

FIRST FINANCIAL MAKES LOCAL CONTRIBUTION ON BEHALF OF COOPER FARMS



Brad Harsha (FFB), Ashley Dick (FFB), Kevin Stahl (PECA), Traci Koenig (PECA), Citlali Montiel (Cooper Farms), Holly Manz (Cooper Farms), Brandon Manz (PECA)

First Financial Bank (Nasdaq: FFBC) provided a \$1,290 donation to the Paulding Exempted Character Academy on behalf of Cooper Farms. The donation is part of the First Financial WORKlife program at

Cooper Farms. Companies who participate in the WORKlife program receive a special checking cash bonus, product discounts for their employees and a donation to the non-profit of their choice.

“At First Financial Bank, we exist to be a positive influence to help our clients and communities thrive, and this donation and our incredible relationship with Cooper Farms is exciting proof of

(Continued on Page 3)

NEW WEDDING AND EVENT CENTER IN SHERWOOD



Come see NW Ohio's newest wedding and event center! Crystal Fountain Park - Sherwood's 23-acre renovated historic venue - is hosting a ribbon-cutting ceremony and grand reveal on Thursday, November 9, at 5:00 p.m. Members of the media and public are invited to tour the 7,000-square-foot Wentworth Hall from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and

enjoy onsite food trucks. Originally built in 1910, it has been modernized with:

- Heating/cooling
- HD flatscreens
- Updated stage with professional audio and lighting equipment
- Convenient parking with RV hookups
- Updated, elegant re-

(Continued on Page 4)

VOTER POLLING LOCATION CHANGE FOR VILLAGE OF ANTWERP, CRANE & CARRYALL TOWNSHIPS

The Board of Elections has sent out notifications of the voting location change for Antwerp Village, Carryall Township and Crane Township. The Antwerp First Baptist Church, 5482 CR424, Antwerp, OH 45813 is the new voting location.

The Board of Elections appreciates the First Baptist Church for their generous offer of their fellowship hall. The Board of Elections would like give recognition to the Antwerp Divine Mercy Catholic Church for the years of use of their Fellowship Hall.

2023 WOODBURN HALLOWEEN CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to all of the participants in the annual Woodburn Lions Club Hal-

ANTWERP CHAMBER'S 1ST ANNUAL CHOCOLATE WALK MEETS HUGE SUCCESS!



Pictured here are Kim Kemerer and Laurel Hopkins, two of the 44 participants in the 1st Annual Antwerp Chamber Chocolate Walk. They are pictured collecting their chocolates at Hop's Place.

What a great time at the Chocolate Walk. Kudos to all the businesses that participated: Petals and Vines, H2O, Oasis Bar & Grill, Jennifer Ankney with Sam Switzer Realty, Ties and Bows, Hops Place, Pin-A-Rama, More

than Boutique, The Upper 9, Antwerp Pharmacy, &Junque, The Pit Stop, Genesis House and Puckerbrush of Antwerp. This was Antwerp Chamber of Commerce's first time trying this event, so comments are

(Continued on Page 2)

loween costume contest.

AGES 3 & under: 1st - Baby Chick - Capri Long; 2nd - Baby Pumpkin - Stormie Garcia; 3rd - Elsa - Everly

Richards

4 & 5 Yr. Olds: 1st - Ariel - Camille Long; 2nd - Mario -

(Continued on Page 3)



Jeff Hitzeman
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- ✓ Community Involvement

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Local Advertisers appreciating local news

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Bragg Carryall Twp	1
Creative Design & Const	1
Amish Construction	1
Five Star Construction	1
Rain Tech	1
Schmucker Construction	1
Antwerp Exchange Bank	7
Antwerp RX	3
Carryall Meeting Notice	9
Chop Shop	12
CMH Aux Bargain Bag Sale	3
Custom Tile Work	10
Den Herder	2
Derck's Landscaping	8
Dooley FH - Deatrck obit	2
Dooley FH - McMichael obit	2
Dooley Funeral Home	2
Eichers Woodworking	8
Gerbers Electric	7
Grabill Truss	4
H2O Water Store	4
Hicksville Plan Com Pub Hear	9
Hicksville Village HW	11
Innovative Assembly HW	11
Klopfenstein Repair	11
Manz Ins Brandon Manz	3
Marlin & Associates	5
PC court notice CI 23-072	9
PC Legal notice CI 23 130	9
PC Library Antwerp Book Sale	11
PC Library Payne Book Sale	11
PC Veteran's Service	11
PCBW	7
PCH Free Flu Shots Veterans	6
Porter Auction Sale	6
CW PUZZLE - Union Bank	9
Ron Burt Ohio Sport Blitz	8
Sauder Feeds	8
Schrader Auct. Bremer Trust	10
Schrader Ehle	10

Support local Organizations & Businesses making this issue of the West Bend News

Community Calendar MON & WED

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

November 3-11

• JPHS Festival of Trees

November 6

• Dominos @ Summit 60
Center of Hicksville, 10am
• Bingo w/Antwerp Manor @ Summit 60, Hicksville, 1pm

November 9

• Beacon of Hope Dinner & Charity Auction, PC OSU Ext., 5:30pm
• NSCC Veterans Luncheon, Archbold campus, 11:30am
• Veterans Day Lunch @ Defiance Summit 60, 10am

November 10

• Paulding Night w/the Komets, Allen Co. Coliseum, 8pm

November 11

• Payne American Legion Veterans' Day dinner, 6pm
• Life Wise Antwerp Fall Festival @ MAC gym, 11a-2p

November 13

• Senior Day @ 4-County, bus leaves HV Sum. 60 @ 9am

November 15

• United Way of Paulding Co. Shipshewana & Wine Tasting Bus Tour, 9a-7p
• WBESC meeting @ Paulding Conf Rm, 4:30pm



Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES

REFORMATION DAY CELEBRATED AT MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church celebrated Reformation Day with fellowship, games and German food. Please join us at 10:15 am on Sundays for worship west of Antwerp on Co Rd 424 with Pastor Mark Peters presiding.

PAULDING, OH:

Rae Janiece McMichael, 93, of Paulding, Ohio, passed away Thursday, October 26, 2023 at Paulding County Hospital.

Rae was born in Antwerp, Ohio on March 7, 1930, a daughter of the late Florence A (Zuber) and Wilbur E Hopkins.

As a child, Rae grew up on her family farm and was a majorette in the Cecil, Ohio Band. Although Rae worked at Dana Weatherhead for 26 years, the love of her family was most important to her. She was an avid reader who also enjoyed her flowers and gardening. Rae cherished the time she spent with her family and friends. After raising seven children, she got the precious opportunity to see her family flourish and grow. A family that anxiously awaited her homemade popcorn balls at Christmas each year.

Rae will be sadly missed by her children, Susie (Jim) Pessefall, Tana (Steve) Tracy, Bobby (Colleen) McMichael, Jon McMichael, Kim (Diane) McMichael, Tony McMichael & Lisa McMichael; 19 grandchildren; 28 great grandchildren, with number 29 expected in February and 8 great great grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her husband, Robert McMichael and siblings, Eva Helen Shaw, Isabel Parent, Gertrude Houser, Rex "Bud" Hopkins and Ruby Bickhard.

Rae's memorial service is Saturday, November 11th, 11 am with visitation one hour prior at First Presbyterian Church, 126 W. River Street, Antwerp, Ohio.

She will be laid to rest privately in Bethel Cemetery, Crane Township.

Memorials are to First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 396, Antwerp, Ohio 45813. Rae's wish for everyone was to learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow and be kind to all.

Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com



her life as a veterinary assistant at the Paulding Animal Clinic. She was also a member of St John Lutheran Church in Briceton. Julia loved to travel, and had many favorite destinations across the United States. The outdoors is where she found peace, whether it was camping and canoeing, or tending to flowers and her garden. Above all, Julia loved to spend time with her family, especially her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

She will be sadly missed by her husband Glen, to whom she was married to over 60 years; her daughters, Andrea Ehresman & Sarah (Brian) Posey; sister, Janet (Flonnie) Fozzy; brother-in-law, Ron (Marita) Deatruck; sister-in-law, Peggy Johnson; grandchildren, Kyle (Shana) & Kayla Ehresman, & Maddox Franz; great grandchildren, Olivia & Carter Ehresman; & several nieces.

She was also preceded in death by her brother, John Johnson.

Viewing is Friday, November 3, 2023, from 4-7 PM at Dooley Funeral Home, 5761 SR 500, Payne, Ohio 45880.

Service is Saturday, November 4, 2023 at 10:30 with viewing one hour prior at St John Lutheran Church, 7611 CR 87, Briceton, Ohio.

She will be laid to rest in Sherman Cemetery.

Memorials are to St. John Lutheran Church or Paulding County Nurses Auxiliary.

Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com.

PARSON TO PERSON

By: Dr. James Bachman

Dear Parson,
It seems that my prayer life could use some real help. I forget to pray; and often, when I do pray, my prayers seem lifeless.

Maintaining a consistent, effective and fervent prayer life is worth every effort you can give it. James 5:16 says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." Seeing the tremendous value in prayer will help us make it a priority.

One thing that has helped me in the area of consistency has been a list of things for which I pray every day. I also pray for things as they come

to mind and talk with the Lord throughout the day. Let me share with you some of the things on my daily prayer list and encourage you to start one of your own.

Start by praying through the elements of the Lord's Prayer. Follow with a time of praise and thanksgiving. Then search your heart and life and take care of any confession of sin. Next, pray for the Holy Spirit's fullness and control in your life. Pray for wisdom, for help in soul winning and strengthening other believers, for your life goals and each area of your responsibilities. List all your weakness and pray daily about each one. I pray daily for ten things in the life of each person in my family, that they may:

1. Be filled with the knowledge of God's will
2. Please God
3. Be fruitful
4. Increase in the knowledge of God (getting to know Him better)
5. Have God's power to live right
6. Have patience
7. Have joy
8. Be thankful
9. Be growth in Christlikeness
10. Have God's protection spiritually, physically, emotionally, morally and financially.

I pray daily for our governing leaders, my pastor, my enemies, missionaries, and people with special needs.

In order to make your prayers have more life, let me suggest you try to seek His face in your heart and mind before you begin (Psalm 27:8).

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

THE BIG LOSER

By: Doris Applegate
Scribed by: Cynthia Nicholson

There are plans for weight loss to make us happy and stronger and more beautiful. This is for our physical well-being. In God's word, we read about "the prodigal son" who wanted his inheritance and then went and spent all of it on riotous living.

When his money was gone he began to get hungry. Thinking about now good his father's servants had it at home, he said to himself, "I will go home and ask my father if I can be a hired servant because I am no longer worthy to be your son...I have sinned against Heaven and you" When he got close to home his father saw him coming and ran to meet him.

He explained to his father how he sinned and was only worthy to be a servant. His father ordered a robe, a ring and shoes to be put on him and for the fatted calf to be killed. "Start the music and be glad my son is home

again."

The elder brother was jealous because his brother was treated so good because he had sinned so badly. His father had to explain "Your brother was lost and is found, he was dead and is now alive."

This is why we celebrate our Heavenly father, and celebrate with the angels when we except Jesus Christ.

Who do you think was the biggest loser in this story?
Amen

ELDER FRAUD: BE AWARE

Elder Fraud is alive and well. Do NOT sign or pay any legal documents without your trusted attorney IN ATTENDANCE. Local banks and lending institutions are not always honest and upstanding and neither are the Real Estate people.

Relatives unfortunately can come into the "Elder Fraud" picture, also (They can pressure you for the money and signatures on loans, etc. by coercion). Documents that are drawn up that need to be signed, need to be understandable and explained before they are signed (YOU NEED Your own ATTORNEY).

Do not even put a deposit on a property "to hold it" without the advice of your attorney. If you feel pressured or threatened at anytime, don't be afraid to walk out of a set-up appoint. ELDER FRAUD IS REAL.

Older people are targeted because they usually have more ready money to spend, are more vulnerable (and possibly too polite to back-off when pressured). If they don't cooperate, they are sometimes threatened (Their credit can be ruined and/or they can be "banned" from certain properties).

Do not be taken advantage of by friends, relatives or sales people or lending institutions! ELDER FRAUD is shamefully illegal. It can steal your retirement savings for property you never really wanted (and never got/or intended to sign for). This fraudulent crime could put a lien on your present "paid-for" property or set up a loan for someone (a relative). Loans could be set up so that they could write checks for "cash" from the home loan.

There is legal help if Elder Fraud is discovered in the legal "discovery time-frame". Attorneys and Private Investigators are available.

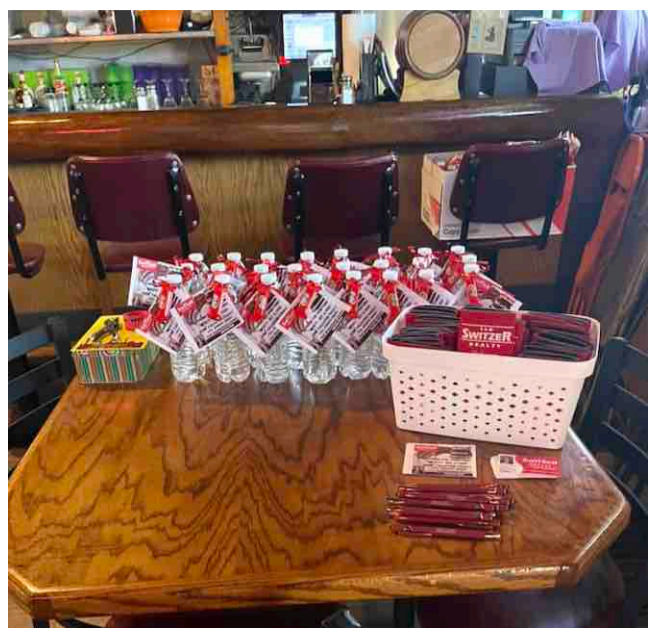
Family theft and family elder fraud is a shameful reality EVEN TODAY! Life's lessons can keep us stressed. Life's journey is very short and we are hopeful for good memories.

