA) Distinguished Service Award and was the 2017 Search for Excellence Award in Farm and Ranch Business Management. Marrison earned his bachelor's in agri-

cultural education and agricultural economics in 1990 from The Ohio State University and his master's in education from Purdue University in 1992.

### WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 10/3/22

Minutes for the Woodburn city council meeting on October 3, 2022.

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Martin, Thompson, Gerig, and Watts. Chief Parker was not present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.  
 Superintendent's Report: The superintendent went over details regarding the sanitary sewer inflow issues at City Hall that have recently been considered and even now are still being addressed through the Board of Works.

Mayor's Report: The mayor confirmed with council that the EDC would not be reinstated at the city level and that the county, given that they are willing and able to facilitate this function for the city of Woodburn, will continue to assist the city in that capacity. The mayor went over details for the upcoming Stellar Sidewalk and Trail project and explained the reasoning behind the invoice that was submitted to the city for their portion of payment that INDOT will hold in escrow. All future invoices will be paid as work is accomplished on this project through INDOT, but the city's portion is required beforehand. The check amount totals \$334,229.41 and the clerk-treasurer has prepared a check tonight for the council's consideration. The clerk-treasurer asks that if damages occur, neither he nor his office are held responsible as a result of 'prepayment' that goes awry in the future. He did confirm with the SBOA that this method will not result in an audit exception. The mayor has some questions to clarify with INDOT as well, as he was under the impression that INDOT was to provide an amount of \$900,000 for this project, but received in writing a total of \$554,000. He would like to clarify this prior to the submission of the check to INDOT. After discussion, it was determined to allow the Mayor time to clarify the conditions of the arrangement between the city of Woodburn and INDOT. Decisions will be made at the next council meeting. Councilman Watts moved to table discussion until next meeting, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. The mayor went over details regarding a conversation with Baker Tilly involving water rates that occurred earlier today.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the September 19th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to accept the minutes from the September 19th meeting as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to read Ordinance 22-1408 (2023 Budget) after explained changes were implemented since the first reading occurred, but by title only, second by Councilman Gerig, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance 22-1408, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adopt Ordinance 22-1408 as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor except Councilman Watts, who abstains. Ordinance 22-1408 is ratified as presented. Councilwoman Thompson moved to read Ordinance 22-1409 (2023 Elected Salaries) by title only, second by Councilman Gerig, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance 22-1409, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to adopt Ordinance 22-1409 as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Ordinance 22-1409 is ratified as presented. Councilman Watts moved to read Ordinance 22-1410 (2023 Appointed Salaries) by title only, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilman Gerig moved to accept the second reading of Ordinance 22-1410, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to adopt Ordinance 22-1410 as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Or-

### Sudoku solution from page 9

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

Ordinance 22-1410 is ratified as presented. Councilman Watts moved to read Resolution 22-267 (Transfers w/in Funds) in full, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Councilman Watts moved to accept the first reading of Resolution 22-267, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adopt Resolution 22-267 as presented, second by Councilwoman Thompson, all in favor. Resolution 22-267 is ratified as presented.

Councilmen's Report: Councilwoman Thompson reminded everyone that on December 4th the Santa Toy Patrol will take place at the Woodburn Community Center. Interested individuals should contact Tonya Thompson at 260-255-0075. Councilman Gerig asked the Superintendent about the fire hydrant that was recently replaced and the dirt that was displaced in that process. The superintendent mentioned that after the ground settles, they will repair the area. He also mentioned issues with heavy equipment going over the parking lot close to the church where the new Ashler Point addition is located. The mayor mentioned that he will begin a conversation with Granite Ridge in an effort to coordinate an alternative. Councilwoman Sarrazine inquired as to when the new restaurant will open up for business. The mayor believes that they should be open again in approximately a month, or as soon as possible after that date.

Audience: A resident had submitted a letter prior to the meeting and had requested that the clerk-treasurer read this letter on her behalf. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to adjust the sewer portion of her utility bill to reflect the average for all affected months, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. A resident came in to discuss his large utility bill and asked for any relief that the city could provide as the water was not treated. After discussion, Councilwoman Thompson moved to adjust the sewer portion of the utility bill for all affected months, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all in favor. A resident asked for permission to sell barbecue on October 15th at the old American Legion property with proceeds to go to the upcoming Santa Toy Patrol event. After discussion, it was determined that this would be okay. A resident asked if the downed telephone line on Bull Rapids could be taken care of soon. This should be resolved as soon as the appropriate company takes care of the line. A resident asked if the electric lines on Main Street, on the east side of Bull Rapids, that are going through the trees could be removed if they were not longer in use. It was determined that these are phone lines not electric lines and that they will need to remain until the appropriate company takes care of them.

