

## ABSOLUTE DEVASTATION IN PAULDING THANKSGIVING DAY FIRES



Thursday morning, November 23, at about 7:30 a.m. the Paulding Fire Department along with Paulding EMS were dispatched to 802 N. Main St Lot 22 for a fully involved House Trailer fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found heavy smoke and flames coming from the trailer at Lot 22. There was also smoke and flames coming from trailers on lot 21 and lot 23, along with a vehicle parked along the street. Firefighters fought an exterior attack on lot 22 due to the extent of damage while fighting

an offensive attack on lots 21 and 23.

During the search of Lot 22, it was discovered that there were three (3) deceased adults inside of the trailer. They were taken to the Paulding County Hospital by the Paulding EMS waiting to be transferred to the Lucas County Coroner's Office. No identities will be released until they are released by the Coroner's Office. At this time, the Ohio State Fire Marshall's Office is leading the investigation into the cause of this fire. Firefighters remained on

the scene until around 1:40 p.m. There were approximately 30 firefighters who fought these fires.

Assisting at the scene were the Paulding EMS, Payne Fire Department, Antwerp Fire Department, Cecil Fire Department, Paulding Police Department, Paulding County Sheriff's Office, Paulding County Dog Warden, Paulding Village Utilities, American Red Cross and American Electric Company.

VIDEO LINK: [https://youtu.be/0tSt\\_mg43OE](https://youtu.be/0tSt_mg43OE)

## PC RETIRED TEACHERS SCHEDULE DECEMBER MEETING

The Paulding County Retired Teachers Association will meet on Monday, Decem-

ber 4 at 9:30 a.m. for a holiday breakfast at the Paulding Pancake House located at 18187 U.S. 127, Cecil, Ohio.

There will be no business meeting. All retired administrators, teachers, aides, secre-

taries, custodians, bus drivers, and food service employees are invited to attend.

## WOODBURN CLOTHING BANK LAUNCHES SANTA TOY PATROL, URGENTLY SEEKING DONATIONS FOR NEEDY CHILDREN

The Woodburn Clothing Bank is thrilled to announce the launch of its annual Santa Toy Patrol program, a heartwarming initiative aimed at providing underprivileged children with a memorable Christmas experience. The program allows generous individuals and businesses to

(Continued on Page 2)

## LEADING TURKEY PRODUCER COOPER FARMS CELEBRATES 85<sup>TH</sup> THANKSGIVING



This year, Cooper Farms celebrates its 85th Thanksgiving since the company's inception in 1938. Now in its fourth generation of family ownership, Cooper Farms is the 7th largest turkey producer in the United States and plays a vital role in responsibly producing turkey products for consumers across North America.

"Each Thanksgiving, our Cooper Family takes time to reflect and be thankful for all we have," said Gary Cooper, chief operating officer of Cooper Farms. "Our 2,400 team members, our customers, and the family farmers who raise our animals are the pillars of our continued growth and success. We're thankful for them every day - but especially on Thanksgiving."

Annually, Cooper Farms:

- Hatches 16 million turkey poults;
- Raises 200,000 breeder hens;

- Raises 1 million No Antibiotic Ever (NAE) tom turkeys;

- Harvests 7 million tom turkeys (~335 million live pounds);

- Cooks 100 million pounds of turkey; and,

- Slices 15 million cooked pounds of turkey.

"We produce our healthy, high-quality turkey products using modern farming methods that reduce waste, limit energy and water consumption, and support a more sustainable future," added Cooper. "We hope every American will enjoy healthy, delicious turkey this Thanksgiving and throughout the coming year!"

## Local Advertisers appreciating local news

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PCH Flu Shots	6
PUZZLE - SUDOKU	9
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Safe Haven Baby Boxes	2
Sauder HW	1
Schmucker Construction	1
TAZ Construction	1
UJREA - FARMTRUCK	10
Week Digital Scanners	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 27

- Merry & Bright Parade, downtown Paulding, 6pm

### November 28

- JPMS Meeting featuring Crane Twp., 2pm
- 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
- Jolly Jamboree @ Payne Village, 5pm

### December 4

- Antwerp Christmas Display Lighting @ Greenway Park by tennis courts, 6pm

### December 5

- Social Skills Group @ Foundations Behavioral Health, Paulding Recovery Clubhouse, 4-5pm

### December 7

- Kingdom Warriors Women @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm
- PC Business Advisory Council Meeting @ Baughman Tile Co., 1-2pm

### December 9

- Breakfast w/Santa @ GH Library, 9-11am

### UJREA

Add your event to the calendar [info@westbendnews.net](mailto:info@westbendnews.net)

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Doors open 4 PM  
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Bingo 7 PM Lic# 144707  
Full Pack \$30

**OBITUARIES**

FORT WAYNE, IN:  
**George Roger Wells**, 74, of Fort Wayne, Indiana passed away Thursday, November 16, 2023 at Kingston Care Center of Fort Wayne. ARR BY DOOLEY FUNERAL HOME, 202 W River St, Antwerp, OH 45813.  
 ANTWERP, OH:  
**Grace Pauline Light**, 96, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away at home Friday, November 17, 2023. ARR BY DOOLEY FUNERAL HOME, 202 W River St, Antwerp, OH 45813.