—Submitted by Caroline Longardner, Antwerp, OH

Scripture of the Week

"Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.."

— Romans 13:1



Jennifer Ankney with Switzer Realty was the Chamber volunteer set up at Pin-A-Rama to hand out chocolates during the Chocolate Walk.

(Continued from Page 1)

appreciated. Recognition also goes to all the Antwerp Chamber members who volunteered to help at businesses during the Walk. Antwerp Chamber appreciates the time

everyone took out of your busy lives to help out. Participants will be notified if you won Chamber Bucks sometime soon if you haven't been already. Looking forward to Antwerp Chamber Chocolate Walk 2.0 in 2024.

EPA CHIEF COMMUNITY OFFICER MEETS WITH PAULDING COUNTY MAYORS ASSOCIATION

PAULDING – New EPA Chief Community Officer Archie Lunsey II visited Paulding County and presented to the nine villages represented at the Paulding County Mayors Association this week. Based in the Bowling Green, Ohio office, Lunsey provides a bridge of communication between the Ohio EPA office and entities that may need help or information. Lunsey doesn't represent any branch of the Ohio EPA but can connect inquiries directly with a correct contact. The hope is to improve communication prior to an issue and expedite response time.

Also sharing information was Mike McGilbra, NW Ohio Recreation Consultant representing Penchura Landscape Structures and playground equipment. McGilbra shared that he can help with projects that include pavilions and outdoor structures, splash pads or any outdoor and playground equipment. He shared that he was the lead contact for the Antwerp Holly Beach Splash Pad project. The mayors that have projects in development and design plan to follow up.

The last presenters of the evening were PC EMA Director Ed Bohn and Paulding County Park Board representative Aaron Timm. The duo was present to discuss the April 8, 2024 total solar eclipse. They briefed the village representatives on the list of community parks listed as

observation sites on the ohiosolareclipse.org website. The sites were listed from available public information. The team can make adjustments to the listed state information based on local decisions, if the villages would like to recommend changes. Details and good information followed in communication about the eclipse event.

Other meeting agenda items included:

> Commissioner Lisa McClure updated the group on the courthouse window replacement and update project.

> Paulding County Economic Development Director Tim Copey shared updates on the remaining Round 1 funds from the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) Site Revitalization project. Copey then introduced latest details for the new Round 2 application deadline of April 2024 and noted application form improvements.

> Information was dispersed to the group about a new program introduced earlier in the afternoon about LED street light improvements for distressed villages. More details will be researched to understand parameters for qualifying villages.

> Follow up continues for those villages still lack solicitor help with the promotion of Harvey Hyman to probate judge earlier this year.

> The group determined future dates of a 4th quarter zoning inspector meeting of December 7 and a 1st quarter Mayors meeting of February 15, 2024.



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WHITMANS CELEBRATE 65 YEARS OF MARRIAGE



Larry and Shaaron Whitman, of Payne, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. The couple were married on September 21st, 1958, at the United Methodist

Church in Paulding. They celebrated their special anniversary day with their sons, daughter in laws, grandchildren and great grandchildren at a family gathering.

(Continued from Page 1)

how our approach improves people's lives in real and dramatic ways," said Brad Harsha, financial wellness specialist for First Financial Bank.

The First Financial WORKlife Program provides financial wellness benefits to employees or members of businesses to help deliver a work/life balance and feel more secure in their financial lives. At Cooper Farms, employees have the opportunity to participate in financial education classes offered by First Financial associates on site at their place of employment. First Financial associates are also available to work on site with Cooper Farms employees on mortgages, auto loans, personal loans, wealth planning and

other financial services that would typically require a visit to the bank.

Many employees who had previously been unbanked choose to open a bank account for the first time through the WORKlife program, which allows them to enter the financial system and avoid costly services such as payday loans, paycards and check cashing. Bank accounts also make it easier for clients to pay bills, establish a credit history and buy a house, all keys to a better quality of life. For each account opened through the WORKlife program, First Financial makes a donation to a local charity of the employer's choosing.

WORKlife is offered at no cost to an employer or organization.

2024 JPHS FESTIVAL OF TREES

John Paulding Historical Society Festival of Trees opened Friday, November 3. The theme is "A Story Book Christmas." The event continues every day through Saturday, November 11. We hope you will be able to join us at least once during the nine-day schedule. The Festival is the museum's largest fundraiser of the year.

Don't forget our Memory Tree, OSU Raffle and signing Christmas cards for U.S. military personnel. We have another fantastic silent auction full of unique and surprising items (start your holiday shopping early)! Oh, yes, the trees - we have almost 80 of them decorated. There's nearly 25,000 square feet to explore in three buildings, all packed with holiday magic.

Stop in and take a look around! Our faithful volunteers have been working for nearly six weeks to prepare for the Festival of Trees. You don't want to miss it! Please check our Facebook page [facebook.com/jphsmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/jphsmuseum) for news and updates.

Admission is free. Meals are by free-will donation.

Monday 11/6: Open 4:00-8:00 p.m.; Movie - A Christmas Story from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday 11/7: Senior Day; Open 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.; Senior Day Lunch served to invited seniors from local nursing homes; Live music: Pianist Rebekah Smith at lunchtime. Storytime: 4:00 p.m. with Kirk; Craft night with Lori Sponseller 5:30 p.m.

Friday 1/10: Open 4:00-8:00 p.m.; Heavenly dessert bar served 5:00-7:00 p.m.; Live music, Divine Mercy adult and youth choirs at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 11/11: Open 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Movie: How the Grinch Stole Christmas at 10:30 a.m.; Lunch served 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. by St. Paul Lutheran Church; Christmas essay contest winners at 12:00 Noon. Silent auction closes at 2:00 p.m.; OSU drawing, 2:00 p.m.

KOREAN MONUMENT DEDICATION AT VETERANS NATIONAL MEMORIAL SHRINE & MUSEUM

The Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum will officially dedicate a new monument to honor all Korean Veterans on Saturday November 11th at 11am at 2122 O'Day Road, Fort Wayne.

The new monument will display (12) seven-foot tall soldiers made from fiber-

glass resin molds depicting a patrol returning from combat. Each soldier's face will be that of a local veteran from Fort Wayne and northeast Indiana, who served during the war. The monument has been in the works for over a year and will be dedicated to honor all Korean Veterans who served from 1950-1953. A retired Korean Veteran has made this magnificent tribute possible.

The dedication ceremony scheduled for 11am on Veterans Day will begin with Honor Guard presentation of colors by the 122nd Fighter Wing. The program will feature: the National Anthem performed by Angie Newkirk; prayer by Reverend Young Soo An from First Presbyterian Church in Fort Wayne. Guest speakers will include Commander Greg Bedford; Korean Veteran W. Paul Wolf; Antoinette Lee, Korean Community Member; Fire Chief Eric Lahey, City of Fort Wayne; Korean Veteran and Board member Walter "Bud" Mendenhall. To conclude the program, taps will be performed by Tom Schmitt

The Korean War has been referred to as "The Forgotten War". Over 54,246 American lives were lost and over 103,000 soldiers were wounded. Of the 7,000 men who were held in prisoner of war camps 3,450 returned alive. 51% died in prison camps. 389 P.O.W's are still unaccounted for.

We wish to thank the following companies who provided their professional services and expertise on this project. Lea Powers, Creative Director, Randy V. Jackson photography; Fiberglas Animals and Objects LLC of Hastings, Nebraska; Decorative Concrete; Jim Logue Landscaping, Creative Sign Resources and Longworth Excavating Inc. Matt West Tree Care and 1B Specialty, LLC.

Due to the weather, ceremony will be held inside the Event Center at the Veterans National Memorial Shrine 2122 O'Day Road Fort Wayne, IN.

NAME-A-SNOWPLOW CONTEST IS UNDERWAY

The Ohio Turnpike's third annual Name-a-Snowplow contest is underway!

Here are the contest rules:

- The name submission period runs through Nov. 15, 2023.
- Commission officials will select 30 names for a public vote, which runs from Nov. 20 to Dec. 6, 2023.

(Woodburn Halloween... cont'd from Page 1)

Carson Mueller; 3rd - Draco Malfoy - Liam Alice

Grades K & 1: 1st - Cowgirl - May Wagner; 2nd - KFC - Caleb Long; 3rd - Wednesday Addams - Lylah Burton

Grades 2 & 3: 1st - Jellyfish - Berkli Foster; 2nd - Gorilla - Clay Long; 3rd - Sunflower - Madeline Wagner

Grades 4 & 5: 1st - Witch - Hannah Miller; 2nd - Baby Yoda - Caylee Heingartner; 3rd - Penguin - Miles Silva

Grades 6 - 8: 1st - Zombie Cheerleader - Arabella Garcia; 2nd - Maleficent - Maddy Wulf; 3rd - Jason - Elias Torres

HS & Adult: Coraline - Autumn Waikel

Best Halloween Character: Michael Myers - Eric Garcia
Best Group: Waldo Duo - Breanna Nelson & Marc MC-Maken

Most Original: Taylor Swift - Addi Ashbaugh

Shout out for everyone who participated. The Woodburn Lions Club has been hosting this event for over 50 years.

We would also like to acknowledge the community for supporting our Donut sales throughout the year, we made a record of over 4,500 dozen this year. Proceeds support local, area and state projects. See you next year!

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

Call 419-258-2000 for information or printing quotes.

MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY

By: Mark Holtsberry

Ulysses Hitchcock was born March 10, 1896 in Putnam County, Ohio. The son of John, born in May of 1856 in



Ohio and Ida Madora (Barnard) Hitchcock born October 6, 1856 in Ohio. This couple married October 6, 1878 in Putnam County. By 1909, the Hitchcock family was living in Jackson Township, Putnam County.

Ulysses was the youngest as he had older brothers, Oscar and Raymond and a sister Ada. By 1910, the family was living in Union, Putnam County. The family had grown because a daughter in law, Vida, grandson Homer, granddaughters, Lydia and Nellie were living with them. Oscar died December 10, 1908 in Monroe, Michigan from a meningeal hemorrhage.

Ulysses moved to Oakwood before 1915. On June 24, 1916, he joined the National Guard out of Paulding. He served with Company B, 2nd Ohio National Guard. He was listed as 5'6", dark hair, brown eyes, fair complexion and a farmer by trade. Ulysses met a gal named Bertha Helen Hedrick. They married July 8, 1917. Bertha was born May 7, 1899 in Defiance, Ohio.

Ulysses served with Company B. until he transferred to Company B. of the 4th Infantry Ohio National Guard, (or also known as Company B. 166th Infantry). On July 15, Ulysses was assigned to the National Army. Promoted to

Private First Class, September 10, 1917.

On October 18, 1917, he set sail for France on the ship, Mallory. He was reduced to Private, November 4, 1917, then promoted to Private First Class September 20, 1918. He saw action in Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Michiel, Meuse-Argonne defensive sector.

Wounded in action, July 28, 1918 and again October 30, 1918. He was Honorably Discharged February 14, 1919 at Camp Sherman, Ohio. By 1920, Ulysses and Bertha were living in Richland County, Ohio. He was a machinist at the steel mill and they were living at West Third Street.

On January 23, 1923 a son George was born. Followed by another son, John R. September 15, 1925. By 1928, Ulysses and Bertha were separated and by 1930, they were divorced. Ulysses moved to San Bernardino, California. By 1935, Ulysses and sons were living in St. Louis, Missouri.

By 1940, the three Hitchcock men were living in San Bernardino, California. Ulysses was working as a carpenter, the boys both in school. Ulysses had to register for the World War Two draft, he was not chosen, but his two boys were.

On February 4, 1944, Ulysses married a gal named Ethel D. Stevens in Chihuahua, Mexico. On March 23, 1947, Ulysses' first wife, Bertha died. She was buried in Pasadena, California. In 1950, Ulysses found himself at Dotingtinger Sant Tuberculosis Institution, in Monrovia, California.

On Sunday June 18, 1950, Ulysses passed away. He had been a contractor for the last fourteen years. Services were held at 10:00 a.m. at the chapel of Douglass and Bradbury Mortuary. Rev. Paul V. Goodwin officiating.

Burial was at Valhalla Memorial Park Cemetery in North Hollywood, California. Section G. Lot 7098, Space 1. It is unknown what ever happened to Ethel.

... Until Next Time!

- The eight snowplow names receiving the most votes will be announced as the winners on Dec. 11, 2023.
- Each winner will receive a \$100 gift card, courtesy of the Ohio Turnpike.
- Winning names from the previous contests are not eligible.

Eight unique names will be assigned to eight snowplow

trucks in service at the eight maintenance buildings located across the 241-mile Ohio Turnpike in the cities of Pioneer, Swanton, Elmore, Castalia, Amherst, Richfield, Windham, and Canfield.

To enter the contest or for more details, visit <https://www.ohioturnpike.org/media/2023-name-a-snowplow-contest>

Bargain Box BAG SALE

November 7-11
134 East High, Hicksville

Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9-Noon
Wed., Fri. 9-5

\$5.00 per bag does not include dish cloths or knives

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PAULDING FFA IS FEEDING THE FARMERS IN THE FIELDS!