Councilwoman Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Watts all in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22pm.

Go to [www.cityofwoodburn.org](http://www.cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

### HELP WANTED:

**Innovative Assembly Services, LLC**  
 109 Victory Lane, Antwerp, OH 45813  
 Phone: 419-399-3886

Email: [InnovativeAssemblySvc@outlook.com](mailto:InnovativeAssemblySvc@outlook.com)

Family owned business located in Antwerp, Ohio looking for general labor associates to do light manufacturing and assembly. Will provide on the job training. Hours are Monday-Friday from 5:00 am-1:30 pm. Competitive wages, vacation and personal leave after probationary period.

To apply contact us via phone or email

**2 Bed, 1 Bath House, \$60,000**

**FOR SALE:**  
 204 W Washington St., Antwerp, OH. Two story house built in 1950. Gas furnace, shed, one car garage. 1560sf.  
**Call: 260-409-2816**

**HELP WANTED**

**VANTAGE Career Center Position Posting**

**Posting Date:** Wed., Nov. 9, 2022 – Wed., Dec. 7, 2022  
**Position:** Part Time Cook (Non-Certified staff, 4 hours per day)  
**Start Date:** As Soon As Possible

Job Objectives: Works in a team environment to prepare and serve meals for students and staff following regulations of the USDA National School Lunch Program and Department of Health. To view minimum qualifications and the full posting please visit: [www.vantagecareercenter.com](http://www.vantagecareercenter.com), employment.

Vantage Career Center is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**HELP WANTED**

**Lead Maintenance Tech**

Performs routine, preventive maintenance and emergency repairs in all areas of facility such as plumbing, HVAC systems, carpentry, general mechanical equipment, and extra assigned tasks such as snow removal. HVAC and HVAC Controls knowledge/experience preferred.

Lead Maintenance Tech will assume limited oversight and supervisory responsibilities, as delegated by the Director of Plant Operations.

**Dietary Aide**

Full and Part Time Openings

Apply on line at: [www.pauldingcountyhospital.com](http://www.pauldingcountyhospital.com)  
**Apply online today or in person today!**

Paulding County Hospital is an Equal Opportunity Employer

**PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL**

**HELP WANTED**

**School Bus Drivers and Cafeteria Workers Needed**

Paulding Exempted Village Schools has immediate openings for Full-Time & Substitute Bus Drivers for routes and extra-curricular events (bus driver training can be provided), and also for a 3 Hour Cafeteria Worker.

Applications can be found under the 'Employment' tab on the website at [www.pauldingschools.org](http://www.pauldingschools.org), or can be picked up in the Administration Office at 405 N. Water St., Paulding.

**WATER DEPARTMENT • VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE**

The Village of Hicksville is accepting applications and/or resumes for a **full-time water department laborer**. Applicants for the position should possess a valid OEPA Class 1 water license or receive the license within eighteen months of the date of hire, a class B CDL license must be obtained within six months of hire. Responsibilities include maintenance and repair of lines, meter readings, operation and repair of equipment, monitoring plant gauges, feeders along with treatment process and laboratory procedures.

**Applications are available at Village of Hicksville Municipal Building or download the application at [www.villageofhicksville.com](http://www.villageofhicksville.com).**

Completed application and resume can be sent to: Village Administrator • 111 South Main St. • Hicksville Ohio 43526

**THE VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE IS AN E.O.E**



# HISTORICAL SOCIETY ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



John Paulding Historical Society in Paulding held its first student essay contest in conjunction with its recent Festival of Trees. More than 60 entries were submitted by county sixth-graders on "What Christmas Means to Me." Luke Stoller from Divine Mercy School placed first. Tying for second place

were Jeriyah Orona from Grover Hill Elementary, Makenna Schilt from Payne Elementary and Eric Logan from Oakwood Elementary. They read their essays at the historical society on the final day of the festival. From left are Orona, festival chairman Elizabeth Miller, Schilt and Stoller.

