

PCED BUSINESS & INDUSTRY APPRECIATION BANQUET



194 business associates were in attendance at the 2023 PCED Annual Business & Industry Appreciation Banquet held at Grant's Catering in Antwerp, OH on Tuesday, November 14th. Several businesses were recognized for milestones in their business. 20 year members of PCED were recognized: Al-co in Latty, OH; Kauser Trucking & Excavating in Paulding, OH; (Continued on Page 4)

REMEMBER TO SHOP SMALL ON SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 25TH!



Antwerp Chamber of Commerce will be once again sponsoring a Shop Small event on November 25th. A Welcome Center will be set up at the Antwerp Global Methodist Church beginning at 9:00 a.m. Stop there to receive your Shop Small tote bag & be ready to fill it up at the GMC Bazaar or at one of the numerous Chamber member businesses participating in Small Business Saturday. From (Continued on Page 3)

Happy Thanksgiving & remember to Shop Small!

OAKWOOD EMS GIVES TOUR OF NEW VEHICLE



Pictured here are Dianne Cooper, Mayor Brian Ripke, Council President and EMT Kelly Tumblin, and EMS Coordinator Gary Lewis

Oakwood EMS invited Dianne Cooper and Mayor Brian Ripke out to see their return on investment. The Oakwood EMS team gave Dianne and Mayor Ripke a

tour of the new Braun Chief XL that will be serving the village and surrounding townships for many years to come.

Oakwood EMS Grant

writer, Marie Gribble submitted a grant request to the Annual Cooper Family foundation's grant program. With the foundation's generous donation and funds already available from The Village of Oakwood, Brown TWP, and

(Continued on Page 5)

PCAF LAUNCHES MATCHING CAMPAIGN FOR 'GIVING TUESDAY'



By: Erica Noggle

The Paulding County Area Foundation is thrilled to announce its participation in Giving Tuesday, a global day

of generosity that encourages individuals, businesses, and communities to come together and support local causes. To mark this special occasion, the Foundation is launching a matching campaign, pledging to match donations dollar-for-dollar, up to a total of \$10,000.

This unique opportunity

(Continued on Page 4)

West Bend News & Printing

will be CLOSED on THURSDAY & FRIDAY, Nov. 23&24, 2023 in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.

We will be back to regular business hours MONDAY, Nov. 27, 2023

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Den Herder FH - Hart	2
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Five Star Const	1
Gerbers Electric	12
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PCBW	1
PCH Mammography	9
PUZZLE - CW PCH	7
Rodenberger-Gray FH	2
Ron Burt Ohio Sport Blitz	8
Safe Haven Open House	2
Sauder Feeds	10
Sauder HW	7
Schmucker Construction	1
Schrader Ehle	10
Stevenson Tractor for sale	11
Ties & Bows sale	3
United Edge Auction	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 21

- NA Meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 5pm
- PCCL board meeting @ conf rm, Paulding, 5:30pm

November 22

- Living Free meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church 6-7:30pm
- Woodburn Com. Hist. Soc. Meeting @ Comm. Ctr, 7pm

November 25

- Shop the Village, downtown Paulding
- Small Business Saturday, downtown Antwerp
- Joy of Giving Craft Bazaar @ Antwerp GMC, 9a-3p

November 26

- Nativity & Candy Canes @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

November 27

- Merry & Bright Parade, downtown Paulding, 6pm

November 28

- NA Meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 5pm

November 29

- Living Free meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church 6-7:30pm

December 2

- Santa's Secret Shop @ Antwerp VFW, 9a-1p
- NH UMC Women Holiday Craft Bazaar, 8a-2p
- Christmas Open House @ Oakwood Elem, 10a-4p

Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

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OBITUARIES



November 18, 2023 at Den Herder Funeral Home. Burial will follow in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding Township.

Visitation will be held from 3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. on Friday, November 17, 2023 at Den Herder Funeral Home. There will also be visitation from 12:00 P.M. until time of services on Saturday.

Memorial contributions may be made in Quincy's memory to Den Herder Funeral Home, PO Box 27, Paulding, OH 45879 to offset funeral expenses.

Online condolences may be shared at www.denherderfh.com.

PAULDING, OH:

Quinten E. "Quincy" Hart, age 29, passed away on Thursday, November 9, 2023 at Paulding County Hospital, Paulding, OH.

Quincy was born on May 27, 1994 in Paulding, OH to Daryl and Floanne (Mott) Hart. He worked at FWT/Sabre Industries for several years. Then at Archbold Container, Archbold, OH. Most recently he enjoyed working with his Dad at "Hart's Home Improvements" and also for Wilhelm Home Improvement. Quincy was one of Jehovah's Witnesses associated with the Auglaize River Congregation in Defiance, OH. Quincy loved gaming, camping, board games, playing cards, and spending time with his friends and family.

Quincy is survived by his parents, Daryl and Floanne Hart, Paulding, OH; brother, Riley (Kara) Hart, Paulding, OH; maternal grandmother, Sandy Mott, Paulding, OH; uncle, Nick B. (Sharril) Mott, Paulding, OH; aunts: Valerie Bates, Paulding, OH; Nancy (Mark) Getz, Fort Wayne, IN; Kathy (Tony) Jones, Peoria, AZ; niece, Gracie Hart; nephew, Kameron Hart, and many loving cousins.

Quincy is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, Nick C. Mott; paternal grandparents, Robert and Barbara Hart; uncle, John Hart; aunt, Marsha Sarrazine.

Funeral service will be held at 1:00 P.M. on Saturday,



PAULDING, OH:

Burl Eugene Barnes, Jr., age 88, died on Nov. 14, 2023, in hospice care at the Paulding County Hospital. As a life-long believer and faithful servant at St. Paul Lutheran Church, he was prepared for his journey to heaven and to join the choir of angels in the tenor section. His family is, of course, sad but also joyous for the love-filled life they shared with a funny, smart, quiet and gentle son, brother, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

For 66+ years, Burl was married to Ellie Barnes (Elcena Zerkle of St. Paris, Ohio). The two of them lived a love story that started at a square dance at The Ohio State University in 1954 and will continue forever. They married on July 21, 1957. After being drafted in the U.S. Army, they lived in Germany and then in Paulding, Ohio, where they cared for livestock and farmed the land settled by Burl's great-great grandfather, John Barnes, who received a land grant in 1852.

Burl was the son of Burl Barnes, Sr. and (Lesta) Faye (Cadwalder) Barnes, who died immediately after his birth. He was raised by aunts and his dad until Sibylla (Strobel) Barnes married the family when Burl was four years old. Burl had one sister Jean Barnes (Ray) Downs.

Throughout his 88 years, Burl was a loyal servant to the earth and the Lord. In addition to farming, he tended a large garden, 240 acres of woods, the multi-generational homestead, as well as many domestic and farm animals great and small. He cared for his family, including four children: Lesta Barnes (Paul) Searles, Laurie Barnes, Scott (Chrissy) Barnes and Amy Barnes.

He taught his family the importance of love, compromise, sacrifice, working hard, caring for others, telling good jokes, singing enthusiastically and pitching in when an organization or project needed a volunteer or leader. He taught them to drive a stick-shift, cut wood, pick sweet corn and fix things. In honor of the Barnes family tradition, Amy and Laurie now own the original homestead, bringing it back to its original, simple beauty.

Children provided Burl much joy in his life, especially his granddaughter Adrienne Searles and her daughter (his great granddaughter) Kayla Castillo, Alex Barnes, Mia Barnes, Emmet Barnes, his only grandson, Kayla Spiker who preceded him in death at the age of 46 hours, and step grandchildren Michael Searles and Stephanie Donohoe. Burl loved to read to them as small children, was a willing participant in game playing, enjoyed watching them play sports, perform and grow up. He got a kick out of the regular kid stuff like watching cartoons on TV, giggling, running, being ornery and bedtime.

Long life ran in the family. This gave Burl the opportunity to serve as caregiver, loving son and dedicated nephew. For decades, he lived next door to his disabled father, Burl Sr., and provided every type of care to enable his father to remain in his own home as long as possible. In addition, Burl Jr. provided loving care for other family members including his aunt, Anita Schilb of Hicksville, who lived to be 103.

Burl graduated from Paulding High School and The Ohio State University where he earned a degree in animal husbandry. He was a member of the Ohio State men's glee club and even performed with them on the Ed Sullivan Show! He and Ellie were a great team, dividing and conquering the chores of caring for a family and the homestead. Together, they enjoyed singing, traveling and even collaborated on crafts, including making Buckeye "jewelry."

Burl had a long career after farming with the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, working there for more than 30 years. There he developed members and programs for farmers in Paulding, Defiance, Williams, Van Wert and Putnam counties, and later led those activities

throughout the whole Northwestern corner of the state. He helped engage teens in the organization through local county youth councils, as well as in an annual Farm Bureau youth camp that taught the role of government in developing farm policy. These were things he was passionate about his entire life.

As an 84-year member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Paulding, Burl served many times on the church council as member and president. He ushered, counted money, flipped pancakes, served as reader and communion assistant and sang in the choir, usually as the only tenor. He was an original member and representative of St. Paul on a community committee that began the planning for a new building, now being constructed, for the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry in Paulding.

Burl is survived by his wife, children, grandchildren, great granddaughter, sister, nephew, nieces and many friends. He was preceded in death by his three parents, one granddaughter and a multitude of aunts, uncles and cousins.

A celebration of life is being planned for Saturday, Dec. 9 to commemorate all of Burl's 88 years, his love, his good works and his sense of humor. Come visit with the family at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Paulding, Ohio, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a service at 2 p.m. at the church. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Burl's memory to the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry at P.O. Box 391 Paulding, OH 45879 or to CHP Home Care & Hospice at 250 Dooley Drive, Suite A Paulding, OH 45879.

Arrangements entrusted to Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, OH.

Online condolences may be shared at www.denherderfh.com



FORMALLY of PAULDING, OH:

Merlin "Duke" Busch, 84, formally of Paulding, Ohio received his heavenly wings on Tuesday November 14, 2023 at 9:15pm surrounded by his loving family at home. He was born at home on July 6, 1939 in Malinta, Ohio to the late Merlin Busch and Eileen Eisaman. He graduated from Malinta High School in 1957. In 1960, he proudly enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country for 4 years. He married the love of his life and forever soulmate, Connie Sue Rohdy on June 3, 1961 in Malinta at Trinity Lutheran Church.

In 1964, he received an honorable discharge from the Navy and started working at General Motors in Defiance, Ohio, as an Industrial Electrician until his retirement in 1989. He owned the Famous Busch's Bike Shop on Route 127 North of Paulding in the 1980's. For 34 years, they spent their winters in Palmetto, Florida where he enjoyed working on 3-wheel bicycles. He was well known as "The Bike Man". He was a jack of all trades and master of many. There wasn't anything that he couldn't do. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, going to the casino, playing cards with family and friends, and spending time with family and friends.