Pictured here is the group of 25 Paulding FFA members who delivered snack packs to 175 local farmers to thank them for their dedication to the community.



Pictured left to right are Paulding FFA members Jacob Harris, R.J. Wirts, farmers Eric and Dawn Cook, Johnny Lipps and Jose Gonzales standing in the field as they delivered snack packs and thanked them!

**By: Grace Goyings,
Paulding FFA Reporter**

On Wednesday, October 25th, the Paulding FFA Chapter had 25 members travel around Paulding County to feed the farmers in the fields.

The chapter first started doing this service project four years ago and it's one of their favorite projects to do each year. The chapter found that it was a great way to support local farmers and thank them for their countless hours of work to feed our world!

The students prepared snack packs in various bags we had donated to give to the farmers while they were working in the field or just needed a snack in the combine. These bags contain items such as homemade chocolate chip cookies, granola bars, snack cakes, trail mix, gatorade, and a bottle of water. We also included a water coolie, N95 masks, and hand wipes all in a reusable bag. The chapter would like to say a special thanks to Paulding

Soil and Water, Beck's, Ag Credit, Paulding Hospital, Williamson Insurance, and Joanne Klopfenstein for their contributions to making this yearly community service project happen.

A handwritten, sincere thank you note was also included in each bag as well as a Thank you farmer coloring sheet done by the elementary students. The FFA members delivered 175 snack packs to farmers in Paulding County. It was a very rewarding experience for our members as they got to interact with the farmers directly and learn about what they do every day! Feeding our farmers is one of the many ways we try to thank our farmers and show our support for them!

The Paulding FFA is very excited to continue this project in the future. We are striving to continue to increase the number of snack packs each year and thank more of our hard-working farmers!

other gatherings.

Brides can get married on-site in the open-air Renollet chapel, Dunakin dock, or forest, utilizing the trail system of the park. Clients can also book the downtown sister venue, East Vine, for showers, rehearsal dinners, day-of wedding preparation, honeymoon suites, and smaller events

(East Vine is expected to open late 2023 or early 2024). Various packages are available.

The park has welcomed guests from around the world for over 100 years, boasting a distinct, varied history.

Crystal Fountain Park history at a glance:

- 1907: 1st Spiritualist Camp in Ohio - It was the first spiritualist park in the state of Ohio, established by pioneer Thomas Wentworth from New York. Built in 1910, Wentworth Hall supporters paid \$1 to have their name engraved in the cement blocks set in the walls. (Those names are still there today.) Retreats, inspirational lectures, and other events were held there.

- Healing Waters, Hotel, & Sanitarium: "White crystals flowed forth" - and thus began the legend (and name-sake) of the "healing waters" of Crystal Fountain Park. Travelers came by rail from around the country (and even the world) for the annual retreat and healing services. A hotel and sanitarium were built, and one of the first public pools in the state was filled with the water.

- 1918: Skating Rink, Dance Hall, & Ball Park - In 1918, a pine floor was installed, and the auditorium was used for community dances with visiting orchestras.

- In 1931, Crystal Fountain Park was the first skating rink in Defiance County. Three layers of wood floor were laid above the original pine and dirt floors. You can see the reclaimed flooring in The Wentworth Bar, the stage surround, and other places throughout Crystal Fountain Park. The ballpark hosted major league players, and ballroom dancing was held weekly with live bands. Benefits, parties, and community events thrived.

- 1994: Archery, Weddings, & Community Events: In the recent past, The Wentworth was used for weddings, various community gatherings, and events by Central Local Schools. Many recall attending local archery events there.

- 2021: Crystal Fountain Park was owned by the Village of Sherwood until 2021, when it was purchased by Luke and Levi Kuhn.

The venue is family-owned and locally operated. Born in Defiance and raised in the Village of Sherwood, brothers Luke and Levi Kuhn are second-generation Sherwood businessmen passionate about their small-town dreams. Joined by their respective wives, Samantha and Kelsey, the Kuhn family's goal is to restore the park to its former glory, preserve NW Ohio history, and help the community flourish.

Learn more at www.crys-

talfountainpark.com or contact admin@crystal-fountain-park.com. To see photos and video of the venue, follow Crystal Fountain Park on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, or YouTube. Crystal Fountain Park is located at 445 East Vine Street, Sherwood, OH 43556.

Crystal Fountain Park is a newly renovated, historic wedding and event center located at 445 East Vine Street in Sherwood, Ohio. The 7,000-square-foot Wentworth Hall is located on 23 acres of woods and meadow. Crystal Fountain Park is now booking for weddings, corporate events, and other gatherings. Learn more at www.Crystal-FountainPark.com or email admin@crystalfountainpark.com.

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

State Wildlife Officer John Coffman, assigned to Fayette County, patrolled Deer Creek Wildlife Area and observed several individuals drinking alcohol while fishing along the lake. The group left their empty beer bottles scattered along the shore. Officer Coffman issued four summonses for stream litter.

State Wildlife Officers Brian Motsinger, Matt Bourne, Matt Teders, and Nick Oliver, assigned to Union, Clark, Madison, and Champaign counties, respectively, attended Farm Science Review in September. The officers interacted with thousands of farmers, landowners, and students and answered questions about hunting, nuisance wildlife, careers, and much more. State wildlife officers strive to make positive contacts with the public and serve as a source of natural resource information.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

On opening day of the 2022-23 white-tailed deer gun hunting season, State Wildlife Officer Supervisor Kevin Russell and State Wildlife Officer Ryan Burke, assigned to Hancock County, contacted hunters. The officers discovered that one individual, who had just completed a deer drive, did not have a valid deer permit. He was issued a citation for hunting deer without a permit and paid \$175 in fines and court costs through Findlay Municipal Court. Later, the officers contacted an individual who had harvested a buck without a valid hunting license. He was issued a citation and paid \$250 in fines and court costs through Findlay Municipal Court.

State Wildlife Officer Charles McMullen, assigned to Sandusky County, patrolled Lake Erie with Wildlife Investigator Brian Bury near the Toledo Lighthouse. They contacted a Michigan angler who was anchored and fishing in Ohio waters. The angler had 44 yellow perch in his possession, 14 more than the daily limit. One summons was issued. He paid \$168 in fines and court costs and 14 perch were forfeited to the state.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Officer Tom Frank, assigned to Mahoning County, identified suspicious activity in white-tailed deer harvest reports. Officer Frank learned that a hunter had taken an antlered deer and purchased an either-sex per-

mit after the harvest. The individual was issued a summons. In court, he paid \$315 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officers Zach Hillman, assigned to Cuyahoga County, and Michael Greer, assigned at-large in northeast Ohio, partnered with Ohio Central Basin Steelheaders and Cleveland Metroparks in a litter cleanup along the Rocky River in Cuyahoga County.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

In early October, State Wildlife Officer Scot Gardner, assigned to Washington County, received a complaint regarding household trash and other debris dumped on private property near the Ohio River. The debris was within the river's flood plain, so the trash would likely be swept into the Ohio River during a flood. Officer Gardner determined the trash was discarded by the landowner. Officer Gardner informed the individual of the severity of the issue and advised the landowner that he had 72 hours to remove the trash or citations would be issued. The items were removed when Officer Gardner returned to the property.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officer Brad Buening, assigned to Mercer County, investigated a dump site along Coldwater Creek. Officer Buening inspected recently dumped items and found pig hides and parts along with other garbage. The Mercer County Sheriff's Office and State Wildlife Officer Mark Schemmel, assigned to Auglaize County, helped identify two suspects. One suspect was charged with stream littering and was found guilty in Celina Municipal Court. The suspect paid \$325 in fines and court costs.

Along with routine enforcement duties, District Five wildlife officers recently attended community events. State Wildlife Officer Mark Schemmel, assigned to Auglaize County, attended the Mercer trapper's workshop. State Wildlife Officer Houston Wireman, assigned to Shelby County, attended the Shelby County Soil and Water Conservation Day. Both events were well attended, and the officers spoke with participants about trapping laws and conservation.

State Wildlife Officer Micah Collier, assigned to Brown County, attended a Trunk or Treat event in Fayetteville and handed out bobbers, bracelets, and books to several hundred children.

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 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 Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. 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

Zoning Points

- On November 7th, the voters of Auglaize Township will be deciding whether to bring back zoning. According to the Old Testament, for everything there is a season, a time for every matter under heaven. There was a time for not supporting this issue, but changes in what is happening, makes it necessary to revisit this issue. A lot of misinformation has been put out to the public in the past months. Zoning has been framed as local government trying to take control. The negative narrative is not fact based. The truth is a citizen group was formed to design regulations to protect residents from "anything goes" land use and future development.

- Looking around at unzoned townships, you can see that certain business activity have taken advantage of the lack of regulations and oversight of the township trustees. These businesses should not be in residential areas for safety and to maintain current values of our homes. We want our residential areas to be safe for us and our children. The increased traffic and noise can reduce safety and overall quality of living conditions.

- It is the future we are concerned. There has been an effort to make residents feel

(Continued from Page 1)

strooms

- A four-season patio
- Open-air chapel and dock
- 23 acres with forest trails
- And more!

Crystal Fountain Park is now booking for 2024 weddings, business events, and

Saturday, November 11th, 2023

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their rights are being taken away. It is the opposite, protecting your future.

• Nine of the Twelve Townships in Paulding County currently have Zoning. Townships not Zoned have in the past been targeted by out of the area individuals and companies looking to exploit us. Looking to just make money with no regard to our community. A drive on St. Rt. 613 west of Broughton is one example.

• The Ohio House passed a bill last fall allowing Townships that have zoning, to have build authority for smaller Solar or other Renewable Energy. Again, you should be able to use your land as you please. However not at your neighbors' expense. We have out of the area land owners who are not always concerned about our quality of life. Zoning would allow Trustees the ability to negotiate setbacks, ensure a tree or other barrier. Ultimately Trustees could stop the development, if they were persuaded by residents.

A drive on St. Rt. 613 east of Oakwood in Putnam County is an example. (this is considered a smaller development as it is under 50 megawatt) A Solar field that some feel a larger setback from the road and trees or Green barrier would have been better. There are large Federal Government Grant dollars incentivizing building of Solar and Wind farms. Corporations are soliciting landowners now.

There is an acknowledgment that the previous Zoning in Auglaize Township had opportunities for improvement. Steps have been made for improvements in enforcement and the zoning regulations, so we can have the protection of a Zoned

Community. Local Zoning can be amended by a process outlined in the Zoning Regulations. If something is not working as it was intended, it can be changed. With the acceptance of the Zoning Ordinance, everything as of that date are grandfathered in.

• We believe it is in our best interest to protect our community from Corporate and individuals who only want to make money, with no consideration of our quality of life. The majority of our residents are considerate and good neighbors.

Homes are generally are our largest investment, we don't want our homes to lose value due to development that is not appropriate.

• There are property owner rights that need to be balanced with neighbor rights. We believe you should be able to use your land as you please, but not at the expense of your neighbor.

• It has been stated falsely that we don't need Zoning, the County has authority. This is not true. There is no County wide Zoning. This is why other Townships and Villages have Zoning ordinances. So local residents can decide what's best for their community.

• You have the privilege to vote and make choices. A Yes Vote For Zoning on November 7th ensures that our township is controlled by local residents and our elected Township Trustees.

• Please Vote Yes for Zoning.

—Laurie Lucas, Auglaize Twp, Paulding, OH

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

American Freedom At

Stake

I dreamed I was at a national horse race and people were upset and crying. Not just a few but many. They had wagered heavily and lost all. It was as if all their hopes and dreams had vanished.

Their favorite, American Freedom, stumbled and fell coming out of the fourth turn while jockeying for the home stretch. The race finished with underdog, Socialist, the winner.

I believe it was Dirty Tricks that caused freedom to stumble, kind of like our 2020 election, which I believe was very dirty. You really don't believe that was all open and above board, do you? Do you realize freedom and socialism are complete opposites?

Tears fell world-wide as Evil cheered. They saw us as a weakling, afraid of tomorrow. Freedom was strong and kept Evil shaking while Socialism is weak with no vision and has given in to the world's evil. That sounds like Trump and Biden

I believe socialism could lead us into seeing a repeat of the early 1930s. Satan doesn't do something that appears good for a few without total evil in his plans. Satan's warriors are keeping our borders open to bring total evil to America in their effort to gain total control.

Please dwell on the next factual question. Why is our democrat party creating a non-Christian military? Ever since America's day one we have had a Christian military and have come to the aid of many since our start. Do you trust today's communist loving socialist leaders of the Democrat party? I don't!

I can see them treating today's illegals and our sick and elderly just as Hitler treated the Jews in WWII. It will be instant darkness as they turn their non-Christian military against us. You can't see it that way? Well, I'll bet you couldn't see Hamas invading Israel and butchering everyone in their path either.

Think! That's it, think for yourself instead of allowing Biden, Schumer, Pelosi, Obama and their anti-God, anti-America warriors of Satan tell you how to think and what to do. Why have Satan's Democrats spent the last seventy years trying to remove God from every facet of our lives? In plain English, they hate God and the good He stands for.

I know you find that hard to believe from fellow Americans but I also believe it to be very true. Ever since the

1960's our education system has been programing our kids to be dumber than in past years. They can't do math without a computer and have been taught that it's all about "me". They have learned how to do alcohol, drugs and sex but nothing about meaningful living.