SHERWOOD, OH:  
**David L. Williamson**, age 70, passed away on Sunday, November 19, 2023 at his residence.

David was born on November 16, 1953 in Paulding County, OH to the late Kenneth and Elizabeth (Treece) Williamson. On May 1, 1998, he married Raye Mays, who survives. For 27 years, David worked for GM Powertrain in Defiance before his retirement in 1999. After retirement, David worked for Coopers Hatchery. He was a devoted member of Grace Bible Church in Van Wert, OH and a member of the Antwerp Conservation Club.

Along with his loving wife, David is survived by his sons: John (Katie) Williamson, Toledo, OH; Michael Adam Moser, Sherwood, OH; Larry Travis Sherry, Lake Seneca, OH; Brandon (Sarah) Williamson, Nashville, TN; daughters: Christy (Jeremy) Fife, Paulding, OH; Lisa (Brandon) McDougal, Paulding, OH; Jessica Verfaillie, Toledo, OH; brother, Rex (Teresa) Williamson, Paulding, OH; grandchildren: Jacob Fife, Megan Fife, Julianna (Riley) Coil, Bela McDougal, Lilly Williamson, Parker Williamson, Madison Verfaillie, Brooklyn Verfaillie, Sam Verfaillie, Kylar (Logan) Hasch, Brayden Sherry, Taylor Sherry, Devan Sherry, Trenetie Ream, Parker Serrano, Cooper Sherry, Honor Moser, Alivia Moser, Autumn Moser, Gabriel Moser; great grandchildren: Rilynn, Ayven, Eberlyn, Amelia.

Funeral service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday, December 2, 2023 at Grace Bible Church, Van Wert, with Pastor Lance Hostetler officiating. Burial will follow in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding Township.

Visitation will be from 10:00 A.M. until time of services on Saturday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made in David's memory to the Caring and Sharing Food Pantry, PO Box 391, Paulding, OH 45879 or Grace Bible Church, 603 Airport Ave., Van Wert, OH 45891.

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

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

**OPERS MEETING SCHEDULED**

The next OPERS meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Paulding County Senior Center. All are welcome.

**EMANUEL CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Emanuel United Methodist Church is hosting a Christmas Concert on Sunday December 10, 2023 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The church is located at 4763 Kramer Rd., Edgerton, OH. All are invited to this Christmas Concert and sing along of the holiday season!

**PAULDING & PAYNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES TO WELCOME NEW REVEREND**

The Paulding United Methodist church and the Payne St. Paul United Methodist church will welcome a new Reverend into the pulpit on Sunday, December 3rd. Reverend George Reed has accepted the appointment to serve both the Paulding United Methodist and the Payne St. Paul United Methodist.

Reverend Reed was born and raised in west central Ohio. He received his B.S. in elementary education from Wright State University and then his M. Div. from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio. He is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church with the West Ohio Conference where he served for over 30 years. He received his interim ministry training and has been doing interim work for the past 12 1/2 years.

Reverend Reed and his wife, Betty, have had a home in Paulding for about 15 years and they have three grown children. Their daughter, Amy, and her husband, Brian, live in Bowling Green, Ohio and their two boys, Phillip and Andrew, live in the Columbus area.

Although Reverend Reed is coming to both churches as a regularly appointed reverend and not as an interim, he believes his training and experience in interim work will be a great asset in helping the church move toward a bright future. "I look forward to working with both congregations and helping you discern where God is calling you to serve your communities," says Reverend Reed.

Both churches invite the public to come and help welcome Reverend Reed on Sunday, December 3rd. Services start at 9:00 a.m. at the Payne St. Paul United Methodist and at 10:30 a.m. at the Paulding United Methodist Church. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

**MUSEUM ANNOUNCES FESTIVAL OF TREES WINNERS**



Historical society secretary Eileen Kochensparger introduces Ryleigh McGarvey, winner of the Festival of Trees sixth grade essay contest.

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

The annual Festival of Trees ran Nov. 3-11 with more than 1,500 people attending.

The Paulding County Carnegie Library won the prize for the tree most closely following the theme, "A Story Book Christmas." Their tree was decorated with a collection of classic Golden Books for children.

The trees that won for most "votes" for favorite tree by placing money in the jars were the Latty Friends & Neighbors in the adult category, and Paulding FFA in the youth category.

This year, a group of judges selected their favorite trees. First place was Kristy Bidlack's Elf Tree in Barn 1. Eileen Kochensparger's Moose-themed room and tree placed second, and Paulding Progress placed third.