Scripture of the Week

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."
— Psalm 119:105

Duke is survived by his loving wife, Connie; children, Bret (Theresa) Busch of Oakwood, Brenda Busch of Antwerp, and Brian Busch of Ayresville; 9 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother, Larry, of Toledo, Ohio.

Friends and family will be received at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Sunday, November 19, 2023 from 11:00 AM until 1:30 PM. Interment will take place immediately after calling hours at Hoy Cemetery, where military honors will be accorded by the Napoleon American Legion Post 300. A Celebration of Life Service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, please make memorials to the American Heart Association. Online messages and condolences may be shared with the family at rodenbergergray.com.

We want to Thank Everheart Hospice for the loving care that he received these past few weeks. You ladies were absolutely amazing, and we couldn't have been more blessed.

PAYNE, OH:

Karen Williams, 65, of Payne, passed away Monday, November 13, 2023 at Parkview Regional Medical Center. ARR BY DOOLEY FUNERAL HOME, 5761 SR 500, PAYNE, OHIO.

ANTWERP, OH:

Ruth E. Hart, 86, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away Monday, November 13, 2023 at Vancrest of Hicksville. ARR BY DOOLEY FUNERAL HOME, 202 W. RIVER STREET, ANTWERP, OHIO.

PARSON TO PERSON

By: Dr. James Bachman

*Dear Parson,
Are the Bible statement about hell metaphors or literal?*

I believe they are literal. Even if they were metaphorical, what horrible things would they be describing? We like to accept statements about heaven as literal, but we can't fathom the horrible thoughts of burning eternally in a lake of fire, which is similar to being in a volcano without hope of dying or ever getting out. Luke 16:23-28 - "And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in

his bosom. And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame. But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivedst thy good things; but now he is comforted, and thou are tormented. And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence. Then he said, I pray thee therefore, father, that thou wouldest send him to my father's house: For I have five brethren; that he may testify unto them, lest they also come into this place of torment." Mark 9:43-48 - "And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched. And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire: Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched." Revelation 20:10 - "And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." Revelation 20:15 - "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."

Hell was created by God for the devil and his angels. Matthew 25:41 - "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." It is not God's will that any human being should go there. II Peter 3:9 - "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering



Children's Open House

Enjoy crafts, The Christmas story, hot chocolate and cookies

DECEMBER 8

**AGES 2-10 (WITH ADULT)
6 PM TO 8 PM**
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MATT'S MISHAPS

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

Eat where it's planted

In many ways, my tastes have not changed over the years. You can't beat eating summer sweet corn with melting butter on it, or pickling and eating a tart apple right from the tree. However, I have changed in at least one area and now really prefer to eat my salads or fry my eggs in the morning with olive oil.

Having lived in places overseas where olive groves dot the landscape, I realize just how good freshly pressed olive oil is. Because of this, I used to bring a 5-liter metal can of fresh olive oil in my suitcase when traveling back to small-town America. Those cans of oil, that looked like gas cans, never leaked and handled the rough trip home very well.

On one trip when leaving from the airport near our home overseas, I was approaching boarding gate after checking in. I heard my name being called over the PA system at the airport, which had never happened before. I followed the instructions as to where I should go, and saw a group of military police officers waiting for me. Without

to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." That is why He paid the ultimate price by the sacrifice of His only Son to offer deliverance to every man who will freely accept it (Revelation

saying why, they had me accompany them in an elevator to the basement level of the airport. I was walked over to a large open area and saw my suitcase sitting in the middle of the room. The officers asked me to open my suitcase very slowly.

I approached the suitcase and saw that the officers had formed a circle around me and my bag. When I began to unfasten the latches to open it, all the officers went into a



Often repurposed later as rugs for the front porch, we hang one on our wall - an olive oil filter. They used to stack eight or nine of these filters on each other and compress olives over them for the oil to pass through the layers of thatch. I am sure they use some form of synthetic filter today to get the job done.

crouch position with their backs to me. I disappointed them (and embarrassed them) when I opened the bag and lifted out my olive oil can for them to inspect. I closed up the bag and they sent me on my way.

I no longer bring cans of olive oil back home to America and have learned to just be content with my corn and apples.

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

22:17; I John 2:2).

God has done everything but deny man of his own free will to keep people out of such a horrible place called hell and the lake of fire. If man chooses to thumb his nose at God's love, he chooses hell for him-

COOPER FAMILY FOUNDATION DONATES TO OVFD



Oakwood Volunteer Fire Department extends its deepest gratitude to the Cooper Family Foundation for the funds donated to purchase 30 sections of 50 feet long, 2.5 inch hose, three 2.5 inch-to-2.5 inch Gated Wyes, and three 2.5 inch-to-1.5 inch Gated Wyes. This new hose & the Gated Wyes are made of durable, lightweight materials that will replace the old, out-dated, heavy equipment that is currently on our trucks. The Firefighters on OVFD are grateful of the generosity of the Cooper Family Foundation and all of their supporters. Thank you greatly.

self over the warnings and provisions of the merciful, yet grieving God Who created him.

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD

**By: Doris Applegate
Scribbled by: Cynthia Nichol**

To those reading this article who have given their lives to Jesus Christ and born again by His blood. Please consider the following question: Would you be willing to go on trial and even die because you believed in the resurrection of the dead? The Apostle Paul was hated in many places because he believed this truth of God's word. Paul was threatened with death because he stood firmly for this truth. This is such a vital part of our salvation, that those who have died in the Lord Jesus Christ

will be raised from the dead and get their new glorified bodies when Jesus comes back this second time.

This corruption will put on incorruption and this mortal will be changed into immortality. This is our great hope that we will have a wonderful new body that will never die again and be ready for Heaven.

The Apostle Paul stood before the governor Felix and before King Agrippa because Paul believed in the resurrection of the dead. He appealed to Caesar in Rome to be tried for his belief and King Agrippa told Paul that: "You had almost persuaded me to be a Christian" Paul said, "I wish you and everyone would be a Christian as I am, except for these bonds."

The song "almost persuaded" came from what King Agrippa said. Have you been persuaded to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior or are you an almost person?

Amen

(Continued from Page 1)

Ties & Bows, Pierce Automotive & Junque on the edges of town to the downtown businesses, be ready for holiday gift shopping. Check out the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce ad on page 6 for a listing of all the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce businesses who will be supporting Small Business Saturday 2023.

Shop Small was born in 2010. In 2017 there were more than 7,200 neighborhood champions across all

50 states. Business associations, non-profits, municipalities and public officials formed the Small Business Saturday Coalition.

As communities continue to unite around Shop Small, it is moving from a cause to a day of celebration for our smaller communities. 90% of people surveyed said that Small Business Saturday has had a positive effect in their community.

Check out the Chamber ad on page 6 for more information about Antwerp Chamber of Commerce!

DISCOVER LOCAL TREASURERS: 'SHOP THE VILLAGE' HAS OVER 25 VENDORS FOR SHOP SMALL SATURDAY

By: Erica Noggle

The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce is gearing up for an extraordinary shopping extravaganza as the much-anticipated "Shop the Village" event returns for another year. On Saturday, November 25th, over 25 local vendors and businesses will unite to celebrate Shop Small Saturday, offering a unique and diverse shopping experience for residents and visitors

alike.

Shop Small Saturday is an annual event that encourages communities to support local businesses and artisans. "Shop the Village" takes this concept to new heights, bringing together vendors who will showcase their exceptional products and services. From hand-crafted goods to one-of-a-kind treasures, shoppers can expect to discover an array of items that reflect the rich tapestry of our local creative community.

Shop the Village promises a delightful shopping experience with something for everyone, including

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

Forest McKinley Jenkins was born in Haviland, Ohio, February 5, 1897. The son of John Andrew born March 30,



1862 in Jeffersonville, Ohio and Susie May (Gunderman) Jenkins born October 20, 1872 in Franklin County, Ohio. This couple was married October 23, 1895 in Paulding.

By 1900, this couple, John and Susie, along with son Forest and daughter, Edith Mae, born December 29, 1898, were living in Latty with Forest's parents, Andrew J. and Malinda Jenkins. John and Susie welcomed a son, Roy, January 16, 1904. On June 24, 1907, a daughter, Lucy was born. By 1910, while living in Latty, John's parents came to live with John and Susie. Also living in the household was John's brother Charlie, who was divorced.

Charlie was working as a blacksmith. Forest was in school as well as his sister Edith. On June 5, 1918, Forest registered for the draft and was listed as 5'3" tall, dark complexion, medium build, gray eyes and dark brown hair. Forest was helping his dad

farm. Forest joined the National Army out of Paulding August 14, 1918. Forest was assigned to the Regular Army Auto Tractor School Training Depot in North Kansas City, Missouri. He served until October 12, 1918. He was reassigned to Camp Jackson, South Carolina to serve with Auto Replacement Draft until November 21, 1918, he was then assigned to Battery B, 58th Field Artillery until he was Honorably Discharged February 4, 1919.

By 1920, Forest had moved back home to his parent's house in Latty. He continued to help his father on the farm. After 1930, Forest had moved out on his own, but not sure of the location. Forest's grandmother, Melinda, passed away March 9, 1931. Andrew had passed away sometime before 1910 (I could not find burial location).

By 1935, Forest was living in Scott, Ohio, Paulding County side. He was still single, his father John and mother Susie, was living with Forest. Forest was still engaged in farming. In 1942, Forest had to register for the World War Two draft, he was still living in Scott in 1943. On June 25, 1947, Forest's father, John, passed away. He was buried in Live Oak Cemetery in Paulding. Forest passed away Saturday, November 29, 1947 at 10:00 at home in Scott, Ohio.

Funeral services were conducted at 2:00 Monday December 1, 1947 at the Haviland Methodist Church. The Rev. Tomlinson officiated. He was buried in Live Oak Cemetery. Susie, John's wife passed away September 5, 1964 in the Van Wert County Hospital. She was buried with her husband John.

unique gifts, art, jewelry, fashion, and more. Each vendor has a diverse range of offerings, ensuring that attendees can find the perfect items for their holiday shopping lists or treat themselves to something special.

"We're excited to bring back Shop the Village for another year, showcasing the incredible talent and creativity that our local community has to offer," said Erica Noggle, Executive Director, Paulding Area Chamber of

Commerce. "This is a fantastic opportunity for Paulding County residents to discover unique gifts, support local entrepreneurs, and celebrate the spirit of Shop Small Saturday right here in our own backyard."

With the holiday season just around the corner, "Shop the Village" provides a wonderful opportunity for shoppers to find thoughtful and meaningful gifts while contributing to the vitality of the local economy.