To take over a nation like our United States, all you need to do is remove God and destroy the family. And now for one fact that I want you, primarily you liberals on the left, to think about day and night for one solid week. Your present elected Democrat officials are just Satan's early guard testing the waters before the final battle. What I'm trying to say is that if you help and allow Satan's earthly Democrat warriors win the 2024 election, it will assuredly mean the end of free America.

Boy, I hated saying that but I have been watching life for years now and can't see any other conclusion every time we get a Democrat president our military is made smaller and our government goes into a "tax and spend" mode. We just can't survive like that. We need God and family brought back big time and right now. Later could be too late.

—Richard Mastin Hicksville, OH

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Auglaize Township has a zoning issue on the Ballot this election day. Since September there have been vote no for zoning signs along the roads. About 10 days ago I noticed a few Vote Yes for Zoning signs. Then they were gone. The signs were on State land. I remember thinking who feels threatened by a sign. This is America and the 1st Amendment assures Americans of the freedom of speech. To protect this right, there is a law protecting the right to place political signs. According to the Ohio Revised Code Section 2913.02 the stealing of political signs is considered theft, a misdemeanor of the first degree. The people that stole the signs obviously don't want the other side to have a voice in this election. We should be ashamed that there is a small number of people that

want to shut down the right of Americans to voice their opinion. I do not expect everyone to fall in line with my opinion, but I certainly expect the other side to let the free flow of discussion decide the issue. The stealing or destruction of signs certainly isn't going to change anyone's decision on which way to vote.

—Cliff Lucas Auglaize Twp.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I would like to start with a big Thank You to Gregg Gorman and Richard Mastin for your letters to the editor inspiring me to share my thoughts. Also, the numerous women and men of faith that have recently shared their views on the issues voted on in Ohio this fall.

I urge you all to listen to (via duck-duck-go or google or youtube or whatever your search engine); Paul Harvey's "If I were the devil". Sixty years ago, he predicted these times we live in right now.

Everyone; when the mainstream media, colleges and universities, Hollywood, pro sports, big pharma, big tech, planned parenthood, global elites & satan; YA KNOW the Democrat Party spend all of

2024 telling us how much they did for us, be rest assured, they are absolutely correct! When they tell us, day after day, from every communication venue available, leading up to the 2024 election, "see we brought down the price of eggs, see we brought down the price of homes, see we brought down the price of clothes, & goods & other food, see we brought down THE PRICE OF GAS". They are absolutely correct!

From 2020-2023, they told us that their policies have no effect on prices. They said "OPEC and the oil companies control gas prices, which effects the price of everything else. We have no control over that". Those statements from DC for three years were either ignorant or simply, bold face, blatant lies! They control everything and have since January of 2021. In fact DC and their media has controlled everything for a very long time.

So they will finally be telling the truth in 2024, when they tell us "see how we brought down the price of Gas and Eggs".

Oh, one more thing, TERM LIMITS!

—Chuck Schroeder Paulding, OH

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READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

- OHIO LOCATIONS**
- Antwerp:** Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows
- Bryant:** 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, Village offices
- Ney:** Marathon
- Oakwood:** Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip
- Paulding:** Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, 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
- Pavne:** 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 General, 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, Willies Cafe II

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RED DEVILS TOO MUCH FOR ARCHERS



Archer Senior Landon Brewer intercepts the ball from the Red Devils. Photo by Harlee Moore.



Antwerp Senior QB Carson Altimus looks for an opening in Arlington's defense. Photo by Lions Eye Photography.

Ayden Cavinee scored on touchdown runs of 15 and 59 yards to lead the Arlington Red Devils to a 27-20 victory over Antwerp in Division VII, Region 26, football playoff action Friday night at Archer Field.

Neither team scored in the opening stanza before the Archers finally broke through with eight seconds remaining in the first half.

Senior quarterback Carson Altimus scampered four yards to give Antwerp the first points of the evening as the blue and white took a 6-0 half-time advantage.

Arlington answered in the third quarter when Cavinee rumbled 15-yards for a score that tied the game at 6-6 entering the final period.

Cavinee then gave the Red Devils their first lead of the night, sprinting 59-yards for a touchdown with 11:20 left in the fourth quarter. Trenton Heacock added the two-point conversion run for a 14-6 Arlington advantage.

The Hancock County squad extended the lead with 5:20 remaining as Caden Russell plunged two-yards in pushing the Arlington advantage to 20-6.

Antwerp made things interesting, getting a 13-yard touchdown pass from Altimus to Landon Brewer as the Archers trimmed the deficit to 20-12 with 3:45 on the clock.

However, Arlington quickly answered to take control back.

The Red Devils needed only 22 seconds to find the

endzone with Heacock tossing a six-yard scoring strike to Luke Metzger for a 27-12 lead at the 3:23 mark.

Antwerp again cut into the deficit when Altimus connected with Kayden Winslow on a 16-yard touchdown toss with 53 seconds left in the contest.

Altimus also added the two-point conversion run to trim the deficit to 27-20.

Arlington, though, sealed the victory by recovering the ensuing onside kick and the Red Devils then ran out the clock to start the celebration.

Cavinee led the way for the Red Devils with 185 yards on 22 carries while Heacock added 43 yards over 14 attempts.

Russell chipped in 32 rushing yards on eight tries for Arlington.

Altimus passed for a pair of touchdowns to pace the Archer offense while also adding 100 rushing yards on 18 carries.

Antwerp wraps up a Green Meadows Conference co-championship season with an overall record of 9-2 while the Archers were 6-1 in conference play.

WAYNE TRACE VANTAGE STUDENTS HONOR ROLL 1st NINE WEEKS 2023-24

* Denotes a 4.0 GPA
A&B Honor Roll:
JUNIORS:
 Alana Beebe, Elana Bidlack, Haylee Bland, Jayce Elston, Cheyenne Goings, Brok Grimes, Tyler Head, Riley Hildebrand, Keegan Hohman, Corbin Kimmel, Kal-El Lands, Mason Lee, Olivia Mcmillan, *Bethany Miller, Braden Miller, Brady Miller, *Brooklyn Miller, Cole Morehead, Gage Ogle, *Blake Osborn, Noah Parady, Kennedy Parsons, Keegan Rager, Maya Reynolds, Kayson Ross, Prestyn Schnepf, Blake Schultz, Kaci Sentelik, Amos Sinn, *Kamryn Sutton, Trenton Thomas, Trent Thornell, Jared Varner, Ryan Viola

SENIORS:
 Connor Blankenship, Kason Carlisle, Kyle Forrer, Harley Halliwell, Marannabelle Lands, Kassidy Lewis, Jasmine Mattson, *Trenton McClain, *Nathaniel Osborn, Parker Schisler, Kyla Schoenauer, Kamrun Smith, Jude Stoller, Lillanna Thompson, Maddox Treece, Graiden Troth, Brendan Weidenhamer, Luke Wenninger

PAULDING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL 1st NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24

All A's
SIXTH GRADE:
 Katherine Arend, Annaleise (Anna) Baughman, Brady Dunham, Sawyer Hunt, Elayna Kleman, Hudson Spangler

SEVENTH GRADE:
 Daniella (Dani) Borland, Ingrid Escobar, Aspen Grace, Wesley Grindstaff, Addalynne (Addy) Halter, Brynlee Mangette, Allison Manz, Chase Manz, Leah Manz, Makenna Manz, Lilly Steingass, Owen Stoller, Sage Stork, Audrey Trejo Marin

EIGHTH GRADE:
 Brodin Adkins, Presley Barnes, Nicholas (Nick) Baughman, Jack Daeger, Parker Egnor, Jarret Griffith, Emily Hartzell, Gannon Landers, Jason Manz, Graham Miller, Miracle (Mimmy) Omonayin, Alayna (Aly) White

All A's & B's:
SIXTH GRADE:
 Bethany Antigo, Braelynn

Averesch, Savanna (Savy) Barnes, Nahla Carlisle, Nevyah Cler, Harrison (Harry) Coi, Logan Dunson, Abisai Escobar, Bindy Font, Easton Gee, Lillian (Lilly) Gunderman, Brayden Keeling, Victor Lechuga, Carlie Lero, Weston Manz, Avaeah Mezuk, Balan Miller, Gavin Parrett, Piper Pease, Lylah Schlueter, Sophia Speelman, Tucker Stoller, Gihanna (Gia) Wagenhauser, Ella Zimmerman

SEVENTH GRADE:
 Cora Agler, Jonah Anders, Paisley Bartley, Karli Breedlove, Madison Clark, Yoselin Cortes Becerra, Paityn Dobbelaere, Jakob Elkins, Kendal Hodge, Lily Leatherman, Landon Manz, Lincoln Manz, Jordyn Nagy, Kristen Radar, Evelyn Reyes, Elliette Roughton, Nolan Schlatter, Shohawna Shepherd, Kendyl Sunday, Jady VanVlerah

EIGHTH GRADE:
 Annabelle (Gracie) Ametewee, Addison Arend, Ella (Ella Kate) Barker, Zachary (Zach) Barton, Zaine Bidlack, Maxwell Burnes, Kinzley Colard, Rylee Cox, Trevor Durham, Tyler Goyings, Ridge Hunt, Delaney Johanns, Alivia Kingen, Gauge Krill, Kaydence (Kayde) Kuckuck, Quinton Laker, Ava Leatherman, Tyson Manz, Adrianna (Any) Mead, Gabriella (Gabby) Mullins, Civil Pumphrey, Nicholas (Nick) Schlueter, Dylan Weible

ANNUAL WOODBURN LIONS CLUB FALL CHALK WALK



A number of young artists braved much cooler weather Saturday morning to create a variety of colorful fall chalk designs around Clock Tower Plaza in Woodburn. Winners in the Pre-K and Kindergarten group included Stevie Garcia, 1st Place; Aria Garcia, 2nd Place. Winners in the Grades 1-3 group included Mae Wagner, 1st Place; Brielle Klatcher and Bryn Klatcher,

tied for 2nd Place. Winners in the Grades 4-6 group included Xander Wagner, 1st Place; Brinley Wagner, 2nd Place. Adding flair to the contest table were a variety of decorated pumpkins, including a winning design created by 3rd Grader Madalyn Wagner. The Lions Club would like to thank all of those who participated in this year's events!

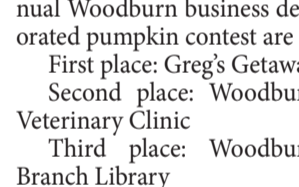
6th ANNUAL PUMPKIN CONTEST WINNERS



Greg's Getaway



Woodburn Branch Library



Woodburn Veterinary Clinic

The winners of the 6th annual Woodburn business decorated pumpkin contest are

First place: Greg's Getaway
 Second place: Woodburn Veterinary Clinic
 Third place: Woodburn Branch Library

Halcyon Smith, Karter Spears, Alexis Wharry

SOPHOMORES:

4.0: Xander Bartley, Ingrid Bautista Salto, Lilian Daniels, Mallory Fisher, Alfonso Gonzales, Jackson Griffith, Hunter Harwell, Damien Iliff, Brooklyn King, Isabelle Lamb, Jared Manz, Trenton Manz, Aleah Matty, Tessa Metcalf, Abigail Panches, Thad Schneider, Jack Schweller, Sheyenne Shepherd, Laila Stiltner, Adan Zacarias

3.5-3.99: Grady Barton, Bailey Bennett, Olivia Breckler, Lucy Breier, Izaac Coutts, Landen Danberry, Maxwell

Fohner, Katelynn Gerbers, Hannah Griffiths, Jacob Harris, Gerald Hartzell, Wade Huelsmeyer, Addison Hunt, Colten Hunt, Molly Iler, Layla Kremer, Jackson Laker, Samantha Leal, Renee McCabe, Leticia Mendez, Tyler Palacios, Addison Pease, Hope Peters, Adam Panches, Blake Rhonehouse, Raleigh Sanders, Xander Schwab, Addison Shull, Logan Winke

3.0-3.49: Adriaana Biliti, Jaylin Born, Teegan Cameron, Grace Cantu, Makayla Carr, Carson Eitniear, Hayden Gill, Landen Humphreys, Alexander Kuckuck, Clayton Manz,

FREE FLU SHOTS FOR Veterans

Flu season is right around the corner and the CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses.

This year we are offering Quadrivalent & Hi-Dose Quadrivalent flu vaccines. This will provide a broader protection against circulating flu viruses.

A voucher must be obtained from Paulding County Veterans Services. To receive the free flu shot please have your military ID, or show proof of honorable discharge at the Paulding County Veterans Service Office to receive a voucher. Paulding County Veterans Service Office is located next to the Health Department. Office Hours are Tuesday-Friday 9:30 am-2:00 pm.

PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL
 pauldingcountyhospital.com

Porter's Liquidation Sales
 aka Porter's Auction
 19326 Road 60 Grover Hill, Ohio 45849
 (419)969-4119 or (419)439-5999
 Business Hours: Tues 2-7, Thursday 10-6, Saturday 9-1

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 9AM-3PM

10% of total sales & 100% of bake sales will be donated to the Activities Department of the Country Inn Enhanced Living Center

Look us up on Facebook!

We Sell: houseware items, small appliances, clothing, food, tools, health & beauty, home decor, etc...