Winner of the annual Weidenhamer/Borkosky OSU Raffle was Paulette Beckman.

Ryleigh McGarvey from Payne Elementary School won first place in the second annual sixth grade essay contest, "What Christmas Means to Me." School winners were Lylah Schlueter, Paulding Elementary; Ross Carter, Divine Mercy School; Jocelyn Mabis, Grover Hill Elementary; and Adalynn Ordway, Oakwood

(Continued from Page 1)

of Christmas, we encourage you to contact Tonya, the coordinator of the Santa Toy Patrol, at 260-255-0075. Tonya will be more than happy to assist you with any queries you may have and guide you through the adoption process.

Your support is crucial in making this initiative a resounding success. Together, we can bring joy, hope, and love to the lives of these children who deserve nothing less. Let's make this Christmas a truly magical one!

adopt a child, family, or multiple kids and donate toys to brighten their holiday season. We are delighted to share that the Woodburn Clothing Bank has already identified 50 children in need who would greatly benefit from your support. These children range in age from newborns up to 15 years old, and we are determined to ensure that each and every one of them experiences the joy and magic of Christmas.

However, we find ourselves in a state of urgency due to the overwhelming demand and limited resources. We are desperately seeking donations of toys or gifts to provide these deserving children with a Christmas they will cherish forever. By contributing to the Santa Toy Patrol, you can make a significant difference in the lives of these children, bringing smiles to their faces during what can be a challenging time.

Elementary.

The festival was another huge success this year, thanks to the tree decorators, silent auction donors and bidders, meal sponsors, entertainers, visitors, and the many volunteers who decorated the museum's three buildings. This is the historical society's largest fundraiser of the year.

Festival sponsors this year were R&K Brady Corp., MTJ Farms, Reuben Smith American Legion Post, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Haviland Drainage, Roberts Manufacturing, Pete Schlegel, Norman and Myrna Cook, Linda Troyer and Karen Cooper.

The Festival of Trees committee has chosen dates and a theme for 2024. Next year's event will be November 8-16 with the theme "Let's Trim the Tree."

The historical society welcomes anyone interested in decorating a tree, helping to decorate the buildings, sponsoring a meal or providing musical entertainment.

The next public event is a general meeting at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 28, with guest Carol Razo, who will discuss plans for Crane Township's bicentennial in 2025.

The museum will be open Tuesdays through December 12, then close for two months for a winter break. The museum will reopen to the public Tuesday, February 20.

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**Scripture of the Week**

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

— Colossians 2:6-7

**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



**Where do you hide your spare key?**

I know that now a days people have keyless entry pads, or might use a garage door opener or even a phone app to open a door into their house. Hiding a key in a creative place to use if you misplace it or lose it has been a part of small-town life for generations. Being locked out is a universal experience for most people in the developed world. I remember my family hiding a key in an old film container under a favorite rock in the front landscaping. Or many lock the little used front door and then leave a side door open. In my own small-town, I often didn't lock the front door with everyone constantly coming and going.

Living overseas in urban areas means security is a big deal, so doors are locked and with multiple bolts. There is no easy place to hide a spare key when living among streets of apartment buildings. Our overseas backup plan is to give a spare key to a trusted neighbor and hope they are nearby when you misplace it.

Once my wife was away at a meeting and I had our baby and toddler with me. Our school was within walking distance, so I was to take our two youngest with me when I walked to pick up our oldest

son from school. However, that day a neighbor was getting home late from work, so I was to pick up their daughter too – I would have four little ones to navigate back home amidst the congested city streets. As we were heading out to school, I pushed the stroller out the front door with our baby and was heading back in to get the diaper bag and my keys. My helpful toddler was standing outside by the door and pushed the automatic locking door shut. We were now locked out, but still had to race to the school to get the other two kids who were waiting there for us. As we dashed to school, I tried to figure out what to do with my group that had grown to five kids on that hot, sunny day. We picked up the others at school, and the problem was that the neighbor with our spare key was not reachable and lived about a mile away. I was never so thankful to see another friend pass by in his vehicle, who loaded up the five of us, and drove us to get the spare key, and then home. How I wished that day that I lived in a place that we could hide a spare key under a rock or a front door mat.

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

**ENCOURAGING WORDS**

**By: Doris Applegate  
 Scribed by: Cynthia  
 Nicholson**

The following scriptures are written here to encourage us in our walk with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 8:13 – "If you by his spirit put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live.

Psalms 116:8 – "For though Lord hath delivered my soul from death, mine eyes from tears and my feet from falling. I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living"

Psalms 119:50 – "This is

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my comfort in my suffering, thy word gives me life."

Galatians 3:13 - "Christ had redeemed me from the curse of the law, being made a curse for me. For it is written, cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree."

Psalms 91:15-16 - "He shall call upon me and I will answer Him. I will be with Him in trouble. I will deliver Him, and honor Him. With long life will I satisfy Him and show Him my salvation."