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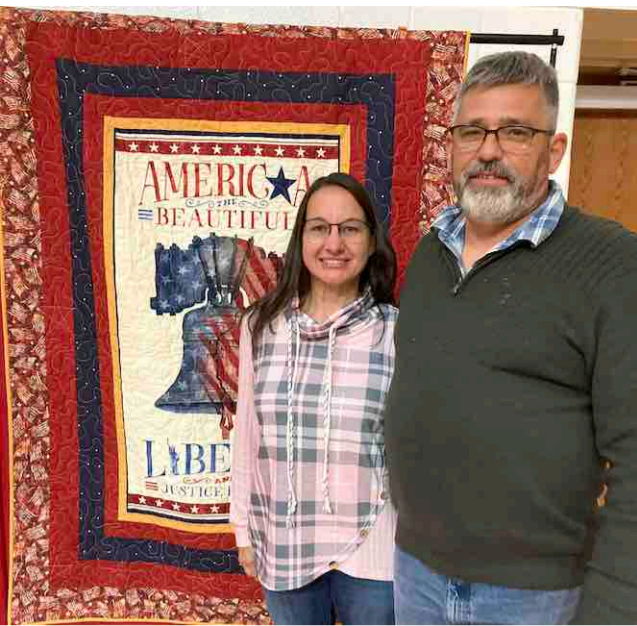
19th Annual Craft Show
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corner of US 127 & Blosser Rd., Sherwood, OH
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Medicare Supplements Health

HICKSVILLE VETERANS DAY PROGRAM & QUILT SHOW WINNER



Army veteran and Antwerp native, Stacey Sweet, shown here with his wife Kylie, was the winner of this quilt. At the recent Veteran's Day program at Hicksville schools, Sweet was the veteran who traveled the farthest to attend the event. Coming from their home in Old Town, FL, Sweet was one of over 90 veterans in attendance who were honored for serving their country.

Students and faculty were all involved in the program;

breakfast was served, music was performed, and videos were presented. Veterans from all branches of service were recognized. Guest speaker was Master Sergeant (E-7) Carr of the Ohio National Guard. The program is an annual event at the school and much appreciated by those being honored. Piecemakers Quilt Group of Hicksville (a 501(c)3 organization) made and donated the patriotic-themed quilt.

HERITAGE LIONS 25B FOOD BANK



Lori Price, chief coordinator of the St. Joseph Hessen Cassel Food Bank, gave a very interesting talk to the Heritage Lions last night. She explained how the project was started in 1995 to help a few parishioners get food for their families. The food bank began helping more of the general public in 1997. They became affiliated with the Associated Churches and the Community Harvest Food Bank around that time to provide for an increasing need to help feed the poor in our area.

In the beginning, food was set out to be taken as needed.

The food bank's costs back then were 17 cents a pound. Recipients were charged 19 cents a pound. This "profit" helped defer some of the costs associated with the distribution of food. Now the law states that food banks cannot charge for the food they provide. And costs have gone way up from all of the sources Hessen Cassel uses to help the poor.

When COVID hit our area, the food bank started a drive-through service. Recipients drive up and are given a pre-packed box of food. This method is also used at the much larger Community Harvest Food Bank. Ms. Price expressed her gratitude for the help the Heritage Lions volunteers give her organization on Thursdays and Saturdays. Several Lions help load the food boxes into the cars every week.

Many area churches and organizations help Hessen Cassel provide food for some 300 families monthly. It is a ceaseless challenge every day of the week to keep up with the many details of this work. There is a perpetual shortage of money, volunteers, freezer space and affordable food. Re-

cently several Hispanic families have moved to the area and they need a few bilingual volunteers. The recent inflation in food prices has pushed several more families to seek assistance.

"Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry" has helped them out. This organization receives game such as venison from hunters in several counties and donates it to local food banks. The need for meat at the food bank is especially dire, given recent restrictions on how much meat they can purchase each month from Community Harvest. Following her talk, Ms. Price fielded several questions from Lions members and stayed for the rest of the meeting.

The Heritage Lions motto is "We Serve" and we welcome anyone who wishes to help their local community to contact a Heritage Lion.

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

State Wildlife Officer Matt Teders, assigned to Madison County, received a call concerning a person hunting without permission. Officer Teders identified the suspect, who was a convicted felon and prohibited from possessing a firearm but was in possession of a shotgun. The suspect was indicted for felony possession of a firearm under disability. The individual was found guilty and ordered to pay \$756 in fines and court costs as well as serve two years of community control. The defendant was also sentenced to three years in prison suspended with successful completion of community control.

State Wildlife Officer Josh Elster, assigned to Pickaway County, was dispatched to a boat ramp at Deer Creek State Park to assist an injured boater. Officer Elster was informed the boater dislocated a shoulder while bringing their boat to the dock. The injured boater did not want medical attention. Officer Elster assisted the injured person by immobilizing the arm for comfort on the ride home.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

During the early two-day white-tailed deer gun hunting season in the disease surveillance area, State Wildlife Officer Ryan Kennedy, assigned to Hardin County, received a report of a hunter with no hunter orange. Officer Kennedy located the

(Giving Tues... continued from Page 1)

allows members of the community to maximize the impact of their contributions. For every dollar donated, the Paulding County Area Foundation will contribute an additional dollar, effectively doubling the support for local initiatives and projects.

Key Details of the Matching Campaign:

- Matching Limit: Up to \$10,000
- Maximum Match per Donation: \$1,000

The Foundation recognizes the importance of community involvement and aims to foster a spirit of philanthropy during this holiday season. By participating in the

CARING & SHARING FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS



On Saturday, November 11th sixth-grade students and teachers from Paulding Junior High School volunteered at the Caring and Sharing food pantry. Shown in the picture from left are: Ms. Karnes (6th grade math teacher), Levi Fisk, Noah Thomas, Lilly Gunderman, Booklyn Justinger, and Mrs. Moore (6th grade ELA teacher).

bowhunter, who was sitting in a tree stand dressed in full camouflage. The bowhunter was issued a citation for not wearing hunter orange during a deer gun season. The subject pleaded guilty and received a \$200 fine. It is important for every hunter, regardless of implement, to wear hunter orange during any gun season.

State Wildlife Officer Nathan Robinson, assigned to Van Wert County, attended the first Buck Expo sponsored by Van Wert Post 178. This event showcased white-tailed deer scores, area taxidermists, deer processors, and veteran-based outdoor programs. This was a great opportunity for sportsmen and women to socialize, discuss tactics, and share advice prior to the deer season. Officer Robinson answered numerous questions and reviewed deer hunting regulations with attendees.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Investigator Brian Bury, assigned to Lake Erie, and State Wildlife Officer Zach Hillman, assigned to Cuyahoga County, recently patrolled Lake Erie near Lorain. The officers checked anglers for fishing license and regulation compliance. The officers issued misdemeanor summonses to three individuals for fishing without a license. Each individual was found guilty and paid \$166 in fines and court costs.

Over the summer, State Wildlife Officer Zach Hillman, assigned to Cuyahoga County, responded to a call about a deer fawn stuck in a fence in Cleveland. Officer Hillman freed the fawn by using a catch pole to lift it out of a tight space. The fawn

had no injuries and was immediately released to a doe that was waiting nearby.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

In early spring, State Wildlife Officer Chris Dodge, assigned to Hocking County, patrolled O'Dowd Wildlife Area. While in a remote area of the property, Officer Dodge located a vehicle being driven off-road. The vehicle was being driven by a juvenile, who was accompanied by an adult. The adult was issued a summons for aiding a juvenile in operating a motor vehicle in a non-designated area. The suspect pleaded guilty in Hocking County municipal court and paid \$205 in fines and court costs.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officers Gus Kiebel and Micah Collier, assigned to Adams and Brown counties, respectively,

(Continued from Page 1)

and Systech in Paulding, OH. Antwerp Exchange Bank was recognized for being in business for 125 years.

Developments in Paulding County was also recognized. There is so much happening in Paulding County right now! Caring & Sharing Food Pantry had a groundbreaking for their new facility in Paulding; Antwerp Pharmacy moved locations; Family Dollar/Dollar Tree opened in Antwerp; Dooley Funeral Home in Antwerp had an expansion; new Dollar General in Oakwood; Ebel's Butcher Shop expanded their facility; Grover Hill Lions Club renovated their Community Cen-

ter; Studio 211 and Ignite Dance Academy in Antwerp; Nini's Ice Cream shop in Paulding; Speice Barbershop in Paulding; Timber Road Solar on SR 49 by Payne; groundbreaking for the much anticipated Taco Bell in Paulding; The Upper Nine in Antwerp, and the new Western Buckeye Educational Service Center in Paulding. So many changes for the betterment of the county and its residents. All of that is over \$95,000,000 in aggregate investments in 2023!

Director Tim Cosey and Office manager Kristen Schilt and the rest of the PCED staff have been working tirelessly to make this community Paulding County Strong!

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

Responses need to be received by Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. to be considered for the next publication. We reserve the right to edit for length, content and worthiness. email: info@westbendnews.net fax: 419-258-1313 USPS: West Bend News PO Box 1008 Antwerp, OH 45813

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to all the readers of West Bend for all your prayers & efforts to defeat Issue #1. Please continue to pray, love, help and encourage the pregnant moms to give birth to their precious little babies and not choose abortion.

For help:
 Help with unexpected pregnancy: 419-636-5691
 Help for Mom's & Babies in need: 419-542-8202

Healing after abortion: 877-467-3463 (Rachel's Vineyard Hotline)
 Thank you for printing these articles!
 Love & Blessings,
 —Judy McCalla,
 Respect for Life,
 Hicksville, Ohio

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ohio and Humanity Lost
 It appears Ohio's undereducated liberal num-skulls won that round with Issue 1. I'm betting most of those voting "yes" thought they were losing their abortion rights. In reality what you blind dummies did was take the parents' right concerning their kids health and give it to some liberal government "jerk" who knows and cares little, it's only a job.

I'm now very fearful for Ohio's future. Your "yes" votes just gave the liberal communists that control the Democrat party another control point over you. I see our end coming and your "yes" vote just sped it up. Remember Ronald Reagan, who just happened to be out best president in modern times, when he said something like "America is God's last best chance for humanity on earth."

I seriously doubt that many of those "yes" voters on this Issue 1 knew what was behind it of even know God. After all, it was liberal Democrats who forbid God in school just so they could celebrate days like this. They don't care about us, they just want total control just as in Russia.

This next part came in my mail after I had submitted the top part to WBN. It came from Faith and Freedom Coalition but is in my words.
 This type of cheap attack

on Americans and Christianity comes only from very desperate anti-God, anti-America, ultra-liberal left, known to us as Democrats. They don't care how low or corrupt then go as long as they can keep the right to murder your unborn baby.

I believe this ad, produced by Ohioans United for Reproductive Rights, was just about as low as a person could sink. They sound a lot like Biden's kind of people. IF they cheap leftist leaders can't be honest and about board Christians, I say let them crawl back into their dark existence with Satan and shut their evil mouth. Better yet, turn them on to Jesus and lose their evil ways. Boy, Biden should try this.

Their ad was to promote unrestricted abortion in Ohio. Part of it was a picture of a young man kneeling in prayer in front of a picture of the standing image of Jesus as if to say "abortion on demand is ok."

Issue 1 allows unrestricted abortion thru 9 months. It eliminates safety regulations for clinics. Mostly it removes parents rights concerning their child's health decisions. I'll bet they expect parents to pay through the nose though.