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Kathy Eustler 419-890-6909 • Susie Marshall 419-439-5999

Miguel Martinez, Emma McCray, Mariana Miranda-Guerra, Dylan Perez, Madison Ramey, Luke Ray, Kristopher Schuchart, Kiera Youtsey

FRESHMEN:

4.0: Anija Acevedo, Destiny Aldred, Braylon Barnes, Remington Boroff, Isabella Burtch, Max Daeger, Landon Dasher, Kayleigh Dunham, Silas Foltz, Alexisa Hankinson, Reina Klemman, Mariah Klopfenstein, Mackenzie Leatherman, Esther Lemieux, Camdyn Manz, Megan Manz, Myrriah Manz, Vivienne Myers, Estie Pease, Lucy Porter, Leonel Reyes, Tori Schlatter, Cadence Schwab, Lailah Smith, Makayla Spears, Audrey Stoller, Darcy Taylor

3.5-3.9: Jolene Branham, Avery Cooper, Jayla Griffith, Kyra Jackman, Kate Manz, Monico Moreno, Eli Pessefall, Evan Petrey, Noah Pollock, Kendra Schroeder, Trinity Starr

3.0-3.49: London Ametewee, Olivia Breier, Domanick Bullinger, Madalyn Dierksheide, Nevaeh Jones, Esperanza Kline, Brody Lindsey, Gannon Parrett, Colton Roehrig

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY IN NOVEMBER

The Paulding County Carnegie Library is ready for November with programs. activities and some special surprises, Christmas photo opportunities are still available by the historic decorated fireplace. Stop in or call to set up an appointment at 419-399-2032. The library is hosting "An Evening with Abraham Lincoln" as portrayed by Kevin Wood, on Monday November 6 at 5:30 p.m. Plan to visit and be entertained by a past president. The library will be closed Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11 in observance of Veteran's Day, also on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 to celebrate Thanksgiving.

The Adult and Teen section are making Grinch trees every Tuesday while supplies last during the month. One per household is allowed. Holiday movie bundles will be available every Friday all month. Get in the spirit! There is a MEDICARE 101 workshop on Wednesday, November 8 at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Ask the experts, it is a very informative class. Cookbook Club will meet on Monday, November 20 at 5:30 p.m. The Theme is "THANKSGIVING". Bring a prepared dish and the recipe and enjoy a great meal. Meat will be furnished. Teen Cookbook Club will meet on Monday, November 27 at 4:00 p.m. All supplies are provided. Come and learn to make some tasty treats. Be sure and stop by during SHOP THE VILLAGE, Saturday November 25. "Buy the Book" used bookstore will be open 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., as they are every Saturday. Visit the Library for a treat while they last

and local author books will be available for purchase. "Coffee Talk" meets every Thursday at 1:00 p.m. Join us for a snack and fun conversation. During the month of November, local author and storyteller extraordinaire Eve Sharon Kober will be sharing her knitting skills at a workshop she calls, "KNITTING, PURL AND SIMPLE". This will be held directly after "Coffee Talk" at 2:00 p.m. on Thursdays. This is a basic knitting class; all supplies are provided.

The Children's Room has story time every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., come enjoy a story, craft and a snack. We are excited about having "An Evening with Abraham Lincoln" on Monday, November 6 at 5:30 p.m. This program will be entertaining.

ANTWERP BRANCH

The Antwerp branch has Story time every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. Cookbook Club is on Monday, November 13th at 5:45 p.m. Book Club meets on Monday, November 20th at 6:00 p.m. Craft Friday's during library hours 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., all ages welcome. Call and sign up to make Bread with Stephanie at 419-258-2855.

GROVER HILL BRANCH

The Grover Hill branch is starting the month of November with their sign up for the monthly drawing, stop in and get registered. Monday, November 6 is Dot Painting with Carol at 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m., call ahead to sign up. All materials will be provided, ages teen to adult. Thursday, November 9th at 1:00 p.m. will be Senior Bingo Friends-giving. This event is fully booked. Please call for upcoming events. Monday, November 13th and 27th are the Munchkin story time at 12:30 p.m., for a story craft and treat. Wednesday, November 29th at 4:00 p.m. is the GHBL Book Club discussion of the novel "The Nest" by Cynthia D'Aprix Sweeney. Thursday, November 30th at 5:00 p.m. will be the drawing for the monthly prize.

PAYNE BRANCH

The Payne branch will be hosting Dot Art Class with Carol Blodgett on November 2 at 1:00 p.m. and another one at 5:30 p.m. All supplies will be provided. Please call to register at 419-263-3333. Bring your friends! There will be a Giving Tree for the month of November. Please help us by bringing in a non-perishable food item, the items will be donated to the Caring and Sharing Food Pantry. Kids will be having a coloring contest for Thanksgiving, there will be prizes for each age group. Storytime with Tiffany and friends is on Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. Coffee Talk takes place on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m., join us for coffee and conversation. Kids top by the library for a Turkey Hunt the whole month of November.

Friends of the Paulding County Carnegie Library would like to thank everyone for the support of our used

bookstore, "Buy the Book". The Paulding Chamber of Commerce recently awarded Buy the Book the "Golden Shovel Award" for improvements made to the building. The new mural was painted by Nathan and Amber Krynock family. The mural has garnered a lot of attention. Check it out if you haven't seen it. The next Friends meeting is November 13th at 6:00 p.m. in the main area upstairs. The Buy the Book bookstore is open every Wednesday from 3:30-6:30 p.m. and every Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Black Swamp Bookworms are reading "Married to Millie" by local author Jane Nice. Join us as we get a glimpse of the writing process that generated this heartwarming story of love and devotion. Please call the Main Library to reserve your copy, at 419-399-2032. The book club meets on November 13th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

USDA ANNOUNCES \$27.6 MILLION TO SUPPORT UNDERSERVED AND VETERAN FARMERS AND RANCHERS THROUGH THE 2501 PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4, 2023 - The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced \$27.6 million in grants to provide training, outreach and technical assistance to underserved and veteran farmers, ranchers, and foresters to help them own and operate successful farms, ranches, and forest lands. Funding is made through USDA's 2501 Program. The 2501 program is administered by the USDA Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE). "The 2501 Program demonstrates USDA's commitment to improving the livelihoods of the country's underserved and veteran farmers, ranchers and foresters by ensuring that they have access to and are equipped with the resources, knowledge and tools to be successful," said OPPE Director Lisa Ramirez.

In 2023, USDA is investing \$27.6 million in grants to 41 organizations in 27 states (PDF, 736 KB) for their efforts to provide outreach and technical assistance to underserved and veteran farmers and ranchers. This funding is made available through the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018.

Among the 2501 Program awardees is the Recirculating Farms Coalition's Growing Local Veterans in Agriculture project. This project will teach veterans about vertical farming and other agricultural innovations for a more equitable food system providing fresh, local, accessible food and stable, green jobs in New Orleans, Louisiana. Another 2501 award will go to the Pueblo of Isleta for the Farmers Outreach and Assistance Program for Tribal Communities initiative in Isleta Pueblo, New Mexico.

The 2501 Program was created through the 1990 Farm Bill to help underserved farmers, ranchers and foresters who have historically experienced limited access to USDA loans, grants, training and technical assistance. The 2014 Farm Bill expanded the program to include veterans. Grants are awarded to higher education institutions and nonprofit and community-based orga-

BLUFFTON SHUTS DOWN PAULDING



Paulding senior Kobe Foor easily gets the tackle in this midfield take down. More pictures at westbendnews.net

Paulding made the long trip to Bluffton in Division VI, Region 26, high school football playoff action on Friday where the host Pirates kept the Panther offense in check all night long in rolling to a 63-6 victory.

The maroon and white totaled only 195 yards of offense in the contest, with quarterback Colten Hunt throwing for 144 yards in completing 11 of 28 passes.

Kobe Foor and Hunt ran for 24 and 15 yards, respectively, to lead the Paulding ground attack despite the Panthers being held to 44 yards in all on the ground.

Jesse Schaffer and Caleb Larson picked up three catches apiece for the Panthers with Blake Rhonehouse, Jalen Manz and Jackson Griffith getting two receptions each.

Jalen Manz topped the Panther defense with 11 tackles on the night while Foor picked up seven stops and Jack Woods posted five tackles.

Hayden Dearth paced



Paulding senior Caleb Larson gets the tackle of the oncoming ball carrier! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Bluffton with a trio of touchdowns on the night, catching scoring passes of 31 and 14 yards in the second quarter after running 11 yards for a score in the opening period.

Landen Worcester scored on runs of two and 46 yards for the Pirates and Gavin Bogart hauled in a 16-yard scoring strike in the first quarter.

Bluffton led 21-0 at the end of one period and expanded the margin to 49-0 at the midway point.

Tayte Giesige then returned the opening kickoff of the third quarter for a 79-yard return for a score and Avery Sprunger caught a five-yard scoring strike from Giesige to push the lead to 63-0 entering the final stanza.

Paulding's lone score of the night came on a 15-yard touchdown pass from Colten Hunt to Caleb Larson.

The Panthers close the season with a record of 6-5 overall.

nizations to extend USDA's engagement efforts in underserved and veteran communities.

Projects funded under the 2501 Program include, but are not limited to, conferences, workshops, and demonstrations on various farming techniques, and connecting underserved farmers and ranchers to USDA resources and services. Since 2010, the 2501 Program has provided more than \$221 million dollars to fund more than 657 projects.

More information about the funded projects is available at the OPPE website.

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.

Advertisement for Antwerp Exchange Bank. Text: "we're not just bankers . . ." and "we're neighbors". Locations listed: Antwerp, Ohio (419-258-5351), Payne, Ohio (419-263-2705), Harlan, Indiana (260-657-1000). Logo: "the Antwerp Exchange Bank Est. 1898".

Advertisement for Generac Home Standby Generators. Text: "Prepare for power outages with Generac". Image of a white generator unit.

Advertisement for Gerbers Electric Residential Generator Dealer. Text: "GERBERS ELECTRIC RESIDENTIAL GENERATOR DEALER 260-632-5123".

Advertisement for PCBW (Paulding County Business Weekly) radio show. Text: "PCBW PAULDING COUNTY BUSINESS WEEKLY". Hosts: "JOHN, BRIAN & TWILA @ ANTWERP EXCHANGE BANK". Broadcast schedule: "LISTEN EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY AT 8:00AM & 5:00PM OR ANYTIME AT MY1027.ORG". Station logo: "102.7 WMYW".

THE LEFT TURN



Kyle Larson, Now Co-Owner of The High Limit and All Stars Sprint Series. Action Photos Ohio

By: Ron Burt
High Limit Acquires All Stars

Many of us that follow Sprint Car racing were shocked to hear that the High Limit Sprint Car Series, owned by Kyle Larson and Brad Sweet, has finalized the acquisition of the All Star Circuit of Champions from Tony Stewart. Effective immediately, NASCAR Cup champion Kyle Larson and four-time World of Outlaws Sprint Cars champion Brad Sweet have taken ownership of the 410 Sprint Car series owned by three-time NASCAR Cup Series champion and Eldora Speedway owner Tony Stewart.

Stewart purchased the All Star Circuit of Champions in 2015. He became the fourth different owner since the series' creation in 1970, Stewart helped the series grow with more races in different states and tracks, increasing purses for its teams and raising the series visibility by partnering with FloRacing in 2020. Tony was quoted saying "The time is right to pass the torch to Kyle and Brad. I have had many conversations with them both on their overall vision for 410 racing and I am confident that with their leadership, the sport will continue to thrive into the foreseeable future".

In 2023, Kyle Larson and Brad Sweet formed the High Limit Sprint Car Series with a schedule that featured 12 midweek events with larger than normal payouts. This brought the biggest names in Sprint Car racing to their events. Their goal is to elevate Sprint Car racing and turn their passion for the sport into a positive for fans, drivers, teams, and race-tracks. Sprint Car fans are wondering if now this will develop into a larger battle going up against the World of Outlaws. Larson and Sweet both race in that series. Kyle Larson just won the High Limit season Championship. As we go to press this week the World of Outlaws

are having their World Finals at the Dirt Track in Charlotte. Brad Sweet is on top of the point standing going into this final racing weekend with only a 50-point lead over 2nd place David Gravel and a 140-point lead over



Ricky Lewis wins BOSS 410 Sprint Championship. Campbell Photography

Carson Macedo. In 2nd place, Gravel is in a great spot if Sweet slips up.

Lewis Win Championship

Last weekend 28 Sprint cars were in the pits and fans braved the low temperatures. The Buckeye Outlaw Sprint Series closed out their 2023 season at Waynesfield Raceway Park. Point leader Ricky Lewis already had the championship wrapped up but he flew back from the West Coast to race anyway. He made series history, scoring his sixth win of the season in the series and 17th win of the year. It was also his third in three starts at Waynesfield Raceway Park. Max Adams set overall fast time with a 13.121 second lap around the quarter mile oval. Dustin Ingle, Chance Crum, and Ricky Lewis won the 3 preliminary heat races. Your feature winner and BOSS 2023 Champion is Ricky Lewis and rounding out the top-5 was Matt Westfall, Korbyn Hayslett, Sterling Cling, and Jadon Rogers.

Other winners on the final night of racing at Waynesfield Raceway Park for 2023. The UMP Modified feature was won by Brian Ruhlman, Jeff Koz and Brandon Vaughan. Rolly Heyder won the Dirt Truck A-main followed by Phil Hicks and Chris Bitters. Dayton's Matt Freeman won the Sport Compact feature followed by Ryan Okuley and Brian Mullins.

Weather permitting, Montpelier Speedway in Indiana will close out their season this weekend as we go to press. Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out!

NATIONAL GUN ASSOCIATION FOR GUN RIGHTS

Your help in fighting for the gun rights of American veterans is needed.

Last week, pro-gun Senator John Kennedy (R-LA) authored an amendment to H.R. 4366 that would prohibit the Veterans Administration from automatically reporting veterans to the NICS "no guns" registry.