We are living in perilous times and no one knows what the future holds. Jesus Christ told His disciples in Matthew

24. What would happen in the end times before Jesus Christ returns from Heaven to set up His kingdom on earth for a 1000 years.

Please read Matthew 24 and realize that Jesus Christ will come back immediately after the tribulation. Matthew 24: 29-30

We do not have to be fearful of the tribulation. The Lord Jesus Christ will with us with the Holy Spirit during those days, if we belong to Jesus Christ and trust Him in all our ways.

Amen



**AFRAID TO CRY**

**Penny For Your Thoughts**

By: Nancy Whitaker

"I'm so Lonesome I could Cry," "It's Crying Time again," "Cry me a river," "Crying my Heart out over You," "Crying," "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain," are all songs about crying. They are sad songs, lonely songs and heartbroken songs.

Crying for me is almost like a second nature. I am very comfortable with my tears. I cry over everything and everybody. I cry when I'm sad, happy, surprised, afraid, at movies, bad news, loneliness and old memories.

The one time I hate to cry is when I am mad. I can say just so much and emotions take over and I cry. This usually takes care of my anger. I do cry over stupid things, but to me they are legitimate reasons to cry.

I cry over a bad hair day. I cry if I burn anything I am cooking. Tears are my answer for a sinus infection, headache or stubbing my toe. I don't think this classifies me as a crybaby, because I have also laughed so hard I cried.

It has been said that on the average, women cry two to five times a month, or three to five times more often than men. Some men feel it is more masculine not to cry, but I am sure they hurt just as bad as a woman.

Of course I have children, so I have heard a lot of "waaaaas" and "boo-hoos". I have also observed fake crying

in which no tears were shed. I could always tell when my own kids were fake crying.

Of course, babies are born with a cry, however, it can be frustrating just trying to figure out what Junior is crying about. Sometimes it just takes some holding and cuddling to quiet a crying baby (Hmmm. Yes I would like that too).

I can usually tell if I am going to cry. I get a lump in my throat and then tears well up. Sometimes just reading the obituaries makes me feel like crying. Of course, that is the first thing I read in a newspaper.

My Mama was a cryer. She cried when she was glad, however, it did not take much to make her happy. She would



cry with joy just because she was going to watch wheel of Fortune or Jeopardy. Her eyes would well up with tears of happiness if she was going to go some where special. When she was in a nursing home in her final years, she would cry because she was going to have a "dippy dippy" egg for breakfast.

I look back at the past and think of the losses in my own life and cry. They say not to live in your past, but I do visit it with tears of sorrow and also tears of joy.

I have shed tears over a lost love, a broken date, not being asked to dance, falling down, and tears of frustration if I

can't squeeze into a pair of jeans I wore last year.

Am I ashamed to cry? No I am not, because they say that crying is a release of emotions and many times crying will help sooth our dismay.

Have you ever heard the cries of a cat or a dog? It is reported that cats, dogs and even elephants shed tears. But, there is no existing proof that it is from emotional pain.

I know of a little gal who was going to get a spanking, (yes we used to spank our children). The little girls sister cried too because of her sympathy for her sibling.

These quotes on crying sums it up pretty good:

"Don't be ashamed to weep; 'tis right to grieve. Tears are only water, and flowers, trees, and fruit cannot grow without water. But there must be sunlight also. A wounded heart will heal in time, and when it does, the memory and love of our lost ones is sealed inside to comfort us."

Brian Jacque

"Heaven knows we need never be ashamed of our tears,

for they are rain upon the blinding dust of earth, overlying our hard hearts. I was better after I had cried, than before--more sorry, more aware of my own ingratitude, more gentle."

Charles Dickens

"Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

Dr. Seuss

Lots of times I cry when I see the United States flag, hear our National Anthem, or see veterans marching in a parade. Another tear jerker is the playing the song Amazing Grace on bagpipes. My emotions are from my heart and soul and you never know that when I cry, I might be happy, sad, sentimental, grieving, or just plain mad.

Did you know the shortest verse in the Bible is, "Jesus wept?"

Do you cry a lot? Do you think our tears could be bottled up? Do you think women cry more than men? Let me know and I'll Give You a Penny for Your Thoughts.



**40th ANNIVERSARY OF ORGANIZING DAR CHAPTER**

The General Horatio N. Curtis Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution was organized 40 years ago in Paulding Co. Ohio. It was Ohio's first Bicentennial chapter organized during that tie; the national # of this Osdar Society is #4-130-OH. (It was org. in Paulding; the chapter address was Antwerp, OH).