(JPHS Festival of Trees... Continued from Page 1)

Raffle was John Henry Kauser. Luke Stoller from Divine Mercy School won first place in the inaugural sixth grade essay contest, "What Christmas Means to Me." The event was another huge success this year, thanks to the tree decorators, silent auction donors and bidders, meal sponsors, entertainers, visitors, and the many volunteers who decorated the museum's three buildings. This is

the historical society's largest fundraiser of the year. The Festival of Trees committee has chosen dates and a theme for 2023. Next year's event will be every day from Nov. 3-11 with the theme "A Story Book Christmas." The historical society welcomes anyone interested in decorating a tree, sponsoring a meal or providing musical entertainment. The museum will be open Tuesdays through Dec. 13, then close for two months for a winter break. The museum

will reopen Tuesday, Feb. 21. The next public events are the annual Wine & Cheese Tasting fundraiser on Feb. 25, and the annual membership meeting on March 5. Check the museum's Facebook page facebook.com/jphsmuseum for updates and announcements.

## THE ROCK CELEBRATES 25th ANNIVERSARY

It was 25 years ago, when Pastor Mike Smith, Dr. Don Snyder, Jim Sponseller, and Tom Litzenberg started Christ Community Center (The Rock). They purchased the old card room /pool hall, secured a mortgage, and began to remodel the building. After long hours of clean up and construction, they were ready to open the doors to the youth of Payne. Volunteers staffed the Rock after school and evening hours. A 3-bedroom apartment upstairs helped with the finances for the youth center. Over the years, the faces have changed. Kids grew up and younger boys and girls replaced them. Many of them will recall happy memories of pool tournaments, ping pong matches, air hockey, foosball, and movie nights. Currently, The Rock is open Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm, it is during this time that the kids have a 15-minute Bible story. If you really want to know what is go-

## GOBBLERS AT ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS



Showing off their beautiful creations are (from left): Mylann Good, Sam Vance, Savannah Coil, Aydenn Good, Skilerr Good, Holland Witkouski and Eli Hernandez.

Ann's Bright Beginnings preschoolers and school agers enjoyed making a turkey craft

together recently! Give us a call at 419-399-KIDS (5437) and ask about our preschool

program or before and after school care. We have openings!

ing on in their lives, listen to their prayer requests. They ask for help with class tests, sick grandparents, lost dogs, bullying, and more serious problems. In 2012 the building's roof of the Rock was torn off in the derecho and the insurance company declared the building a total loss. However, the Rock board took their savings along with the insurance settlement and worked to cleanup and rebuild. When the money was tight for us, The Paulding Area Foundation came

through with an unexpected check. In 2020 the Covid pandemic shuttered the Rock for 6-months. God has provided for The Rock, to allow us to continue to keep the doors open and the children occupied. We appreciated all of the hard work and foresight the founding board had to start The Rock. Please come help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary during Payne's Jolly Jamboree Saturday December 3rd, 5:00pm to 7:00pm. We are always looking for volunteers. The Rock is available to rent for birthday parties, family get-togethers, or holiday gatherings call: 419-770-2277.

## OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL INVESTIGATES FATAL CRASH CENTER TOWNSHIP

The Defiance Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is investigating a fatal traffic crash that occurred on November 20, 2022, at approximately 11:01 p.m. The crash occurred on State Route 576 near County Road G in Center Township, Williams County.

A 53-year-old female was driving a 2004 Ford Focus southbound on State Route 576 when she went off the left side of the roadway and struck a tree. The driver was the sole occupant of the vehicle and she was pronounced deceased at the scene. The identity of the driver is being withheld until proper next-of-kin notification has been made.

The Defiance Post was assisted by the Williams County Sheriff's Office, Williams County Coroner's Office, Williams County EMS, and the Bryan Fire Department. The crash remains under investigation. Both impairment and failure to wear a safety belt appear to be factors in this crash.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol wants to remind motorists to always wear their safety belts and to never drive impaired.

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE COMING TO PAULDING COUNTY CARNEGIE LIBRARY

The Paulding County Carnegie Library will be hosting a Holiday Open House. The Open House starts Monday, November 28 and runs through December 17. Pick up a game piece from any branch location and there will be a craft or activity available. The game piece can then be stamped at each location. We are encouraging you to visit each branch location within the two weeks and then be entered into the drawing for one of six gift baskets, each valued at \$100. While you are visiting be sure to check out our holiday decorations, holiday books and movies. Game pieces can be dropped off at any location. Drawings will take place on December 19, 2022.

Call or Email your classified ad today!  
419-258-2000  
info@westbendnews.net

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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