Thanks to Presidents Biden, Obama and Clinton, over 250,000 American veterans have been illegally stripped of their gun rights without trial and without due process with more being added every day!

Kennedy's amendment is as common sense as legislation gets.

It simply puts an end to the radical process of rubberstamping veterans returning from war as "mentally ill" and requires an actual COURT to be involved on an individual case basis before making such a determination that could result in a lifetime gun ban.

No American, and certainly no veteran should ever be denied their gun rights on the whim of some anti-gun government bureaucrat.

But you can bet the gun grabbers are already positioned to attack Kennedy's amendment, because it would block them from adding more names to the ever-growing NICS database of gun owners.

Demand your U.S. Senators support this legislation as amended.

Call Sen. Sherrod Brown at (202) 224-2315 and Sen. J.D. Vance at (202) 224-3353 today.

You can also call the Capitol switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to be directed to your Senator.

Tell your Senators to support H.R. 4366 with Kennedy amendment #1354.

For Freedom,
 Dudley Brown
 President
 National Association for Gun Rights

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic

Disposition Report

Lonnie Williams III, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

David B. Traver, Brazil, IN; Failure to yield for emergency vehicle; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Anthony S. Durbin, Orlando, FL; No operator;s license; Count A dismissed

Nicholas S. Gee, Melrose, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Mo S. Fa, Fort Wayne, IN; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Laura E. Seibert, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; 30 days suspended; Defendant to pay all remaining fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Tarry E. Rhodes, Butler, IN; Reckless operation; Guilty; ALS terminated

Jay B. Hanenkratt, Paulding, OH; Driving under suspension (OVI), Guilty, License suspension from 10/30/23 to 1/30/24, Pay all fines and costs, Pay restitution determined by victims assistant, Placed on standard probation, May be released if no restitution is owed or when paid off; Fail-

ure to control, Count B dismissed

Jesse J. Dodrill, Delphos, OH; Driving under non FRA suspension; Count A dismissed

Jose J. Carillo-Perez, Bluffton, IN; Marked lanes, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Distracted driving, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

Kerby R. Miller, Delphos, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

ODOT ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The following construction projects are anticipated to affect highways in Defiance, Paulding, Putnam and Van Wert Counties next week. All outlined work is weather permitting.

Due to the Veterans Day holiday, most work will cease on Friday, Nov. 10, however, construction activities may continue for contracted projects.

DEFIANCE COUNTY:

U.S. 127 PROJECTS
 U.S. 127, over the Maumee River, south of the village of Sherwood, closed on May 8 for approximately 365 days for a bridge replacement. Visit the project page: PID 102669

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Detour: CR 424 to The Bend Road to SR 18, back to U.S. 127.

- Southbound truck route: SR 15 to U.S. 24, back to U.S. 127.

- Northbound truck route: SR 249 to SR 15, back to U.S. 127.

U.S. 127/Harrison Street in the village of Sherwood closed on June 9 for approximately five months for a storm sewer project that includes new catch basins, sidewalks, curbs, and gutter. Local traffic will be maintained. The project is utilizing the detour already in place for the bridge replacement project over the Maumee River just south of the village.

U.S. 127 between Bradshaw Road and Blosser Road, north of the village of Sherwood, will be restricted to one lane with portable traffic signals for drainage repairs.

PAULDING COUNTY:

State Route 49 between Buffalo Street and Canal Street in the village of Antwerp will close Monday, Nov. 6 for five days for storm sewer installation.

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Detour: U.S. 24 to U.S. 127 to County Road 424, back to SR 49.

PUTNAM COUNTY:

(EXTENDED) State Route 108 just south of the village of Miller City closed on Monday, Oct. 16, for approximately five to six weeks, for slope repairs along the Miller City Cut-off.

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Detour: SR 18 to SR 109 to SR 613, back to SR 108 (see map).

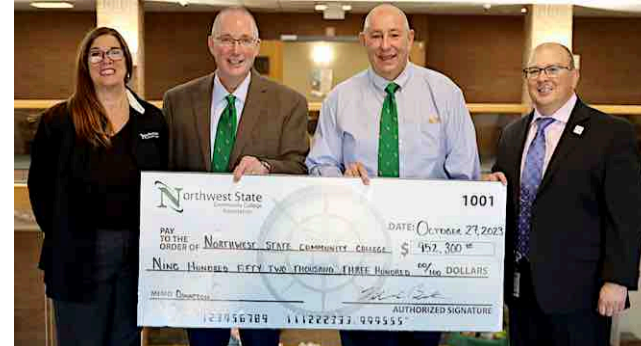
VAN WERT COUNTY:

U.S. 224 between State Route 637 and Dog Creek Road will have lane restrictions for ditch cleaning.

Know Before You Go!

For more detailed traffic information, and to get personalized traffic alerts for your commute, download the OHGO app or visit OHGO.com.

NSSC FOUNDATION PRESENTS \$952,300 CHECK TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES



The NSSC Foundation presented a check to the NSSC Board of Trustees for \$952,300 at the October 27, 2023 meeting. Pictured L to R: Robbin Wilcox (NSSC Executive Director of Development and Foundation), Scott Mull (Chair, NSSC Board of Trustees), Peter Beck (Chair, NSSC Foundation Board), and Dr. Todd Hernandez (NSSC President)

The Northwest State Community College Board of Trustees met in regular session on Friday, October 27th at the Archbold campus. After roll call, Robbin Wilcox, NSSC Executive Director for Development & NSSC Foundation and Foundation Board Chair Peter Beck presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$952,300. The money is designated for student scholarships, equipment, outreach programs and student support efforts.

NEARLY \$8 MILLION HAS BEEN PROVIDED...

Nearly \$8 million has been provided through the generosity of businesses and individuals who have supported the Foundation over the past ten years. Peter Beck, NSSC Foundation Board Chair, applauded the generosity of individuals and businesses who have donated to the NSSC Foundation, for helping make this presentation possible. Beck also gave kudos to Robbin Wilcox for her tireless work in raising funds and awareness to help aid student success.

EMERITUS STATUS BESTOWED ON TWO

One of the final items on the agenda was the approval of Emeritus status for Marsha Buehrer and Dr. Robert Hall, who each proudly dedicated their time and talents to Northwest State for many years. Buehrer worked in a variety of administrative roles at the College, while Hall represented Henry County on the Board of Trustees. Both will be officially recognized during a special dinner ceremony on Monday, December 18 just prior to the College's Fall Commencement.

In other Board action:

- Approved the promotion of Krista Maassel to Customer Service Specialist, Feli-

cia Skeens to Success Center Coordinator, Audrey Lehman to Grants Compliance Officer, Thomas Plummer to Manufacturing Training Manager, Melissa Durham to Associate Director-Financial Aid, Jessica Thome to Counselor-Financial Aid, and Shantelle Cline to Lieutenant of Campus Police.

- Approved the employment of Scott Campbell (Chief of Police), Franklin Roberts (Dean of STEM & Industrial Technologies), Riley Dietrich (Administrative Assistant-Advising & Learning Center), Kassie Kelly (Administrative Assistant-IBEW Apprenticeships & Apollo), and Sandra Manon (Executive Administrative Assistant-Vice President for Academics).

- Approved a gift in the amount of \$1,000 to the STEM & Industrial Technologies division.

- Approved amended Fees Policy, mirroring House Bill 33.

- Approved amended Student Code of Conduct Policy, also reflective of House Bill 33.

- Approved moving the February 2024 Board meeting from February 23, 2024 to February 16, 2024 due to scheduling conflict.

- Approved miscellaneous employment contracts, two retirements and three resignations.

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ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS

October 31, Antwerp police department received a panic alarm from a downtown business. An officer responded & found it to have been set off by accident.

October 28, an officer was approached while standing at intersection of Park Ave. & Main St. The person stated that an adult mail was walking around the new addition smoking marijuana.

October 28, while on patrol, an officer observed a suspicious vehicle at the old H&H cleaners building. The officer was able to locate the owner of vehicle.

October 28, during trick or treat, an argument between a juvenile daughter & father occurred. The officer assisted the situation by escorting the daughter home.

October 27, a welfare check was requested on a teen girl at Park Ave Villas. Officer checked & she was found to be okay.

October 27, a resident of S. Erie St. called & wanted to make a report for someone trespassing & vandalism. She stated that construction workers stole gravel from their driveway & left trucks in her driveway. Officer responded & spoke to construction crew, village worker & homeowner & got it sorted out.

October 27, there was a motor vehicle accident on River St. and Main St. Report was prepared.

October 27, a domestic dispute between father & juvenile daughter occurred. Father did not want daughter to go to school. Officer responded & escorted the juvenile to the school.

October 26, a resident called about an eviction notice they received. The officer responded & explained situation to homeowner.

October 26, a resident of Wentworth St. reported that there were 2 loose dogs in her yard. Officer responded & identified dogs by their collar & owners came & picked them up.

October 26, a motor vehicle accident occurred on private property at a residence on Buffalo Street.

October 25, a report of domestic dispute on Woodcox St. was reported. An officer assisted, nothing criminal occurred. Officer stayed as one of individuals packed & left.

October 25, the Antwerp police department was notified of a protection order on an individual on W. Canal St. Order was filed & officers notified.

October 24, an officer witnessed an individual who was driving with a suspension. Officer located the individual and cited him for DUS & cited the vehicle owner for wrongful entrustment.

October 24, a resident of Park Ave. Villas reported that their daughter stolen their car. A report was prepared. The vehicle was located in Payne & charges were filed with prosecutor.

October 23, the police department received a report of suspicious people at the Catholic Church located on Daggett St. An officer responded and found it was former members cleaning eave spouts. The officer then relayed this information to the complainant. Then on October 24 the church administrator called the police department and said the men there

were not given permission to be there and no one is supposed to be on church property. Admin requested the police department to patrol more frequently and also indicated they wanted no one on property.

October 18, an officer assisted EMS on a call.

October 17, a report of menacing was reported. Officer investigated and it was referred to the county prosecutor.

October 15, Ossian police department contacted the Antwerp police department in reference to a resident of the village harassing an individual in Ossian

October 13, report of an individual riding an ATV at the mobile home park on the east edge of village. Officer investigated and found owner of the property had given permission for someone to ride

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!

OHIO TURNPIKE'S ROADWAY SAFETY PREPAREDNESS FOR WINTER BEGINS

In preparation for the upcoming winter driving season, employees from the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission performed a 136-point inspection (Oct. 24-27) of all snowplow trucks and equipment at eight maintenance facilities across the 241-mile toll road.

The maintenance checklist includes an inspection of all engine parts, plowing equipment, tires, lights, and other components as well as a test calibration of the salt and liquid de-icing systems, and more.

"The importance of these inspections is to make sure the snowplow trucks are ready to go for the safety of our patrons who rely on the Ohio Turnpike for their travel needs," said Jeff Landel, superintendent of the Ohio Turnpike's Western Division, which includes the maintenance facilities in Pioneer, Swanton, Elmore, and Castalia. "It's all about the readiness of the fleet."

Landel, a resident of Edgerton, Ohio, began his career with the Ohio Turnpike as a maintenance/roadway worker, which included snowplow duties, in 1996.

"It's been a rewarding career," added Landel, who climbed the ranks with several job promotions over more than two decades to become superintendent in 2021.

This year, more than 100 snowplow trucks at eight maintenance buildings will be available to maintain the Ohio Turnpike's 1,395 lane miles, 31 toll plaza interchanges, and 14

service plazas across 13 counties in northern Ohio. Each facility maintains a 30-mile stretch of the turnpike.

"Motorists should take every precaution to avoid passing snowplow trucks and allow extra space for the drivers to clear the road," said Ferzan Ahmed, executive director of the turnpike commission in Berea. "Don't crowd the plow. The safest place to be is behind a snowplow truck."

When required, the Ohio Turnpike's maintenance/roadway crews will work 12-hour shifts, seven days a week to provide travelers with a safe and reliable roadway during the winter season, Ahmed added.

"The entire 241-mile Ohio Turnpike can be plowed once per hour with the current staffing and equipment levels," Ahmed said. "During winter storms, motorists should consider traveling only when necessary."

If your vehicle breaks down or you are involved in a crash, turn on your hazard lights, move your vehicle as far off the roadway as possible, remain in the vehicle, and dial #677 for assistance in Ohio.

DEFIANCE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES 11/2/23

The Board of Defiance County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2023, in the Hicksville Village Council Chambers. President Kern called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Dana Phipps and Mick Pocratsky; HR Coordinator, Emily Meyer; and Clerk, Liz Stuart.

The Commissioners met in General Session to approve and sign various resolutions, contracts, and documents. The Commissioners also reviewed the calendar of events and discussed upcoming meetings.

The board met with Kevin Hancock, Administrator for Soil and Water/Ditch Maintenance, for a quarterly update. He reported on various projects in process including the H20hio program and various drainage projects, as well as various school and community visits made by his staff. He reported on the progress of bridges that will be installed at Penney Nature Center, as well as plans underway for a 75th anniversary event for 2024.

CARRYALL TOWNSHIP MEETING CHANGE NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of Carryall Township Trustees has been changed from November 14 to November 21, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

—Carryall Township Trustees

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING HICKSVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

The Hicksville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on an application for a Zoning Change on Thursday, November 16, 2023, starting at 6:00 pm in the office of the zoning inspector, located at 108 N. Main St. Hicksville, OH.