Personally I don't believe very many of these people purposely doing this anti-God work are prayer warriors. For them it's just a job with money to kill.

Democrats are responsible for all of our "killing mills". We didn't have this giant wave of immorality and disrespect in America before they forbid God and prayer in schools. We have gone down a little every year since. The only upturns that came since about 1960-70 were when we had Republican Christian leadership.

Read the Bible and pray because you don't want to be here when the end comes.
 —Richard Mastin
 Hicksville, OH

(Continued from Page 1)
 Washington TWP, Oakwood was able to purchase the new squad with no added cost to the taxpayers.

This allows Oakwood to retire their 2001 E350 which will be donated to the Oakwood Fire Dept to be used as an equipment truck.

Oakwood EMS is a volunteer Dept who is always looking for new members of our community to join the team. If you're interested contact OEMS on Facebook or Coordinator Gary Lewis @ 419-786-9339.

The West Bend News is published weekly for residents of northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio. The publication is wholly owned by West Bend Printing & Publishing Inc.

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MEDIACOM OFFERS \$60,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

**Interested students encouraged to apply by January 31, 2024 deadline
 **Information for the online application is available at schools in eligible communities

Mediacom Communications is offering \$60,000 in scholarship support for high school seniors who plan to obtain further education. The scholarship program is in its 23rd consecutive year and Mediacom's investment will award \$1,000 World Class Scholarships to 60 high school seniors.

Scholarship recipients are given the flexibility to use the financial awards to support post-secondary college costs or vocational training from an accredited institution starting in the fall of 2024. Award selection is based on academic achievement and leadership accomplishments.

Applications for Mediacom's World Class Scholarships are available online: mediacomworldclass.com. Information has been sent to all high schools in areas where Mediacom delivers its high-speed internet services. High school officials are asked to encourage seniors to submit applications on or before the January 31, 2024 deadline.

"Our company makes it a priority to give back to communities in which we do business, and we believe one of the best ways is to invest in promising young students who will be our future leaders," said Tapan Dandnaik, Mediacom's SVP of Operations, Product Strategy and Consumer Experience.

Applicants do not have to be Mediacom customers but must live in the 22-state area served by Mediacom's fiber-rich broadband network. A complete list of communities in Mediacom service areas is included with the online application. Inquiries may be sent to scholarship@mediacomcc.com.

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

PAULDING JUNIOR HIGH STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Each month Paulding Junior High School teachers select one Student of the Month per grade level. These students are recognized for being some of the top academic performers at Paulding Junior High School. Shown in the picture from left are Allison Manz (7th Grade), Lylah Schluetter (6th Grade), and Gannon Landers (8th Grade).

PAULDING JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE PANTHERS



Each month Paulding Junior High School teachers select one Positive Panther per grade level. These students are recognized for the positive character traits they exhibit as students of Paulding Junior High School. Shown in the picture from left are Brooklyn Justinger (6th grade), Jonah Anders (7th grade), and Gabby Stork (8th grade).

PHS NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Paulding High School announced their November Student of the Month. They are from left to right: Freshman- Max Daeger, Sophomore-Logan Winke, Junior-Claire Miller, and Senior-Morgan Szurminski.

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.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS
Antwerp: Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H2O, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows
Bryan: Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General
Cecil: 127 Maramart
Charloe: Charloe Store
Continental: Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware
Defiance: Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library
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, Johnson Memorial Library
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, PC Carnegie Library
Payne: Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library
Sherwood: Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library
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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WAYNE TRACE SENIOR BROOKS LAUKHUF SIGNS WITH OHIO DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY



Wayne Trace senior boys basketball standout Brooks Laukhuf recently signed to further his academic and athletic career at Ohio Dominican University in Columbus. Shown above are (front, l-r) Rachel Laukhuf (mother), Brooks Laukhuf and Chris Laukhuf (father). In the back row are Wayne Trace Boys Basketball Head Coach and Athletic Director Jim Linder, Tanner Laukhuf (brother) and Carson Laukhuf (brother). Brooks Laukhuf enters his senior season with 1,335 career points, putting him currently in fourth place in Wayne Trace scoring history behind Ethan Linder, Rob Welch and Steve Hall.

WOODLAN RALLIES FOR ROAD WIN AT GARRETT

After struggling for a quarter, the Woodlan Warriors took control over the final three periods in pulling away

for a 51-31 victory over host Garrett Saturday in non-league girls basketball play.

It was the host Railroaders who won the opening stanza, picking up nine markers compared to the Lady Warriors'

eight as Garrett took a one-point advantage at the end of eight minutes of action.

Woodlan rallied in the second stanza, picking up ten points while limiting the Lady Railroaders to six as the Warriors answered in posting an 18-15 halftime advantage.

The Lady Warriors added to the margin in the third quarter, scoring 18 markers in the stanza while keeping Garrett to a dozen to expand the lead to 36-27 entering the final stanza.

Woodlan then put the game away in the fourth quarter, recording another 15 points while holding the host

PAULDING JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL HAS AN UNDEFEATED SEASON



The 2023 Paulding Panther High School football team wrapped up their season by defeating their rival, the Wayne Trace Raiders 28-12 to secure an outright GMC Championship and complete an undefeated 8-0 season.

The Panthers were

coached by Logan Doster, Beau Hahn and Aaron Horstman.

The coaches would like to thank all the parents and players for a great season, along with all of the community who came out each week to support these boys during

their championship run! GO PANTHERS!

2023 schedule results: PJHS 20 Edon 18; PJHS 38 Edgerton 0; PJHS 38 Antwerp 14; PJHS 36 Hicksville 6; PJHS 26 Fairview 16; PJHS 36 Tinora 18; PJHS 36 Ayersville 22; PJHS 28 WT 12

Railroaders to set the 51-31 final.

Junior Makenna Smith led the way for the Lady Warriors with ten points and three assists while junior Brooke Kneubuhler recorded nine markers and two steals. Junior Karina Peppler also finished with nine points and three steals for Woodlan.

Senior Taylor Kneubuhler totaled nine points, nine rebounds, two steals and five blocked shots with sophomore Alyssa Anderson adding seven points, 13 rebounds, two blocked shots and two assists.

Junior Reagan Widenhoefer chipped in five points, four assists and two steals with junior Alix Jacquay posting two points, three rebounds and two assists. Sophomore

Mariah Thullner hauled down five rebounds as well for Woodlan.

LADY WARRIORS SLIP PAST BRAVES

In a non-league battle, the Woodlan Lady Warriors held off visiting Bellmont for a 43-38 victory Friday night outside of Woodburn.

Sophomore Alyssa Anderson led the way for the Lady Warriors with 15 points while senior Taylor Kneubuhler added ten markers.

Junior Brooke Kneubuhler posted nine points for Woodlan and junior Alix Jacquay chipped in five markers.

Anderson finished off the double-double with 11 rebounds for the Warriors while Brooke Kneubuhler and

Jacquay each hauled down four boards. Junior Reagan Widenhoefer picked up three rebounds while Taylor Kneubuhler and sophomore Mariah Thullner posted two rebounds apiece.

Taylor Kneubuhler totaled four assists and four steals for the Lady Warriors and Jacquay dished out a pair of assists. Brooke Kneubuhler recorded five steals as well for Woodlan.

Woodlan finished 13 of 24 in two-point field goals (54 percent) and the Lady Warriors hit two of eleven three-point field goal attempts (18 percent).

At the charity stripe, Woodlan hit seven of a dozen attempts (58 percent).

The Lady Warriors open ACAC play on Friday, No-

we're not just bankers . . .

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ANTWERP COMMUNITY 1ST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Welcomes you to Small Business Saturday NOVEMBER 25th

WELCOME CENTER

Antwerp Global Methodist Church is the starting place to pick up your **SHOP SMALL** tote bag & begin your shopping day!

Many businesses are hosting specials & sales this holiday shopping weekend – so don't miss out!

Support your local businesses not only on Small Business Saturday but throughout the year. Small business keep small towns alive!

COME AND JOIN US FOR SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY!

SHOP SMALL

Receipt Drawings

Spend \$\$ at any Antwerp business on Nov. 25 & you could win \$100 in Chamber Bucks!

Spend \$30 or more in Antwerp on Small Business Saturday for the \$100 drawing. Drop your receipts off at the Welcome Center before 1pm!

ANNUAL Tree Lighting CELEBRATION

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING WILL TAKE PLACE DECEMBER 4TH @ 6PM AT GREENWAY PARK (TENNIS COURTS)

THANK YOU to the 2023 Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Membership that makes all of this possible!

- A Plus Propane
- Advanced Chassis LLC
- Affordable Sewer and Septic
- Antwerp Ball Association
- Antwerp Community Band
- Antwerp Community Development Committee
- Antwerp Conservation Club
- Antwerp Corner Café
- Antwerp Exchange Bank
- Antwerp First Baptist Church
- Antwerp Friends of the Library
- Antwerp Global Methodist Church
- Antwerp Insurance Agency
- Antwerp Local School
- Antwerp Pharmacy and Village Hardware
- Antwerp Pit Stop, LLC
- Antwerp Rotary Club
- Antwerp VFW Post 5087
- Bethel United Methodist Church
- Carryall Township
- Clark's Loyal Labradors
- Clem's Tax & Accounting
- Community Memorial Hospital
- Divine Mercy Catholic Parish
- Doolley Funeral Home
- Doterra/Ageless Reflexology
- Farnsworth Silkscreening
- First Presbyterian Church
- Five Star Deck Building and Fencing
- Floyd Ramsier Attorney
- Friend Flooring
- Geenex LLC
- Gen Fed Credit Union
- Genesis House
- Grants Catering and Smokin' Wheels BBQ
- H2O Waterstores
- Hop's Place
- Hormann's Heating and Cooling
- Jeanette Womack
- Jenifer Manella
- Junque and Barnwood Creations

- Kay and Tony Langham
- Kauser Trucking
- KB Scoops
- Kennedy Trenching and Excavating
- Krazy Krafters
- KS Works of Art
- L.A.Lens-Photography/Something Brave Hats Co
- Langham's Exterminating
- Leinard Mobile Home Park
- Leland Smith Insurance
- MAC Gym/ Northwest Ohio Cheer and Tumble
- Matt and Mandy Moore
- Mercer Landmark
- Metalink Technologies
- Mike and Belinda Renno
- More Than Boutique
- Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church my102.7
- Norwex & L'BRI
- Oasis Bar and Grill

- Ohio Gas
- Pam's Prime Cut
- Paragon Tempered Glass
- Paulding County Hospital
- Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative
- Petals and Vines
- Pierce Automotive
- Pin-A-Rama Bowling Alley and Diner
- Puckerbrush of Antwerp
- Riverside Christian Church
- Riverside Tire
- Sam Switzer Realty
- Sarah Mowery Denstistry
- Small Town Bliss
- South Scipio Church
- Sue Fowler
- Ties and Bows
- Village of Antwerp
- West Bend Printing & Publishing, Inc.
- Yenser Gross Heating and AC

Santa's Secret Shop

Saturday, December 2nd 9 am - 1pm at the Antwerp VFW!