This chapter was organized by Organizing Regent, Mrs. John K. Longardner of Antwerp, Ohio on October 17, 1975 at Johnson's Restaurant, Paulding, Ohio. The Chapter charter hangs in the Paulding Co. Carnegie Library. The information on the charter is as shown following:

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution

Whereas: Certain approved members of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution under the authorization of the National Board of Management on the 17th day of October in 1975, did organize a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in the city of Antwerp, State of Ohio, to be known as the General Horatio N. Curtis Chapter and,

Whereas: The following officers of said Chapter have been selected to wit:

Organizing Regent: Mrs. John K. Longardner

Vice-Regent: Mrs. Bruce King

Chaplain: Mrs. Keith Baird

Secretary: Mrs. Robert Cook

Treasurer: Miss Carolyn J. Baird

Registrar: Mrs. Harvey Hyman

Historian: Mrs. John Deatrick

Librarian: Mrs. Walter Fitzwater

**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 halt into life, than to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: 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

**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

John Marconi Jacobs was born September 7, 1886 in Paulding Township. The son of Marconi Pettit born March 14, 1838 in Ohio and Ellen (Stout) Jacobs born May 4, 1842 in Ohio. This couple was married August 24, 1865 in Paulding, Ohio. Now this was not Marconi's first wife. He was married to Mary Arbella Goshorn in 1858, she passed away in 1863.

They had a son, Edwin, who was born in 1859. By 1870, this couple along with four children, Edwin born 1859, Elmer E. born 1862, George Warren born August of 1866, and Zona J. born December of 1869, were living in Antwerp and Marconi was engaged in farming. By 1880, the couple had eight children. Adding Alphius A. in 1871, Claude in September of 1874, Fred in December of 1875, and Florence Clara in May of 1878.

In October of 1882, a son, Robert Bert Jacobs was born. Followed by John Marconi Ja-

cobs in 1886. By 1900 the Jacobs family was living in Antwerp. John was a student in school. His father was elected County Commissioner. By 1910, the family had moved to North Main Street in Antwerp. John was working for his dad as a clerk in a grocery store.

John was the only child still living at home as the rest of the children had left to make a mark in the world. Sometime after 1911, John had moved to Cleveland, Ohio. He worked as a stock room clerk at the Cleveland Worm Gear Company, located at East 40th and Payne Line Street.

On September 20, 1917, John's brother Fred passed away. He was buried in Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp. As the world was going to war, the United States issued a draft registration. On September 9, 1918, John registered for the draft. He was listed as tall, medium build, blue eyes and brown hair. John served on the U.S.S. Pennsylvania as a seaman 2 class. He developed pneumonia and after a struggle to recover, on October 13, 1918, John lost his battle to live. After being brought home from Cleveland, a Free Masons burial was conducted. The services were held at the family home Wednesday, October 15th at 1:30 P.M. with the Rev. Freed officiating. Burial was at the Maumee Cemetery. Burial in lot 500, grave 4. John's father, Marconi Pettit Jacobs, passed away June 8, 1925 followed by his wife Ellen Jacobs April 18, 1927.

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

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

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**ANTWERP PHARMACY**

**19th Annual Craft Show**  
 Fairview Elementary School  
 corner of US 127 & Blosser Rd., Sherwood, OH  
**Saturday, December 2, 9 am to 3 pm**  
 \* Free Admission!  
 \* Lunch Available!  
 \* Hallway & Gym full of crafters & vendors!  
 Sponsored by the Fairview Athletic Boosters  
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# ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOLS

## Home of the Archers

### December 23/January 24



#### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

With November drawing to a close, we are looking forward with anticipation to the busy month of December. December is a wonderful time to visit the school and enjoy a concert, extracurricular activity or athletic event. The choirs and band have been busy preparing for holiday concerts and athletic teams are preparing for their competition seasons. Your support at these events is appreciated by the students, directors, coaches, and advisors. Clip and save the list of events in this newsletter for future reference.

Our winter home sporting events that take place in the main gym will be viewable on your computer by going to Youtube.com and typing Antwerp Athletics in the search bar. A specially designed camera has been positioned in the main gym to provide this service. Radio station 102.7 FM will also live-stream and provide broadcasters for all Antwerp home Varsity boys' and girls' basketball games. Visit [www.my1027.org](http://www.my1027.org) to view the games.

Winter weather and safety of the students is always a concern during the next several months. Although decisions on whether to delay or cancel school are always made with the safety of students in mind, changes in the weather and road conditions can happen quickly. Delays and cancellations of school are sent to parents through our Instant Connect system and through our school app. If you have not done so already, please download our school App! Visit the App or Play Store, search "Antwerp Schools," and install the free Antwerp Local Schools App. The app has numerous features that will keep you updated on news, events, school delays & closings, and more. You can also manage notifications and alerts you receive through the MY ALERTS tile.

Friday, December 22 will be the final day of classes prior to the start of the holiday break. There will be no school December 25 through January 5. Classes will resume on Monday, January 8. I hope everyone has an opportunity to spend time with family and friends during this holiday season. A reminder that there will be no school Monday, January 15 in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.