The application, submitted by Moffatt Industries (Nemco), is a request to rezone lot 171 & lot 172, Auditors Plat, with a physical address of 301Meuse Argonne Avenue. The lot is presently zoned A-1 Agriculture/PublicUse. The request is to rezone to B-1 Central Business, B-2 Local Business, B-3 General Business.

—Mike Bailey, Zoning Inspector Village of Hicksville

WEST BEND NEWS Crossword Puzzle NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS

- Across**
- The film's main character, also known as the Pumpkin King.
 - The energetic opening song of the movie.
 - A ragdoll character who has a special connection with Jack.
 - The voice behind the mayor's changing face.
 - Where the final showdown with Oogie Boogie takes place.
 - The two-faced official who runs Halloween Town.
 - What Jack uses to replace Santa's sleigh.
 - Jack's mispronunciation of Santa Claus in the movie.
 - Resembles a devil, one of the trio's masks.
- Down**
- The opening song where residents discuss Halloween plans.
 - The spooky and fantastical world where the story is set.
 - The iconic location where Jack sings "What's This?"
 - The villainous character made of bugs and filled with mischief.
 - A minor character in the film, a skeletal child.
 - The song where Jack expresses his weariness with Halloween.
 - Resembles a skeleton with sunglasses.
 - The composer who provided Jack's singing voice.
 - Jack's loyal ghostly dog with a glowing pumpkin nose.

solution on page 11

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The board travelled to the Highway Garage to meet with Jeff Timbrook and County Engineer Warren Schlatter to inspect the County snowplows. They discussed a new snowplow chassis that had recently arrived and is waiting to have the body built before it goes into use. They discussed the status of the fleet and the levels of salt in storage. Everything is ready to be put into use as soon as it is needed.

LEGAL NOTICE

In the Common Pleas Court of Paulding County, Ohio, Case No. CI 23 130

Wendy E. Tidd, et al. -vs- Ernest Ellsworth Johnson, deceased, etc., et al.

To Ernest Ellsworth Johnson, deceased, and Alice Ivy Johnson, deceased, and all of their unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, successors and assigns, whose names and addresses are unknown, and Mary Lois Kohart, Garold H. Johnson, Madonna Horner, Wayne E. Johnson, William E. Johnson, and Barbara Price, and all of their unknown heirs, executors, administrators, devisees, legatees, successors and assigns, whose names and addresses are unknown.

Please take notice that, on September 12, 2023, Wendy E. Tidd, and Heather Jasso, Executor of the Estate of Rosemary Hall, deceased, filed a Complaint to Establish Easements by Prescription, Implication and/or Necessity in the above-captioned action in the Court of Common Pleas of Paulding County, Ohio, 115 N. Williams Street, Paulding, Ohio, 45879. The object of the Complaint is to obtain a judgment establishing that the Plaintiffs, Wendy E. Tidd, and Heather Jasso, Executor of the Estate of Rosemary Hall, deceased, each hold certain easements by prescription, easements by implication, and easements by necessity to use the rights-of-way designated as "Johnson Road," "Paulus Road," and "Petite Auglaize Street," all as depicted on the Plat of "Johnson's Subdivision" filed at Volume 5, Page 123 of the Survey Records of the County Engineer of Paulding County, Ohio, such easements being for the purpose of vehicular and pedestrian ingress and egress to and from the Plaintiffs' respective parcels of real estate, as more fully described in the Complaint.

Defendants are the heirs-at-law and next-of-kin of Ernest Ellsworth Johnson and Alice Ivy Johnson, both deceased, who are the last owners of record of the real estate where the above-described rights-of-way are located, who may claim an interest in the same.

Defendants are required to answer within twenty-eight (28) days from the last publication of this Legal Notice and to serve a copy of their Answer upon Plaintiffs' attorney who is Marc F. Warncke, P.O. Box 787, Defiance, Ohio, 43512, or default judgment may be granted against them, forever barring them from interfering with the right of the Plaintiffs, and their heirs, successors and assigns, to the use of such rights-of-way for purposes of ingress and egress.

Ann E. Pease
Paulding County Clerk of Courts
115 N. Williams Street, Room 104
Paulding, Ohio 45879

By: Marc F. Warncke (0042133) of Clemens, Korhn, Liming & Warncke, Ltd. Block Six Business Center 419 Fifth Street, Suite 2000 P. O. Box 787 Defiance, Ohio 43512 Telephone: 419-782-6055 • Facsimile: 419-782-3227 Email: mwarncke@clemenslawoffice.com Attorney for Plaintiffs

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

2023 OCT 19 PM 12: 15

real estate described below:

Premises commonly known as: 5774 SR 500, Payne, OH 45880
Parcel No.: 17-35B-012-00 & 17-35B-013-00

The Plaintiff further alleges that by reason of default in the payment of the promissory note, according to its tenor, the conditions of a concurrent mortgage deed given to secure the payment of said note and conveying the premises described, have been broken and the same has become absolute.

The Plaintiff demands that the defendants named above be required to answer and set up their interest in said real estate or be forever barred from asserting the same, for foreclosure of said mortgage, the marshaling of any liens, and the sale of said real estate, and the proceeds of said sale applied to the payment of Plaintiffs claim in the proper order of its priority and for such other and further relief as is just and equitable.

The defendants named above are required to answer on or before 11th day of December, 2023:

Publication Dates are as follows: October 30, 2023; November 6, 2023; November 13, 2023.

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2021-GS4, C/O Rushmore Loan Management Services, LLC

Cynthia J. McEllicie, Jami Krumer & Ulrich Co., L.P.A.
James L. Susano (0062353)
Maurice G. Zink (0063507)
Attorneys for Plaintiff
24755 Chagrin Blvd., Suite 200
Cleveland, OH 44122
216-560-7300 Phone
216-560-7219 Facsimile

PAULDING FFA MEMBERS ATTEND GREENHAND CONFERENCE



Pictured here left to right are Trenton Bail, Jose Gonzales, Olivia Breier, Mackenzie Leatherman and Myrriah Manz who are the Paulding FFA members that attended the 2023 Greenhand Conference.

By: Grace Goyings, Paulding FFA Reporter

On Saturday, October 21st over 370 first-year FFA members from the state of Ohio gathered at Versailles for the annual Greenhand Conference. Paulding FFA had 5 first-year members attend the conference; they were Trenton Bail, Jose Gonzales, Olivia Breier, Mackenzie Leatherman and Myrriah Manz.

At the conference, Greenhand members listened to motivational speaker Kolsen McCoy. They also attended a variety of workshops focused

on teamwork, communication, FFA opportunities, leadership, and SAEs. They also participated in a round table event where they learned about different CDEs they could possibly compete in throughout the upcoming school years.

The Ohio FFA State officer team, Versailles FFA officer team, Versailles FFA assistant officers, and many Versailles FFA members led the conference. Thank you to all who helped make the conference a success. Our members really enjoyed it!

FIRST FINANCIAL BANK COLLECTING FOOD FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

First Financial Bank (Nasdaq: FFBC), its associates and community members are collecting food to be given to people in need. From November 6-17, non-perishable food items can be dropped off during normal business hours at its financial center in Paulding, at 201 N. Main St. At the completion of the food drive, associates in these financial centers will distribute the food to the community through local organizations. "Helping the communities we serve comes naturally

to our team, and this is a fun, impactful volunteer effort that will benefit the neighbors who keep our communities vibrant," said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate responsibility officer for First Financial Bank.

This is the second year First Financial has gathered food throughout its service area of Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois. Last year's drive collected more than 7,600 food items.

First Financial's approach of being proudly local continues to carry forward through local bankers and advisors who are friends, leaders and neighbors. During 2022 alone, First Finan-

cial and its associates gave more than 12,000 volunteer hours and over \$4.3 million in donations. First Financial also recently completed its Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) for 2018-2022 in which it reached \$8.5 million in philanthropy, or 226 percent of the goal.

About First Financial Bancorp.

First Financial Bancorp. is a Cincinnati, Ohio based bank holding company. As of September 30, 2023, the Company had \$17.1 billion in assets, \$10.6 billion in loans, \$12.9 billion in deposits and \$2.1 billion in shareholders' equity. The Company's subsidiary, First Financial Bank, founded in 1863, provides banking and financial services products through its six lines of business: Commercial, Retail Banking, Investment Commercial Real Estate, Mortgage Banking, Commercial Finance and Wealth Management. These business units provide traditional banking services to business and retail clients. Wealth Management provides wealth planning, portfolio management, trust and estate, brokerage and retirement plan services and had approximately \$3.3 billion in assets under management as of September 30, 2023. The Company operated 130 full service banking centers as of September 30, 2023, located in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, while the Commercial Finance business lends into targeted industry verticals on a nationwide basis. Additional information about the Company, including its products, services and banking locations, is available at www.bankatfirst.com.

PREMIER BANK LAUNCHES 4th ANNUAL KINDNESS CAMPAIGN

Premier Bank is pleased to announce the launch of their 4th annual "Powered By (kind) People. Fueled By You." campaign.

The "Powered By (kind) People. Fueled By You." tagline is a reflection of Premier Bank's longstanding commitment to the community. Powered By (kind) People represents the strong sense of passion the Bank's associates have for supporting local communities, coupled with the Bank's commitment to giving back. Fueled By You represents the inspiration that the Bank's clients and communities give them to give back and spread kindness in the places they call home.

"This annual campaign is especially meaningful to us because it symbolizes our associates, customers and the communities that we serve," said Gary Small, President & CEO, Premier Bank. "The kindness we witness in our communities motivates us to support local initiatives, events and projects. Whether we are donating our time or resources, we know that every act of kindness makes our communities stronger. We invite the entire community to join us in our dedication and passion for spreading kindness, doing good deeds and strengthening our communities!"

Because one simple act can fuel the cycle of kind-

ness, the Bank proudly invites associates to participate in their Community Volunteer Program, which is designed to give associates the opportunity to represent Premier Financial Corp. through events and organizations that they are passionate about. This program provides paid volunteer time for employees annually.

"Partnerships with community organizations, schools and local businesses let the Premier Bank team share their time and

expertise through paid volunteer hours and beyond," added Small.

The Bank has also invited 13 of their valued community partners throughout their markets to join them in a video series titled "Powered by (kind) People. Fueled by You. Video Series", as they work together to spread kindness and collectively support important programs to benefit families in the communities they serve.

For more information, please visit YourPremierBank.com/Kindness and use #PoweredByKindness to share acts of kindness on Facebook and Instagram to inspire others to keep spreading kindness.

CORN VOMITOXIN

In between rains, farmers are harvesting corn. Due to cooler temperatures, Canada smoke, and fewer growing degree days; moisture levels in corn are wetter than normal. August rains also promoted Gibberella (GIB) ear rot or vomitoxin. Vomitoxin levels above 5 PPM can not be fed to hogs and some elevators are reporting 6-10 ppm or higher. Farmers are getting charged discounts for both vomitoxin and high moisture which lowers the price. Farmers also cannot deliver high vomitoxin corn for ethanol because it concentrates vomitoxin levels in the distilled grains (DDGs) which are fed to livestock. Elevators often mix good grain with poor grain to dilute the vomitoxin levels to an acceptable level. Michigan seems to have more vomitoxin issues than Ohio.

GIB is caused by Fusarium graminearum, a fungus that is also called Gibberella zeae. This pathogen infects corn and wheat causing ear rot, stalk rot, and head scab. Corn symptoms include a reddish or pinkish-white mold on the ear tips which is a toxin. The pathogen over-winters on plant residue, usually corn stalks/leaves and wheat residue (straw and chaff).

GIB ear rot is most prevalent when cool wet weather occurs for about 21 days after silking. Fields most susceptible are corn after corn or corn after wheat, especially if the wheat was infected with Fusarium head scab. Corn that is stressed from lack of nutrients, by insects, or other types of plant stress (soil compaction, poor soil health) tend to have higher levels of GIB ear rot. Some corn varieties, when they start to dry, keep their husk upright which can allow moisture to accumulate at the ear tip. Other corn varieties, hang down which is better for getting moisture out, as long as the ear stays in the husk and does not drop out.

Adequate nutrient availability may play a role. Nutrient stress include a lack of ni-

trogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) imbalances. High N with low K is often associated with higher levels of GIB ear rot. Nitrogen fertilization in the form of ammonia and adequate levels of P may decrease GIB ear rot. In corn, about 50% of P is absorbed by plant roots after plants start the reproductive phase. Another element that helps reduce GIB ear rot is chlorine (Cl). A good source of fertilizer is potassium chloride (KCL) to help fight this pathogen. The Cl also makes manganese more plant available to help the plant fight the pathogen (Mineral Nutrition and Plant Disease, 2018).

To reduce GIB ear rot before it occurs, follow these guidelines. Good crop rotation is your first step. Avoid planting corn or wheat after fields that show signs of this infection. Good soil health and fast residue decay are needed to reduce level of the pathogen. Ideally, at least 80% of your residue (wheat or corn) should be decayed by planting time. Crop residue decay is dependent upon adequate soil moisture, soil temperature (above 500F), adequate microbial activity (mycorrhizae fungus for lignin breakdown), and good macrofauna (springtails, mites, earthworms, etc.) that breakdown the crop residue into smaller pieces. Overuse of soil insecticides may reduce crop residue decay.

Farmers can also select crop varieties that are somewhat resistant to GIB ear rot. Earlier maturing corn varieties have more time for crop residue to break down in the fall. Also, planting a cover crop, not only improves soil health and increases benefi-

cial soil microbes, it also creates a micro-environment (warmer, higher moisture) where crop residues may decay faster. Cover crops also reduce soil compaction and may help balance soil nutrients (N-P-K-Cl).