ALL CHILDREN ARE INVITED FOR A FUN TIME TO SHOP FOR FAMILY WITHOUT GOING TO THE BIG CITY! ALL GIFTS ONLY \$5 & INCLUDES GIFT BAG & TAG!

PANTHER BIDDY WRESTLING RECOGNIZES COOPER FAMILY FOUNDATION FOR DONATION



The Panther Biddy Wrestling Club would like to thank the Cooper Family Foundation for awarding our club with funds that helped us purchase two new wrestling mats!!! All of our boys and girls are thankful and truly blessed by Cooper's generosity.

November 24, when Woodlan welcomes in Jay County. Woodlan then makes a non-league trip to Eastside on Tuesday, November 28.

CFAES CONFERENCE OFFERS RESOURCES FOR GROWING ORGANIC GRAINS

Farmers, producers, and those interested in learning about organic grain production can attend a two-day conference from Jan. 4-5, 2024, offered by The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) that is designed to support the growth and expansion of producing organic grains statewide and to provide the economic outlook for the organic grain market next year.

The annual Ohio State Organic Grains Conference will be held at the Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Cen-

ter, 1750 State Park Road #2, Oregon, Ohio, 11 miles east of Toledo, Ohio. Now in its second year, the conference offers programming for experienced organic growers, growers transitioning to or considering organic, and consultants or educators who support these growers, said Eric Richer, assistant professor and an Ohio State University Extension field specialist in farm management.

OSU Extension is the outreach arm of CFAES.

The conference comes as interest is growing among more farmers and producers statewide, according to the most recent U.S. Census data, said Richer, a conference organizer and speaker.

"Ohio ranks in the top five in the nation for total number of organic farms, organic corn farmers, and organic soybean farmers, and currently has the sixth most acres of farmland nationwide that are being transitioned

from conventional to organic," he said. "One of the goals of the conference is to better prepare farmers for the production and management risks associated with organic grain production in Ohio and to evaluate the possibility of growing value-added, organic grain in our region."

In all, the conference will have 16 workshops on topics including the following:

- Alternative Weed Management Strategies
- High Tech for Organic Grain
- Preparing for an Organic Inspection
- Economic Performance of Organic Farms in the Midwest
- Rotations for Nutrient Cycling
- Sidedressing Manure to Provide Organic Nutrient Needs
- Innovative Weed Control Strategies
- Parallel Production During Transition

- Organic Oats for Grain and Forage
- Return On Investment of Biological Products
- Organic Grain Market Outlook
- Organic No-till Soybeans

Conference speakers will include CFAES researchers, specialists, and educators whose work aligns with or includes organic production practices, Richer said.

Conference speakers will also include Klaas Martens, a farmer with New York-based Lakeview Organic Grain; Léa Vereecke, an organic crop consultant at the Rodale Institute, a Pennsylvania-based nonprofit organics research organization; soil fertility specialist Steve Culman, of Washington State University; and Eugene Law, a researcher with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service, and an incoming CFAES assistant professor in weed ecology.

The event will also include a preconference dinner and brainstorming session on Jan. 3 as well as farmer-led roundtables where growers can share their experience and questions around selected topics.

That's just one of the features Steve Turnow, an Ottawa County, Ohio, organic grain farmer, said he that is looking forward to at the event.

"The conference is a great way for organic farmers to enhance their operations and to network with others interested in organic production," Turnow said. "Last year's speakers were informative and helped me in my farming operation."

The conference is presented by OSU Extension and Ohio State's Organic Food and Farming Education and Research (OFFER) program. Preregistration is \$100 per person through Dec. 1, and is \$130 from Dec. 2-22. Participating Certified Crop Advisors will also be eligible for continuing education credits. For more information or to register, visit go.osu.edu/organicgrains.

DEFIANCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES 11/13/23

The Board of Defiance County Commissioners met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, November 13, 2023, in the Defiance County Commissioners' Confer-

NEXT PCBW GUEST



This week on our show we get bonus coverage. Meet Miranda Schlatter, owner of Maid to Achieve Cleaning Service and co-owner of Double Ds Dairy Bar in Melrose. Meet Erika Dobbelaere, co-owner of Double Ds Dairy Bar and a graduate of the Panthers for Careers program at Paulding High School. Hear how education, workforce, business, entrepreneurship and

economic development all play together for the good of the county. Thanks to OhioMeansJobs, you can tune in Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., or listen online at www.my1027.org/paulding-county-business-weekly/. Paulding County Business Weekly is also available in podcast form through Apple, Google & Spotify.

ence Room. President Kern called the meeting to order. Also present were Commissioners Dana Phipps and Mick Pocratsky; County Administrator, Sherry Carnahan; 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.

Russ Herman, Defiance County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, met with the Board to provide an update on various pending legal matters.

Warren Schlatter, Defiance County Engineer and Landfill Director, met with

the Board to provide a monthly update. His office is working through County bridge inspections as well as widening Farmer Mark Road in preparation for paving in 2024. Mr. Schlatter was joined by Maintenance Supervisor Ron Cereghin for a discussion about snow removal on County properties.

The Board met with Julie Rittenhouse, Melanie Becher, Darby McDonald, and Andy Weisgerber to discuss renewal of the County insurance policy through CORSA.

Fair Board Members Jerry Sanders and Ben Sandleben met with the Board to discuss electrical improvements needed for the Defiance County Fairgrounds as well as other needed improvements.



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PAULDING FFA RECEIVES AWARD AT 96th ANNUAL FFA NATIONAL CONVENTION



Pictured here front row left to right are our 3 American Degree recipients Sam Woods, Janae Pease and Kyle Mobley. Pictured behind them are the 12 Paulding FFA members who attended the National Convention.

By: Paulding FFA Reporter, Grace Goyings

From October 31st through November 4th, thousands of FFA chapters from across the nation, including 12 Paulding FFA members, traveled to Indianapolis, Indiana for the 96th Annual National FFA Convention.

Our members had a busy schedule full of educational and leadership experiences that allowed them to learn more about agriculture and FFA. On October 31st, members departed Paulding HS and stopped to tour Agricon Grain Millers in Marion, Indiana on their trip down.

The members learned about the dry milling of corn for food-grade products. Afterward, they stopped at Indy Scream Park for Halloween scares before checking into the hotel.

On November 1st, the members started their busy day with some free time to explore the expo and convention

center. Then they headed to Franklin, Indiana to tour Umbarger Show Feeds where they learned about the behind-the-scenes process it takes to make feed.

Later that evening the chapter attended the Lainey chapter for a great end to their day. On November 2nd, they woke up bright and early to attend the opening session of the FFA convention where Juan Bendana was the amazing keynote speaker. He delivered a very inspirational speech about how he faced his fears and overcame obstacles.

During Session 2 the Paulding FFA was recognized as a 3-Star National Chapter, a long-time goal for our chapter, this is the 3rd year the chapter has been Nationally recognized. Later that evening, the chapter went to have some fun duck pin bowling for a great bonding experience.

On November 3rd they traveled to Ozark fisheries for a very hands-on tour of how

raising fish works. The members then had some downtime to explore the expo more and got the opportunity to talk to many colleges and agricultural-based companies. Then later that evening members attended the World's Toughest Rodeo finals and enjoyed the wonderful show.

On the last day of the National Convention, November 4th, the members and advisors attended the American Degree ceremony, where they watched 3 Paulding FFA members receive their American FFA Degrees. The members were Kyle Mobley, Janae Pease, and Sam Woods who received the highest degree possible in FFA. The Paulding FFA Chapter is very proud of these three members and their accomplishments.

The Paulding FFA members would like to say a special thanks to the Paulding FFA Alumni for their support to the Paulding FFA Chapter and its members.



Michigan for a couple of weeks. I was notified three weeks ago that this tank was available and I immediately told the museum in Virginia that we wanted it. Our Board put the word out and we found donors to help us with the cost of shipping. Donors who assisted with the project were Ron Turpin, Chuck Surack Foundation, David Long and Bill Bean. American Legion Post 97 in Auburn and Post 31 in Angola have also donated. Warrior Breed has also pledged their support of the project."

HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING 11/6/23

Hicksville Village Council met in regular session on Monday, November 6. All members were in attendance except Toni Egly. Previous minutes and bills to be paid were accepted.

Mayor Ron Jones introduced special guest, Erika Willittz of Deafiance County CIC. She presented information on an analysis of the LaBar Drive area in regards to developing housing and impacts. This study discusses scenarios for future housing growth with projected industrial growth for Village study.

A Notice of Public Hearing was announced by Mayor Jones. It will be held Thursday, November 16 at 6 pm in the Zoning office to hear a request by Nemco to rezone 301 Meuse Argonne from A-1 Agriculture/Public Use to B-1 Industrial Business, B-2 Local Business, B-3 General Business.

Councilman Eric Bassett reported on recent Finance Committee meetings as the group works on the 2024 budget figures. Final numbers will not be available until results of the election fire levy are known. Additional meetings will be scheduled to complete figures.

Councilman Charlie Martin provided a report from a recent Personnel Committee meeting. Vacation issues and insurance concerns were topics for the meeting.

Solicitor Troy Essex presented the first reading, by caption only, for Ordinance 2023-17, establishing pay ranges for employees beginning January 1, 2024. A second reading was given, by caption only, for Resolution 2023-25, to enter into a contract with Hohenbrink Excavating LLC for water main replacement project at Cornelia and Rock Street, and declaring an emergency. Rules were suspended; the third reading was given. Council voted to pass the resolution. A first reading of Resolution 2023-27, by caption only, was presented to hire Rachel Hammersmith as Village Solicitor.

Discussion was held on proceeding with Resolution 2023-26 concerning awarding Vernon Nagle for construction of the pool, splashpad, pool house and pump house. Council decided to table the resolution. Following discussion on the topic, Council decided to address updates to the project following the election. Council will hold a special Council meeting on Monday, November 13 at 5 pm.

Police Chief Mark Denning noted that Clerk Julie Cleland will retire on December 1. She has been a valued employee and her shoes will be hard to fill. He has started scheduling interviews for the position.

Councilman Mike Barth complimented Fire Chief Bruce Hart and the department for their work on a successful Halloween carnival for the community. Councilman Ron Beverly recognized the department for their work and professionalism on fighting the residential fire Monday morning.

Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith presented reports to Council.

Mayor Jones reminded citizens of November 7 voting. He also reminded the citizens to thank veterans in recognition of November 11 Veterans Day.

Councilman Taylor Klepper announced recent planting of trees on the Trails property and he reminded everyone of the community Thanksgiving Day dinner at The Gathering Place on Thanksgiving Day from 11am to 1pm.

Council adjourned. The next regular Council session will be Monday, November 20 at 6 pm in Council chambers.