January is School Board Recognition Month and a chance for all of us to say thanks to our school board members for the important work that they do for our school. The positive leadership of the board members and their concern for the well-being of the students in our district continue to make Antwerp a great place to work, a wonderful place to go to school, and a source of community pride. Our current Board of Education has 66 years of experience leading our school district. Board member Bob Herber is completing his 22<sup>nd</sup> year, Board member Anita Bok is completing her 18<sup>th</sup> year, Board member Dennis Recker is completing his 12<sup>th</sup> year, Board President Sara Schuette is completing her 8<sup>th</sup> year, and Board Vice President Jayme Landers has served on the Board for the past 6 1/2 yrs.

I am very thankful for the support from the community, students, staff, administration, and school board. I am surrounded by people who have a vested interest in making Antwerp Local Schools a great place for each child to reach his/her potential.

Yours in education,  
Dr. Martin A. Miller, Superintendent

#### MR. LICHTY- HS/MS

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize many groups and individuals for their recent academic and extracurricular accomplishments.

Congratulations to our Students of the Quarter. Each staff member chooses their student of the quarter. The group enjoyed a day out of school at the Toledo Zoo. Students of the 1st Quarter were: Lauren Walters, Cohen Hitzeman, Keira Spyker, Corbin Sargent, Kara Pierce, Braylen Moreno, Nik Brandenburg, Maddie Coressel, Lucy Conley, Aiden Dunderman, Kalli Billman, CJ Eaton, Haydyn Lengacher, Ethan Porter, Emma Saul, and Maddy Peters.

Thank you to the student groups that played a part in our Veterans Day assembly. Mrs. Smith and the MS/HS Choir, Mrs. Newell and our HS Band, Elementary Student Council Members, and Boy Scout Troop #143. Special thanks to our local veterans for joining us. Thank you for your service!

The Archer Marching Band recently wrapped up their successful fall season with their annual indoor Marching Band Concert.

Our High School football team recently wrapped up another successful season by winning a second straight GMC title.

The Archer yearbook recently was recognized with a first place rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for the 2023 yearbook. The staff earned two Marks of Distinction in Photography and Design.

Winter extra-curricular activities are underway. We hope to see you at a concert and/or athletic event soon.

Thank you for helping to make our first semester a great one. Enjoy the holiday season with your families!

~ Mr. Travis Lichty, MS/HS Principal

#### HS/MS GUIDANCE NEWS

Any student (grades 6-12) wishing to change his/her schedule for the second semester should see Mrs. Hammer before Winter break begins. All schedule changes must occur before January 19. All middle school scheduling changes require a note or email from a parent or guardian.

Vantage faculty will be here in January during AA to talk with sophomores about attending Vantage for the 2024-2025 school year. Interested sophomores will visit Vantage on February 2.

Students taking University of Findlay College Credit Plus classes will start their Spring semester on January 8. Students taking Northwest State Community College CCP courses will start their Spring semester on January 16. Students should log in to their Sakai or Canvas account on the 8<sup>th</sup> and/or 16<sup>th</sup> to make sure their courses are active.

For the latest scholarships, please visit <https://sites.google.com/apps.aw.noacsc.org/antwerpmsguidance/scholarships?authuser=0>

#### MRS. STOKES - ELEMENTARY

##### OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our October Students of the Month. Keep up the great work!

KA: Micah Mendez & Juliet Dillon, KB: Melody Bidlack & Saylor Billman, KC: Alayna Krick & Allura DeVault, 1A: Duke Wiesehan & Amelia Dunham, 1B: Whitney Miller & Talyn Burget, 1C: Deana Miller & Stella Gaisford, 2A: Benson Slattman & Lyric Smith, 2B: Paisleigh Landwehr & Julian Karas, 3A: Mason Ganger & Hadley Bissell, 3B: Wayne Zielke & Ensley Parisot, 3C: Carter Taylor & Addie Straley, 4A: Aria DeVault & Ulrik Zijlstra, 4B: Emmett Wurster & Brando Cruz Melgar, 4C: Quintin Reyes & Lauren Overman, 5A: Landyn Hermiller & Elodia Maynez, 5B: Riel Gonzalez & Aubree Feehan, 5C: Julian Rivera & Keigan Custer.

##### CONCERTS

We are excited to once again host our elementary winter concert. The second and third graders will perform a concert on December 5 at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Mary Smith and Mrs. Andrea Newell have been working hard with the students to prepare them for their performances. We thank them for their dedication to the Antwerp Music program.

~ Mrs. Tracey Stokes, Elementary Principal

##### ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE

This month's character trait was gratitude. Mrs. Lichty's lessons for grades one through five focused on the idea of gratitude.

Mrs. Lichty visited the kindergarten classrooms and read the book, "A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue." Then she discussed the difference between tattling and warning. The students learned about "tattle rules," as noted in the book. Then they listened to different scenarios and had to decide whether or not it was considered tattling or a warning.