Purdue Extension offers these harvest tips: Harvest high GIB ear rot corn fields separately and as quickly as possible. Fines and small hold more GIB ear rot pathogen, so adjust the combine to reduce this source of infection. Grain moisture above 22% moisture and 800F increases mold developments, with cooler temperatures and lower moisture decreasing the spread. In field, moisture levels below 18% stop mold development. Some farmers run the vomitoxin infected grain through a blower to separate out fines before loading to reduce vomitoxin levels.

OSU Extension (Dr. Paul Pierce) offers these storage tips: 1) Dry harvested grain to 15% moisture and below to prevent further mold development in storage. 2) Store dried grain at cool temperatures (36 to 440 F) in clean, dry bins. Moderate to high temperatures are favorable for fungal growth and toxin production. 3) Periodically check grain for mold, insects, and temperature, and send grain samples for mycotoxin analysis. 4) Avoid storing severely affected grain for too long especially since it becomes much more difficult to keep grain cool and dry as outside temperatures increase going into next spring and summer.

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services

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GENESIS



was lonesome, and needed a companion. God created man from the dust of the Earth, (and to dust he shall return.) But He created woman from a bone of the man. The rest is a story you well know.

God gave Adam and Eve free reign of the garden, except there was one tree that they should not eat of it's fruit. The serpent came and began dissecting what God had said. "Did God really say that?" They ate and sin was introduced into the world.

The source of all our problems, and everything bad is sin. All sickness and blemishes, and even the weeds. I enjoy gardening, and have battled weeds my entire life. There was one year which I thought I got ahead of them. This year I was sick in April and the weeds again got ahead of me.

Judge Judy says that which does not make sense is not true. The creation makes total sense to me. As I sit here today, I had to come from somewhere. The fact that there was a being that was here from eternity, is the only thing that seems reasonable. We have a hole that only God can fill and satisfy, even though we try to fill it with other things.

Again I am not a scholar. I can only read, and I don't claim to be smart. I have experienced the satisfaction of inviting Jesus into my heart. A I write this morning, on a beautiful July morning, I hear a bird singing. He is announcing his existence to the world. All I know is that the bird and I both got here somehow. A supreme being that always existed, makes more sense than any other explanation I ever. I don't know if there are any other explanations offered except perhaps a bang theory and that doesn't express where material started in the first place.

—James Neuhouser

Rep. Jim Banks (IN-03) introduced a House resolution celebrating the third anniversary of the signing of the Geneva Consensus Declaration and urging President Biden to re-add the United States as a signatory to the coalition of now 36 countries making a shared commitment to defending life, the family and national sovereignty. Senator Daines led a companion effort in the Senate. Read the text [HERE](#).

REP. BANKS CALLS FOR U.S. TO REJOIN GENEVA CONS. DECLARATION

Said Rep. Banks: "The White House is doing every-

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

thing it can to fund abortions with taxpayer dollars, while the Biden State Department is promoting abortion, transgenderism and even atheism abroad. Conservatives in Congress need to defend America's reputation and fight for religious freedom and a pro-family and pro-life agenda around the globe. I'd like to thank Senator Daines for partnering with me on this initiative and the Institute for Women's Health for working to bring attention to an important issue."

Said Valerie Huber, President of the Institute for Women's Health: "I'm grateful for Congressman Jim Banks' efforts in championing the Geneva Consensus Declaration, a significant initiative I hold dear. This coalition of now 37 nations stands stronger than ever before, serving as a beacon for the advancement of women's optimal health in a way that honors life and the family on a global scale. I stand with the many members of Congress urging President Biden to recognize its significance and re-join the U.S. to this thriving coalition."

House cosponsors are Reps. Jeff Duncan, John Moolenaar, Doug LaMalfa, Clay Higgins, Andrew Clyde, Larry Bucshon, Mary Miller, Bill Posey, Andy Harris, Michael Guest, Andy Biggs, Chuck Fleischmann, Alex Mooney, Rich McCormick, Randy Weber, Blaine Luetkemeyer, Tracey Mann, Brad Wenstrup, Ben Cline, Robert Aderholt and David Rouzer.

Rep. Banks and Senator Daines introduced resolutions celebrating the first and second anniversaries of the Geneva Consensus Declaration in 2021 and 2022.

LATTA'S BIPARTISAN BILL TO BOLSTER U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY PRODUCTION

Congressman Bob Latta's (R-OH5) bipartisan legislation, the Nuclear Fuel Security Act, was approved by the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security.

The bill will establish and expand critical U.S. nuclear fuel programs to boost domestic uranium mining, production, enrichment, and conversion capacity. Latta introduced the bill last month with Representative Jim Clyburn (D-SC6).

"As a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I'm committed to advancing policies that embrace an all-of-the-above energy strategy, which includes expanding our nuclear energy capabilities," Latta said. "Rather than being forced to import mass quantities of uranium fuel from foreign countries to power our domestic nuclear reactors, my Nuclear Fuel Security Act will allow the United States to produce and stockpile our own source of nuclear energy. I'm pleased to see my legislation advance through the Energy, Climate, and Grid Security Subcommittee because it will help strengthen our nuclear energy capabilities while lowering carbon emissions, creating new jobs, spurring economic growth, and providing for a safer America."

Background on the Nuclear Fuel Security Act:

This legislation would authorize the Secretary of Energy to:

- establish the Nuclear Fuel Security Program to increase the quantity of high-assay, low-enriched uranium (HALEU) and, if determined to be necessary after completion of a market evaluation, low-enriched uranium (LEU) produced by U.S. nuclear energy companies,
- expand the American Assured Fuel Supply Program to ensure the availability of domestically produced, converted, and enriched uranium in the event of a supply disruption, and
- establish the HALEU for Advanced Nuclear Reactor Demonstration Projects Program to maximize the potential for DOE to meet the needs and schedules of advanced nuclear reactor developers until such time that commercial enrichment and deconversion capability for

HALEU exists in the U.S. at a scale sufficient to meet future needs and, where practicable, partner with countries that are allies or partners of the U.S. to meet those needs and schedules until that time.

FARMS BRANCHING OUT: EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AGROFORESTRY

Originally published on the College of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Department of Forestry at Michigan State University's website.

A team of Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin researchers and Extension professionals has recently been awarded funding from USDA and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to help support use of agroforestry practices and markets by small and medium sized farms in the region.

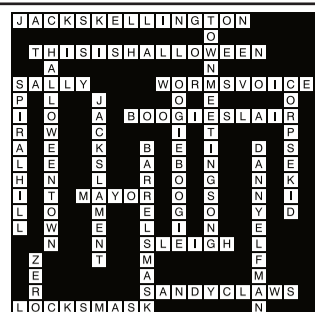
Much is known about the characteristics, attitudes, and behaviors of U.S. family forest owners and agricultural landowners independently. However, little is known about those who own both woodland and farmland, and what, if any, agroforestry and woodland management practices are used by these Farmer Woodland Owners (FWOs).

The project will provide opportunities for FWOs in each state to gather in farmer learning circles and connect with agriculture and natural resource professionals to identify innovative uses of forested systems that can improve farm viability and increase environmental and social benefits.

An initial pilot project conducted in Michigan in 2022 demonstrated the need for better connections between professionals who advise farmers and forest landowners (respectively) and to improve access to agroforestry resources among farmers.

Alyse Wilson, of Mischief Makers Farm, LLC was active in the early pilot phase of this project. "It's being a steward of the land and working with it for our goals to either support the homestead, support a business, support whatever, but also for the health of the forest and the land. You can't complete one without eventually depleting the other," said Wilson.

This grant provides an opportunity to address these gaps through Peer-to-Peer Agroforestry Exchanges, improved decision support



Crossword solution from page 9

tools, cost-share for agroforestry planning and practices, and development of case study videos to highlight agroforestry and woodland management options as well as opportunities to get paid for providing environmental benefits in emerging ecosystem service markets.

The team aims to develop agroforestry demonstration farms in each state where the ecological, social, and economic impacts of agroforestry on farmers' land, businesses, and households can be evaluated.

The impact of this project on the region's farming and forestry industries is significant. Farm viability will improve by increasing the diversity of products coming from farms. Increased carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and water quality will enhance environmental outcomes, and provide opportunities for small and medium sized farms to participate in new ecosystem service markets.

This project began summer 2023 and will continue until the end of 2028. Major milestones in the first year include recruitment of farmers to participate in Agroforestry Exchanges, and development of research protocols for demonstration farms.

If you or anyone you know might be interested in participating in this project - either research or event opportunities - please contact the Project Manager, Amanda Curton at curtonam@msu.edu or the Ohio State University co-leads: Kathy Smith (smith.81@osu.edu) and Doug Jackson-Smith (Jackson-smith.1@osu.edu).

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The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:

1 – EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.

2 – CLAIMS ASSISTANCE – Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.

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

Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments
Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

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THIS WEEK ON PCBW: ANTWERP EXCHANGE BANK



This week on PCBW we talk with Antwerp Exchange Bank President & CEO John Kober, Sr. Vice President of Lending Brian Miller, and Sr. Vice President of Operations Twila Demongeot. Listen to this incredible podcast to learn about how Paulding County's oldest community owned bank has thrived for 125 years as of this week!! In addition to banking, the financial business does so

much more with bank employees being a part of, and investing time and effort, into the community as well. Thanks to OhioMeansJobs you will be excited to tune in and hear this episode on My102.7FM on Tuesday & Thursday at 8am and 5pm or online at my1027.org/Paulding-county-business-weekly or catch the podcast on Apple, Google & Spotify.

VETERANS DAY DINNER AT POST 297

American Legion Post 297 in Payne, OH will have a Veterans Day Dinner, November 11 at 6:00 p.m.

Bring a covered dish to share. Meat and potato will be provided by the post.

LIBRARY ANNEX TO BE BUILT ON DONATED LAND

Following a generous property donation, planning has begun for construction of a long-awaited library annex on Fort Street in Defiance.

The lot at 315 Fort St., across from Defiance Public Library, and adjacent property at 319 Fort St., were donated by Cincinnati native Tony Sansalone, a real estate developer and investor with strong ties to Defiance.

A third adjacent property, 109 Jefferson Ave., was purchased by Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) for the project, which will be paid for by donations and fundraising, with the library to borrow the remaining funds. A fundraising campaign will kick off in late winter or early spring.

"This is so exciting, not

only for the library but for the Defiance community," said Cara Potter, director of Defiance Public Library System. "The annex will function almost like a community center, providing a large meeting space and huddle rooms not only for library programming but also for local government and nonprofit use."

Planning is still in the beginning stages as DPLS works with Beilharz Architects, with the total project cost yet to be determined. There is an estimated 3-4 year timeline for completion of the annex, which will feature two stories plus a basement and provide approximately 13,000 square feet of space when complete.

"The annex fulfills several of the library system's strategic goals, including addressing space issues at the main library, fostering community partnerships through shared use of the large meeting space in the annex, and offering a place for collaborative programming for the Defiance community," Potter said.

The organization's 2022-25 Strategic Plan is available to view online at defiancelibrary.org.

Homes currently on the properties at 319 Fort St. and 109 Jefferson Ave. will be offered to the community for \$1, allowing interested parties an opportunity to relocate the buildings before construction begins. The Anthony Wayne monument originally planned for the 315 Fort St. lot will instead be placed along the river in a spot with higher foot traffic, located between a pair of new city-installed swings at the end of Wayne Avenue.

As the project progresses, DPLS will solicit community

ANTWERP HALLOWEEN COSTUME JUDGING WINNERS 2023



Pictured here overall winners (l-r) Kinsley Cash, Emma, Edwin and Lydia White; and Nash and Leslie Zartman

Thanks to our Antwerp Volunteer fire department for making this possible. Thanks to Bob Addis and his crew, and the judges: Chamber members Denise Coleman, Michelle Dooley and Angel Steiner.

Little's under 18 mos. - #1 Jaxon Bowlin

18 mos-3 years - #1 Josie Smith; #2 Maria Eloy; #3 John Devore

Animals - #1 Sophie Walk Angels and Princesses - #1

Emerson Livingston; #2 Kinslee Harvey; #3 Ashlyn Thomas

Cartoons, Movies and TV characters - #1 Emma Ganger; #2 Anna Wiechart; #3 Emma Cross

No Cowboys, Cowgirls and Indians

Disney/ Storybook characters - #1 Kinsley Cash; #2 Lincoln Cash

Monsters - #1 Adalind Muir; #2 Leah Ruffing; #3 Marshall Rice

No Gypsies Groups - #1 Emma, Edwin and Lydia White; #2 The Dillon Family; #3 Liam, Jensen, Nolan and Ezra Gill

Misc #1 - #1 Nash and Leslie Zartman; #2 Jessica and Heidi Rice; #3 Reid Cross

Misc #2 - #1 Wyatt Low; #2 Jonny Coker; #3 Ava Spencer

OVERALL - #1 Nash and Leslie Zartman, #2 Kinsley Cash, #3 Emma, Edwin and Lydia White

input on several aspects of the annex, which also will house a Friends of the Library used bookstore and adult literacy tutoring services. Accessibility for patrons with disabilities will be a key consideration.

Sansalone himself owns the home located at 311 Fort St., and considers Defiance his favorite weekend getaway, often returning to enjoy the confluence where he launched canoes in his youth. In recognition of his dona-

tion, DPLS has agreed to allow Sansalone the right to name the library annex. He anticipates naming it after his mother, Jane Beck Sansalone, who inspired him to value reading and education.

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4 OZ POUCH
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