SPECIAL HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Hicksville Council met in special session on Monday, November 13. Their main topic of discussion was how to proceed on the splash pad, community pool project. A resolution presented at the November 6 meeting introduced the project in one bid for both items. Monday's meeting focused on dividing the project so the splash pad may move forward with construction plans while Council makes further plans for the community pool. The splash pad funding (approximately \$869,000) is in place and plans to construct the project are ready. With the decision to divide the project, the splash pad can move forward while Council weighs its options for financing the new pool which is estimated at approximately \$3.5 million. Council hopes to resolve pool issues so it may also be built in 2024.

PAYNE ELEMENTARY LEARN ABOUT ANIMALS



During the month of October, 2nd grade students at Payne Elementary School learned about animals. As a culminating activity, students researched an animal and created a habitat diorama. Pictured above are Celeste Hollar with her Koala habitat and Ayla Praul with her Sea Turtle habitat.

AFTER THANKSGIVING, ENJOY STEAMSGIVING AT SCIENCE CENTRAL



Celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math at STEAMsgiving, a three-day event at Science Central running from Friday, November 24, through Sunday, November 26.

An expansion of Science Central's former Festival of Trains event, STEAMsgiving highlights a range of hobbies and activities in the STEAM spectrum. Of those hobbies, model railroading continues to be an integral part of the event, with groups of miniature-train enthusiasts attending with their locomotives and layouts.

Railroad-focused groups in attendance will include:

- Dan Moody's Train Stop
- Northeast Indiana N-Scale
- Northeast Indiana Railroad Historical Society
- Maumee Valley Model Railroad Club

STEAMsgiving will feature a performance by the Dump-

ster Drummers on November 24. Taking the stage in Science Central's Demonstration Theater at 1:00 p.m., the Dumpster Drummers will wow the audience with their eclectic lineup of percussion instruments, many of which are everyday items, such as coffee cans and bottles.

Other special guests at STEAMsgiving will include Sarah Keller, who will discuss her hobby of hot-air ballooning; and Priyanka Koratpalikar, who will explain what it's like to work for General Motors as an engineer on Nov. 26 at 3:00 p.m.

Hours for STEAMsgiving are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday; and noon to 5:00 p.m., Sunday.

All STEAMsgiving activities are included with general admission to Science Central. Admission can be purchased on the center's website or at the admissions desk.

PAYNE ELEMENTARY HOLDS VETERANS DAY PROGRAM



Payne Elementary School presented their Veteran's Day program on Friday, November 10 to a full auditorium. Each branch of the military was recognized during this program by our third grade

classes. Also celebrated was the 100th birthday of the Payne Elementary School established in 1923. Cake was served in the cafeteria for all who wished to join the celebration. Thank you Veterans

for your service to our country and to all of us.

"SERGEANT YORK" M-247 TANK COMING TO THE VETERANS NATIONAL MEMORIAL SHRINE AND MUSEUM

The Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum has a new attraction coming to town today, a M-247 Sergeant York combat tank. It was a self-propelled anti-aircraft gun developed by Ford Aerospace in the late 70's. Based on the M48 Patton tank, it replaced the Patton's turret with a new one that featured twin radar-directed Bofors 40mm rapid-fire guns. The vehicle was named after Sergeant Alvin York, a famous World War I hero.

The M-247 tank will be displayed permanently at the north end of the memorial grounds just behind the Vietnam Memorial Wall. Greg Bedford, Commander of the Veterans Memorial Shrine and Museum said "we have been on the Department of Defense waiting list in Warren

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FIRST RESPONDERS VISIT CEDARVILLE ELEMENTARY TO READ TO STUDENTS AND DISCUSS SAFETY



First Responders visited Cedarville Elementary School to read to students and discuss safety and why they chose their career. The students were excited to learn and had several questions!

The following individuals visited the school:
 Brent Bolinger-ACPD
 Kevin Neher-ACPD
 Brandon Reichert & K9 Mako-ACPD
 Josh Daring-TRAA
 Ashley Jylland-Hyland-TRAA

Patricia Daly-TRAA
 Alison Troutman-Northeast Fire Department
 Heather Yoder-Northeast Fire Department
 Thank you, first responders!



ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS

On November 1, an Antwerp police officer assisted another police agency with interviewing an alleged rape victim.

On November 2, a 911 hangup was reported at Daggett St. An officer responded and it was determined children were playing on the phone.

On November 2, a resident of Park Avenue Villas reported their neighbor was banging on drums loudly. Officer responded, located the individual and asked them to stop for the night.

On November 3, a welfare check was requested for a resident in the village. The individual was located and found to be okay.

On November 3, a resident was at a local business and unable to start vehicle. An officer responded and assisted.

On November 3, a domestic dispute was reported on Erie

St. Nothing physical occurred and a report was prepared.

On November 6, a report of an unwanted person was reported at a residence on Daggett St. The officer located the individual and spoke with the individual and the individual agreed to leave.

On November 7, an anonymous tip was received in reference of drug trafficking in the village.

On November 7, a complaint was made in reference to a residence on Daggett St. The report alleges that the residence has cockroaches and rats.

On November 9, a hit/skip accident was reported on Woodland Dr. An officer responded, found damage to property and the vehicle gone. The officer located the driver the next day, cited him and prepared a report.

On November 9, a resident reported a dog running loose near the Sunoco gas station. The officer responded and was unable to locate the dog.

On November 9, a resident of Rd 43 called and reported an excavating company was draining water in her yard. She was referred to the sheriff department.

On November 9, a motor vehicle accident was reported on Harrmann Rd. Officer responded and prepared report.

On November 10, Antwerp Police Department assisted Antwerp EMS.

On November 10, report

was made at the police department about an altercation that took place at a home Antwerp football game.

On November 11, a resident at North Garden Apartments reported that his children's grandma was at a business in town and called and wanted to see the children. He was notifying the police that he was not going to allow it.

On November 13, a certified letter sent to Cal Ward reminding him he has items at the police department that needs to be retrieved.

On November 14, a resident of Daggett St. was illegally burning leaves. As a result a neighbor's garage was burnt down as well as the other neighbor's fence.

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!

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Allen Kline, Melrose, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Placed on standard probation; No unlawful contact with victim; Submit an evaluation; Complete any counseling; Risk assessment; Hands down book; Probation to determine online classes

Joshua M. Brown, Paulding, OH; OVI/under influence, Guilty, May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, Standard probation, Evaluation at Westwood, Secure operator license, 30 hours community service, Risk assessment, No alcohol/bars, All contraband forfeited, Complete online class, Remove SCRAM, State shall not pursue felony charges; Marked lanes, Count B dismiss; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Carol A. Kuntz, Latty, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; Defendant to pay all costs; Maintain general good behavior

Alicia Fee, Lima, OH; OVI/under influence, Guilty, Proof of insurance provided, Standard probation, 90 days jails, 80 days suspended, License suspended 6/16/23 to 6/16/24; Evaluation at Westwood, Secure valid oper-

ator's license; Failure to reinstate, Count B dismissed; Failure to control, Count C dismissed

Javier Palacios, Paulding, OH; OVI/under influence, Guilty, 30 days jail, 27 days suspended, May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, License suspended from 7/9/23 to 7/9/24; Failure to control, Count B dismissed

Kirslynn P. Camposano, Paulding, OH; Marked lanes, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Driving under suspension - operator license forfeiture, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Distracted driving, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Angel M. Navarijo Castellanos, No operator's license; Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Todd D. Creager, Wauseon, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived

Arthur J. Heudecker, Toledo, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Billy J. Evans, Defiance, OH; Paraphernalia, Case was dismissed per state, Costs to defendant; Possession of marijuana, Case dismissed, Defendant to pay all costs; OVI/under influence, Guilty, 30 days jail, 27 suspended, License suspended from 7/16/23 to 7/16/24, May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, ALS vacated, 6AM to 9PM driving requested by defendant; Turn signals, Count B dismissed

Travis K. Phlipot, Oakwood, OH; Drug paraphernalia, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, All contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency; Flee/elude, Guilty, 180 days jail, 165 days suspended, License suspended from 11/13/23 to 5/13/24, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, Write a letter of apology to the arresting officers prior to release from jail; Possession of marijuana, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, All contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency; FRA suspension, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; No tail lights, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs


Heather A. Ladd, Paulding, OH; Receiving stolen properties, Guilty, 180 days jail, 155 suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Shall pay restitution in the amount of \$1540.00 joint and several with Christopher Smith felony case; Shall have no contact with Oakwood

WEST BEND NEWS Crossword Puzzle ST. NICHOLAS

- Across**
- St. Nicholas attended THIS historical council in AD 325, where he played a significant role in defending orthodox Christian beliefs.
 - The historical figure who inspired the modern Santa Claus.
 - A holiday celebrated in some countries on December 26th.
 - Often associated with holiday treats given by St. Nicholas.
 - Traditional attire worn by St. Nicholas in many depictions.
 - St. Nicholas served as the Archbishop of THIS city, in modern-day Turkey.
 - Santa Claus enters homes through THIS to deliver gifts.
 - St. Nicholas is this of children, sailors, and merchants.
 - Assisting Santa in making toys for children.
 - The modern image of Santa Claus was popularized by THIS bottling company.
- Down**
- Children hang these by the fireplace for St. Nicholas to fill with gifts.
 - St. Nicholas is often depicted with one of these on his face.
 - In folklore, Santa Claus's workshop is located at the North Pole.
 - Offered to Santa as a thank-you for delivering gifts.
 - Santa Claus is said to ride one of these pulled by reindeer.
 - St. Nicholas is said to have secretly given THESE to a poor man's daughters.
 - St. Nicholas is associated with this Christian holiday.
 - The Dutch name for St. Nicholas, from which "Santa Claus" evolved.
 - St. Nicholas is known for performing these.
 - Santa's famous animals, including Rudolph with his red nose.

solution on page 11

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Dollar General or victim; Maintain general good behavior

Tonja Grace Smallwood, Cecil, OH; Disorderly conduct; Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Mikayla R. Rodriguez, Omaha, NE, Assured clear distance; Case dismissed at defendant's costs

Michael A. Walters, Cloverdale, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Timothy J. Manz, Cecil, OH; Domestic violence; Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs waived

Alesha N. Simon, Payne, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Zachary T. Schlegel, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Aaron L. Robertson, Lima, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Hunter M. Strickland, Antwerp, OH; Assured clear distance; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

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

Larry D. Grace, Paulding, OH; Left of center; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs



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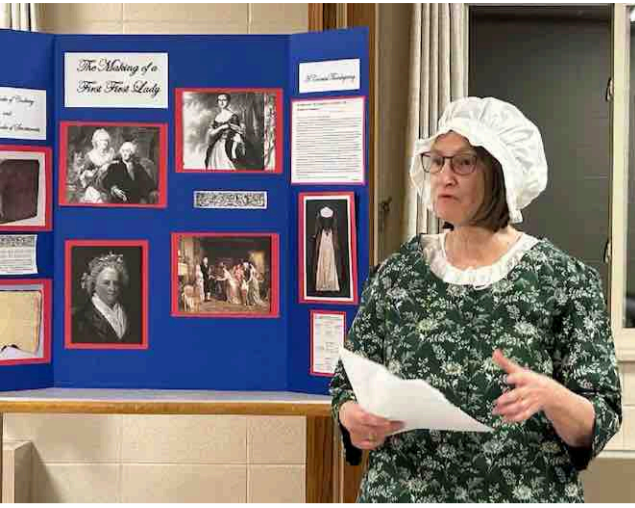
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JOEL FROST CHAPTER, NSDAR MET IN SHERWOOD



On Thursday Evening, November 9th, 2023, the Joel Frost Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution held their regular meeting in Sherwood Ohio. Hostess for the evening was Wendy Tafelski of Bryan, Ohio. Wendy gave a sparkling presentation about the life and times of Martha Washington. She demonstrated the kind of clothing Martha would be wearing, and the kind of food and cooking that Martha and George Washington would have in their home and when entertaining guests. Wendy did a lot of research and had several books and cook books

and sample desserts and tea to share with the group. She really seemed to enjoy giving the presentation and it was a real treat for everyone present.