First grade listened to the story "The Gratitude Jar," and then Mrs. Lichty shared her own gratitude jar with the students. This jar was filled with small objects, such as a fork and soap, to remind students that even on their worst days, there is always something to be grateful for. Then the students made their own gratitude jar artwork.

Second grade listened to "What is Gratitude?" and then discussed all things big and small that they should be grateful for. They then played a gratitude game. The students worked in groups, and were given a specific word, such as siblings, in which they had to come up with as many reasons as they could as to why they should be grateful for that word.

Third graders listened to the book, "My Attitude of Gratitude." The character in the book had a "gratitude stone" that he used to remind him of things to be grateful for, even on his worst days. Students were then given their own gratitude stone and a gratitude journal to write down what they are grateful for on each day. They also colored a gratitude coloring page and wrote a note of gratitude to their person of choice.

Mrs. Lichty shared gratitude videos and presented a gratitude PowerPoint to fourth and fifth grade students. Then they each made a rainbow of gratitude.

#### ATHLETIC CALENDAR

##### BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 2	6:00	@ Holgate
Dec 12	6:00	@ Ottoville
Dec 16	6:00	@ Continental
Dec 19	6:00	vs. North Central
Dec 22	6:00	@ Kalida
Dec 23	6:00	@ Delphos Jefferson
Dec 28	8:00	Rte 49 Tourney @ Hicksville
Dec 29	TBA	Rte 49 Tourney @ Hicksville
Jan 5	6:00	@ Paulding
Jan 6	6:00	vs. Crestview
Jan 12	6:00	@ Edgerton
Jan 14	4:30	Russia @ Ft. Loramie
Jan 19	6:00	vs. Fairview
Jan 20	6:00	vs. Lincolnview
Jan 26	6:00	@ Wayne Trace
Jan 27	6:00	vs. Patrick Henry

##### GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 5	6:00	@ Delphos Jefferson
Dec 7	6:00	@ Holgate
Dec 11	6:00	vs. Miller City
Dec 16	6:00	@ Parkway
Dec 19	6:00	vs. North Central
Dec 21	6:00	Rte 49 Tourney @ Edon
Dec 22	TBA	Rte 49 Tourney @ Edon
Jan 4	6:00	vs. Paulding
Jan 9	6:00	vs. Crestview
Jan 11	6:00	vs. Edgerton
Jan 16	6:00	vs. Lincolnview
Jan 18	6:00	@ Fairview
Jan 23	6:00	vs. Continental
Jan 25	6:00	vs. Wayne Trace
Jan 30	6:00	@ Pettisville

##### VARSITY WRESTLING

Dec 9	9:00	@ Hicksville
Dec 16	9:00	@ Lincolnview Invite
Dec 29	12:00	@ Defiance
Dec 30	9:30	@ Defiance
Jan 13	9:00	@ Crestview Duals
Jan 20	10:00	@ Wapak

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 5	Winter Choral Concert - 2nd/3rd
Dec 8	<b>2-HOUR DELAY</b> - Inservice
Dec 8	Music Booster Lock-In
Dec 14	Winter Choral Concert - MS/HS
Dec 21	Winter Band Concert
Dec 21	Board of Education Meeting
Dec 22	End of 2nd Quarter
Dec 25-Jan 5	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Christmas Break
Jan 8	Classes Resume
Jan 15	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - M.L.K. Jr. Day
Feb 9	<b>2-HOUR DELAY</b> - Inservice
Feb 19	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> - Presidents Day

#### CAFETERIA MENU

Fri, Dec 1	Cheese pizza, salad, applesauce cup, & milk
Mon, Dec 4	Burrito w/ salsa, Spanish rice, pears, & milk
Tue, Dec 5	Chicken nuggets, sweet potato fries, mixed fruit, & milk
Wed, Dec 6	BBQ rib on bun, baked beans pineapple, & milk
Thu, Dec 7	Chicken fajita, French fries peaches, & milk
Fri, Dec 8	Hodge podge pizza, broccoli & cauliflower w/ dip, applesauce cup, & milk

**Our menus are subject to change without notice.**

*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.*

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Antwerp, OH 45813*

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Editor,  
Your Paulding County Economic Development (PCED) office has started to distribute the 2023 annual report and new 2024 investment membership information. Paulding County saw yet another outstanding year of growth with reported capital investment of \$95,559,296 in the county!!  
With expansion projects at Paragon Tempered Glass, Ko-

hart Salvage, Ebel's Butcher Shop, and Dooley's Funeral Home; new projects with Grover Hill Community Center, Caring & Sharing Food Pantry, Paulding North Dollar General, Family Dollar Tree, Payne Timber Road Solar, Taco Bell and Grover Hill Dollar General; rehabilitation projects with the Western Buckeye ESC office, Antwerp Pharmacy and Antwerp business offices, along with new businesses Nini's Ice Cream, The Upper Nine, Spiece's Barber Shop, Studio 211 and more, there is a lot in the county to be thankful for.