The NSDAR is service organization whose objectives are to perpetuate the memory and spirit of the men and women who achieved American Independence; to promote an enlightened public opinion; and to foster true patriotism and love of country.

This December 16th, at 12:00 Noon, the Joel Frost Chapter will partner with Wreaths Across America in the laying of wreaths on veterans' graves at Forest Home Cemetery in Hicksville Ohio.

BUHRER SPEAKS TO KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Seth Buhner (Certified Personal Trainer, FIT) as the guest speaker at the November 16, 2023, club meeting. Seth came at the invitation of Steeve Doeden (Advertising Representative, Paulding Progress). Seth spoke to the Kiwanians about FIT, Functional Intense Training, and how it increases coordination, balance, posture and flexibility.

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- (*Denotes all As)
- Mrs. Arend 1A:** Kyleigh Bernal*, Evan Blockberger*, Hudson Brown, Hayden Chaney, Natalie Collard*, Coal Etter*, Emerson Gamble*, Colton Lambert, Aviana Landwehr, Macklen Osting*, Zane Posey Grant
- Mrs. J. Miller 1B:** Axl Breckler*, Izzy Carlisle, Dante Corral, Amara Herman-Dix*, Avery Kisor*, Leo Krabill, Hadley Mohr, Carson Parker*, Jayden Schlatter*, McKinley Sherry, Titus Tenwalde*, Jazmine Tuttle
- Miss March 2A:** Lee Bradford, Lexi Dunlap, Garrett Holt, Calla Manz*, K a s h a Manz*, Caleb McClure, Daniel Schlatter*, Aspynn Shirk, Arianna Smith*, Owen Steffes, Henley Wagner*

- Mrs. Carter 2B:** Lucia Burghart, Marshall Fife*, Isiah Hopkins, Gwyn Krendl*, Quintin Manz*, Rylie Posey, Elena Schlatter*, Evan Taylor, Kiersten Thomas, Haven Wagner
- Mrs. Thornell 3A:** Damian Bullinger, Luke Collard*, Tatum DuCheney, Kash Foor, Jade Fraley, Maverick Jewell*, Molly Malosh, Harmony Miler, Hudson Miller*, Ben Oxley, Drasin Plotts, Clara Porter, Preston Schlatter, Samuel Stahl

- Mrs. Schroeder 3B:** Hunter Booth, Addy Clemens, Aliah Fenter*, Bailey Heath, Jaxson King*, Alex Manz*, Zeke Nunez, Aden Porter*, Mallerie Rohda, River Stahl*, Easton Stork, Ella Taylor*, Evan Thomas, Jon Vannier
- Mrs. Hohlbein 4A:** Kirsten Blockberger*, Enola Clifford*, Ryder Dotson, Brandon Lambert, Forrest Logan, Kennedy Manz*, Trevor Manz, Maggie Martinez, Brielle Schlatter*, Isabelle Schlatter*, Josh Schlatter*, Tierney Tenwalde

- Mrs. Bockrath 4B:** Alex Burghart*, Saulivan Cano*, Zoey Chaney, Aaliyah Collins*, Audrey Etter*, Molly Halter, Wyatt Leatherman, Renata Quevedo Jacome, Carter Sheaks, Lexis Smith, Hannah Wells*, Max West
- Mrs. Limber 5/6A:** Cooper Boroff, Ty Clifford, Corbin Gibson, Raelyn Haynes*, Connor Manz, Adalyn Miller, Grayson Porter, Lucy Riethman, Olivia Schlatter*, Morgan Snyder, Brantlee Swanson

- Mrs. Siefker 5D:** Ryland Ashbaugh, Leah Baker, Kalioppe Foor*, Carter Naugle, Kaylee Pack, Rylee Steffes, Gavin Thomas
- Miss Thommer 5/6C:** Lauryn Bernal*, Finn Bradford*, Legend Buckler, Madison Durham*, Brandon Krabill, Miranda Lewis*, Simon Manz*, Adalynn Ordway, Gage Ramey*, Mason Weible

VANTAGE AWARDED \$1.2 GRANT, LT. GOV. HUSTED PAYS VISIT



Vantage high school seniors participated in a round table discussion with the Lt. Governor Jon Husted during his visit and tour. All five students are currently also enrolled in one of the adult programs directly impacted by the \$1.2 million dollar grant awarded to Vantage. Students, (l-r) are Tim Shepard (Continental), Ryan Renner (Lincolnview), Maddie Osborn (Lincolnview), Jenna Corzine (Lincolnview), and Dwayne Nienberg (Continental).



Lt. Governor Jon Husted toured Vantage Career Center in Van Wert, Ohio after announcing a \$1.2 million dollar grant being awarded to the district. Vantage Board members, staff and students participated in the round table discussion. Captured (l-r) is Lt. Governor Jon Husted, Vantage Superintendent Rick Turner, State Representative Roy Klopfenstein, Vantage Board Members Tim Fitzpatrick (Ft. Jennings) and Lonnie Nedderman (Crestview).

Vantage Career Center has been awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the CTE Construction Expansion Program, as part of the state operating budget. A visit from the Lt. Governor Jon Husted, who awarded the grant, included a tour of the facility and a round table discussion with Vantage board members, staff, students, and other local partners.

"This grant is not just a financial boost; it's a game changer for our school and our community," says Superintendent Rick Turner. "This funding will enable us to expand our offerings and enhance our facilities, thus serving more students and bolstering our local workforce."

The heart of the expansion at Vantage lies in illuminating the surface lot used by our high school and adult Commercial Drivers License (CDL) Training program. This addition will allow the program to offer year-round driver training courses during the evening hours, a significant step toward meeting the growing demand for skilled CDL drivers. The need within the community is significant and this grant will enable Vantage to fulfill it. Turner states, "We anticipate that our enrollment will double, leading to more infrastructure and additional instructors, thus strengthening our community's workforce."

Electricity senior, Timothy Shepard (Continental), jumped on the opportunity to receive his Class A CDL to ensure his future goals of becoming a lineman are that much closer upon graduation. "I knew I wanted to become a lineman, so I enrolled in the Electrical program at Vantage Career Center to further my education in the field. When I heard that a CDL was needed to drive the bucket trucks, I jumped on the opportunity to take the class. Now, I will be able to pursue my career goals faster and be successful as a lineman."

In addition, the grant will also be used toward the two-acre, on-campus public safety training facility that will support both the school district and local public safety agencies. As Vantage continues its commitment to expanding



Vantage Career Center Superintendent Rick Turner gives a tour to Lt. Governor Jon Husted, along with State Representative Roy Klopfenstein, of the facilities that will be directly impacted by the \$1.2 million dollar grant recently awarded to the district.

the fire and safety training capabilities, it will also be helping to fill the shortage of firefighters in our region. "Having already gone through the Public Safety program in both Fire and EMS, I can say I am extraordinarily excited to see this project come to life," says Vantage adult education graduate Matt Saunier. "A state-of-the-art training facility will only enhance the hard work put in by students and instructors. Finding men and women in the community to fill the role of first-responder is difficult and the accessibility of a public safety training space will attract more individuals and improve recruitment. When it comes to emergencies, time is of the essence and having the ability to train in scenarios that are as close to "real world" as possible are vital to the success of a rescue or fire suppression."

Turner echoed Saunier, adding that "the inclusion of a fire training structure will not only make our students more

attractive candidates for employment in the industry, but also benefit our local fire departments by reducing the time and cost of training new recruits." Turner continues, "This addition will ensure that Vantage students are well-prepared to handle the challenges of firefighting in real-life scenarios, strengthening our local public safety departments."

Administrative team members Ted Verhoff and Paula Vantilburg, both supervisors, shared that Vantage high school programs that have a direct pathway into these enhanced training opportunities are averaging full capacity for enrollment, including: Construction Equipment Technology, Electricity, Industrial Mechanics, Criminal Justice, Health Technology, and Sport Exercise Therapy.

Closing remarks were given by Superintendent Rick Turner, "we would like to express our gratitude to Lt. Governor Husted, Governor

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Dewine, and the Ohio Legislature for recognizing the importance of Career Technical Education and workforce development. Their support is a testament to their commitment to our community's future. Thank you Lt. Governor

Husted for your ongoing support and for believing in the power of Career Technical Education to transform lives and provide a much needed skilled workforce for our community.”

ANTWERP HISTORY



Coming into Antwerp from the south one sees the beautiful reconstructed railroad depot, and beside it the tracks that are no longer used. The wide overhang all the way around and the name of the town announcing you have arrived in Antwerp.

I consult my handy telephone, and it tells me this is The Wabash, St Louis, and Pacific Railway. Now I'm really curious. The Wabash Road goes through Grabill and I've written about it. Could this be the same Railroad? But the Antwerp railroad is closed. Grabill was built because of the Wabash Railroad.

In 1902 the road was laid through Joe Grabill's farm and a water stop was made on his farm. When the train took on water, passengers could board, thus a depot. Joe plotted the town of Grabill on his farm. The Wabash ran from Buffalo, New York, to Kansas City, Kansas, with Spurs to Chicago and other cities. It ran through Canada along north shore of lake Erie.

From there it dropped South through Toledo, White House, Colton, Napoleon, Defiance, Emerald and Antwerp, in Ohio. In Indiana it picked up Woodburn, Grabill, New Haven and Fort Wayne, through St Louis and on to KC. My father picked up freight at Grabill on occasion, and we got chicks each spring from Newhauser Hatchery in Napoleon, which arrived on the Wabash.

"From the Great Atlantic ocean to the wide Pacific shore

She's the regular combination on the Wabash Cannonball"

At one time you could go from Grabill to Chicago but I never did. My folks took me to Chicago boarding the Pensa at Baker Street Station. The Wabash Cannonball went 1/4 mile from our farm on the Notestine Road crossing at 10:00 a.m. straight up. Grab your Big Ben pocket watch it's 10 minutes slow.

I had forgotten that Antwerp is in the middle of the Great Black swamp. It was one of the last settled areas because of the impossible living conditions. Leo had been settled in 1833, and Antwerp in 1840. I learned much history

at Sauder Village, home of my ancestors.

Antwerp's growth came from the lumber industry clearing the land, and also making tiles to drain the swamp. I believe the Wabash and Erie Canal began operation around that year and lasted about 10 years until a railroad replaced it.

One interesting side, the name Wabash came from the Indian word Okabachi, the state park near Bluffton, Indiana, and the river which crosses the state. Read Gene Stratton Porter books. While thinking about this I ran across the Reservoir War. I assume the reservoir was connected with the canal.

At this point I need to make a disclaimer.

I think in terms of stories. I am not a researcher or a scholar. If anyone would like to share some light I'm sure the West Bend would give you my web address. I am an idea man. I would like to see some group make a museum or some such out of the railroad depot. If you need some ideas...perhaps a school class, we need to get the young people involved.

A good start would be cleaning up a few feet of track. I still wonder the connection of this railroad with the one which is still operating in Grabill. We have an old schoolhouse in Grabill which is beautiful and could be a school museum. Maybe even have a class it once in awhile for school children or even adults. Our children should be taught the rich history of our hometown.

And the connection with Antwerp, Belgium, the diamond capital, and banking capital of the world. Don't Go near Seefhoak or Schipper-skwartier Streets at night. It's not safe.

—James Neuhauser

OHIO CONTINUES INTO PEAK TIME FOR DEER-RELATED CRASHES

AAA, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Ohio Department of Insurance, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission want to remind motorists of the increase in deer-related traffic crashes this time of year.

Since 2018, statistics from the Ohio State Highway Patrol show there were 104,328 deer-related crashes on Ohio's roadways. While 95% of deer-related crashes only resulted in property damage, 33 crashes resulted in fatal injuries to motorists, with a total 34 people being killed. Additionally, 47% of these

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crashes occurred in October, November and December.

"Ohio drivers should keep in mind that deer activity always increases during this time of year – especially at dawn and dusk," said Governor Mike DeWine. "With Ohio's strengthened distracted driving laws now in place, we anticipate that more drivers will stay alert to their surroundings, and as a result, we hope fewer deer-related crashes will take place this fall."

At least 50 deer-related crashes happened in each county, with the highest taking place in Stark, Richland, Hancock and Defiance counties. The routes with the most deer-related crashes were U.S. Route 71, Interstate 2, Interstate 70, Interstate 75 and Interstate 77.

"You're more likely to spot deer when you practice safe driving habits and have your full attention on the roadway," said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. "If you happen to strike a deer, if you're able, move yourself to a safe place, turn on your hazards and report the crash."

According to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife, deer become visibly active in October, November and December. This is due in large part to the fall breeding season, which sometimes causes deer to dart into roadways with little caution. This unpredictable movement leads to an increase in deer-related vehicle crashes. Drivers are encouraged to be extra cautious in areas where fencerows, riparian corridors or other blocks of forested habitat intersect a roadway.

"With deer activity on the rise, it's extra important at this time of year to watch for deer," said Division of Wildlife Chief Kendra Wecker. "Deer often move in groups, so if you see one, slow down and be prepared for more to cross the road."

On average, the Ohio De-

partment of Transportation and the Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission remove more than 13,000 deer carcasses from our roadways each year.

Cost of Deer-Vehicle Collisions: Colliding with a deer is not only dangerous, it's also increasingly costly. Recent data estimates the average insurance claim for a deer-vehicle collision in Ohio is nearly \$5,000. Vehicle sensors found on newer vehicles continue to increase repair costs. In fact, AAA found these new safety systems can double repair bills for minor collisions. The included graphic depicts the estimated repair costs for various vehicle sensors (more information at Newsroom.AAA.com). Without adequate insurance, drivers are left paying the bill. This is why it's important to make sure you're covered before a crash occurs.

"In the event of an accident, it's important to have adequate insurance for financial protection," Ohio Department of Insurance Director Judith L. French said. "Now is the time for Ohioans to contact their insurance agents to complete an insurance review."

AAA and the Ohio Department of Insurance remind drivers that the optional comprehensive coverage (also known as "other than collision" coverage) portion of an auto insurance policy often is used to pay for deer-vehicle damage repair. Collision or liability-only policies do not cover the damage. With the vast number of costly deer collisions on Ohio's roads, it is often a good idea to evaluate maintaining comprehensive coverage, even with older vehicles.

"While we can't predict the actions of deer and other animals on the road, anything you can do to help prevent a crash or reduce the damage from an animal-related collision can save money and potentially save

lives," said Public Affairs Manager Kara Hitchens, AAA Club Alliance.

How to avoid animal collisions:

- Scan the road ahead: Looking ahead helps provide enough reaction time if an animal is spotted.

Also, remember some animals, like deer, move in groups.

- Use high-beam headlights if there is no oncoming traffic: This can help you spot deer or other wildlife more quickly and give you time to slow down, move over or honk the horn to scare the animal away. High beams also help in spotting animals' reflective eyes.

- Be extra cautious at dawn and dusk: Deer tend to be more active in the early morning and at dusk. That's why these are peak times for deer-vehicle collisions.

- If a collision is unavoidable, apply the brakes firmly and remain in your lane: Swerving to avoid an animal can often cause a more serious crash or cause you to lose control of your vehicle. Drivers who swerve to miss a deer and hit something else may be charged for an at-fault crash.

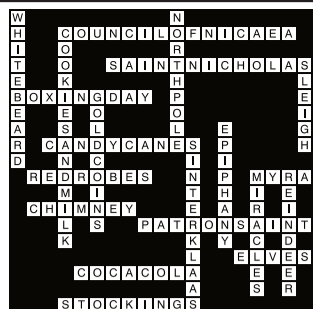
- Always wear a seatbelt and remain awake, alert and sober: The chances of getting injured when hitting an animal are much higher if you don't have your seatbelt on. If you're distracted or drowsy, you're not properly scanning the road for deer and could end up spotting them too late.

What to do if you hit a deer:

- Following the collision, call the police.

- Avoid making contact with the deer/animal. A frightened and wounded animal can be dangerous and pose a threat when approached or might further injure itself.

- Activate the vehicle's



Crossword solution from page 9

hazard lights whether it's light or dark outside.

- If possible, move the vehicle to a safe location out of the roadway, and wait for help to arrive.

- Drivers should contact their insurance agent or company representative as quickly as possible to report any vehicle damage.

Ohioans with insurance questions can reach out to the Ohio Department of Insurance at 1-800-686-1526 or via www.insurance.ohio.gov. The website also contains wide-ranging educational insurance information.

AAA provides more than 63 million members with travel, insurance, financial and automotive-related services. Since its founding in 1902, the not-for-profit, fully tax-paying AAA has been a leader and advocate for the safety and security of all travelers. AAA clubs can be visited online at AAA.com.

As always, motorists are also reminded they can dial #677 from their mobile device to be connected to the nearest Ohio State Highway Patrol Post during a roadway emergency.

A statistical map containing deer-related crash information can be found here and additional information on crash statistics can be found on the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Ohio Statistics and Analytics for Traffic Safety (OSTATS) Dashboards.

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PAULDING COUNTY TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



The Total Solar Eclipse is now less than six months away, Monday April 8th, 2024. Planning is in full swing in Paulding County. We are finalizing the public promoted sites within the county, the Paulding County Fair Board will be offering up campsites for that weekend, a county-wide logo is in final draft and the first responders are preparing for the increased number of visitors and the traffic.

get on the state's Total Solar Eclipse Website <https://ema.ohio.gov/media-publications/ohio-total-solar-eclipse> you find out what is happening in the state to prepare.

If you plan on having family members, coming from out of state to visit and watch the eclipse, please reach out to the Paulding County EMA and email, the destination of where your family members are coming from, ema@pauldington-oh.com, just two examples; family members are coming from Anchorage, Alaska and the country of Japan, to Paulding County.

If you, your organization, church, your community or anyone at all, that wants to have

an event, merchandise, or any type of fundraiser, please reach out to the Paulding County Solar Eclipse Task Force and we will get you in touch with the sub-committee in charge, just call (419) 399-3500. We will be updating as we go along.

SPIRIT OF WOODLAN SEASON CONCLUDES AT SEMI-STATE



After beginning practices in April and working throughout the summer and fall, the Spirit of Woodlan marching band and color guard from Woodlan Jr/Sr High School concluded their season on Saturday, October 21 at the ISSMA Semi-State competition at Franklin Community High School in Franklin, IN. The students improved weekly and put forth their best performance of the season at Semi-State but the band's hopes of placing in the top-10 and advancing to the ISSMA State Finals were dashed by stiff competition from across the state and a 12th place finish. Their show, entitled The Undiscovered, featured a mountain and forest theme and centered around the joining of two different tribes to become one. The band's season schedule and results were as follows:

'On the Banks of the Wabash' @ Bluffton: 3rd

Place 'Baron Brigade Invitational' @ Dekalb: 3rd Place
ISSMA Invitational @ Homestead: Gold Rating
ISSMA Regional @ Carroll: Gold Rating
ISSMA Semi-State @ Franklin Community: Participant - 12th Place

Next up for the band will be their Winter Winds season with practices beginning in mid-November and competitions starting on February 10, 2024, at Franklin Central High School in Indianapolis. Winter Guard will also begin their season soon with their first competition on January 27, 2024, at Snider High School in Fort Wayne.

DPLS BOARD CALLS SPECIAL MEETING NOV. 20

The Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Board of Trustees will hold a special meeting on Monday, Nov. 20, 2023, beginning at 4 p.m. at Defiance Public Library, 320 Fort St., for the purpose of reviewing documents related to property acquisition. The agenda is available to view at defiancepubliclibrary.org/board-11-20-23 and inside the DPLS libraries. Meetings of the board and its committees are open to the public.

2023 CHRISTMAS AT FOUNTAIN PARK - OPENING NIGHT DETAILS

The Van Wert Service Club, Optimist Club of Van Wert, Main Street Van Wert and the Van Wert Parks Department are bringing the holiday spirit again this year, with Christmas at Fountain

Park. Our 2023 special opening night ceremony will be held on Wednesday November 22, 2023. Mayor Markward will count down to lights at 6:00 pm and the evening festivities will end around 8:00 pm. It is sure to be a night to remember with Santa on location, a sleigh with live reindeer, special characters, candy canes for the kids, Girl Scouts serving hot chocolate, the YWCA will be serving donuts and coffee from Convoy Road Coffee Roasters and our YMCA will have cookies for all to enjoy. The Van Wert High School Select Choir

will also be onsite singing Christmas carols. Remember When Photography will be available to take photos of kids with Santa and parents will be provided a free digital download. Weather permitting, the lights will be on nightly from around 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm starting November 22, 2023 through December 29th, 2023.

DATE NOTICE

West Bend Printing & Publishing will be closed on November 23 & 24. Regular business hours resume November 27.

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