Your PCED office will continue to work hard and make sure townships, villages and businesses big and small, are aware of low interest loans, grants and any funding opportunities that may help them make best decisions, as they develop the infrastructure for new projects and the future of Paulding County.

We encourage everyone to take a moment to read through the information provided in our annual report and consider supporting your 501c3, not-for-profit business office. Please know that you are investing into a service that can show a return on your investment, no matter which corner of the county you work, worship or reside. Your investment allows us to continue with all the aforementioned opportunities. The office will go as far as your investment takes us.

If you have questions about the PCED office, annual report, business opportunities, or any services we provide, please review our website [www.pced.net](http://www.pced.net) or reach out to us at any time 419-399-8295.

We sincerely thank you for

your support and wish you a #pauldingcountystrong 2024!  
—Tim Copsey,  
Director PCED

**LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE OFFERS MORE THAN JUST NURSING HOME COVERAGE**



The first image that often comes to mind when people think about long-term care is an elderly person sitting alone in a depressing nursing home. The misconceptions about what long-term care involves and peoples' images of the most common care settings are understandable, since long-term care insurance originally started as nursing home insurance four decades ago. However, it has evolved into a much more flexible solution that allows you to receive care in a variety of settings.

Most of us want the ability to age at home, in a familiar setting surrounded by family and our favorite things. The fact is, 90 percent of adults who need long-term care services receive assistance at home or in another community setting.(1)

If the level of care you need evolves over time, most long-term care insurance policies not only allow you to transition to a nursing home, but some may also provide you with support during the transition. Since you can't predict the care you might eventually need, it's important to have the flexibility to choose the setting that best fits your needs at any given time.

Many long-term care policies available today can provide you with a choice of where you want to receive care, including:

- At home, with the help of a home health aide or in some cases a family member or friend to assist with daily activities
- In a community setting, such as adult day care services
- At an assisted living facility, where you can receive help with transportation and meals
- In a nursing home, if you need around-the-clock care

Each of these options provides a different level of care depending on how much assistance you need. Receiving

care at home is the most popular and preferred option, and some policies even provide benefits that allow you to make home modifications that can help you stay at home longer. Policies that provide home care allow you to receive care from a professional, or possibly a friend or family member if informal care is covered.

While most people hope they won't ever need to worry about long-term care, the reality is Americans have almost a 70 percent chance they will need some type of long-term care assistance after age 65.(2) Women are even more at risk, primarily because they tend to live longer. The thought of not being able to care for yourself can be difficult and creating a strategy for care can be daunting. However, it's best to not let long-term care preparation get pushed aside, because your age and health both factor into whether you'll qualify for insurance and how much you'll pay for coverage.

By including long-term care in your retirement strategy, you'll have the peace of mind that you've taken the steps to help protect your family from the financial and emotional impact of a long-term care event. Take the time to research available options, decide how much coverage you need based on estimated costs, and create a strategy that will give you the flexibility to choose where and how you receive care. If you need additional information, contact a New York Life agent to find out more about our solutions.

*This educational third-party article is provided as a courtesy by Anthony E. Marlin, Agent, New York Life Insurance Company and a Registered Representative of NYLIFE Securities LLC (member FINRA, SIPC), a Licensed Insurance Agency and New York Life Company, Marlin & Associates Financial Services, 100 East Jackson, Paulding, Ohio 45879. To learn more about the information or topics discussed, please contact Anthony E. Marlin at 260-704-3272.*

<sup>1</sup> Edem Hado and Harriet Komisar, "Long-Term Services and Supports Fact Sheet," AARP Public Policy Institute, August 2019.

<sup>2</sup> "How much care will you

need?" U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, February 2020.



**LEARNING BOXES AVAILABLE AT PC LIBRARY**

The Paulding County Carnegie Library, in conjunction with the State Library of Ohio and COSI, is pleased to announce we have Learning boxes available for pick up at all library locations. The Learning boxes are filled with activities and experiments for fun and education. The boxes are free and one per family is recommended. The box theme is Water.

Ever wondered how a ship as big as the Titanic could float? Or how water striders are able to walk on water? Water is all around us, and the COSI Connects Water Kit explores all sorts of water-related science activities! Recommended grades: K-8.

The boxes will be available December 1 and would make a great Christmas gift for any child. Stop by your local library and pick yours up.

Supplies are limited. Call 419-399-2032 for more information.

**DPLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO MEET NOV. 29**

The Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Board of Trustees will hold its regular monthly meeting on

Wednesday, Nov. 29, beginning at 5 p.m. At Defiance Public Library, 320 Fort St., Defiance, OH. The agenda is available to view at [defiancelibrary.org/agenda-11-23](http://defiancelibrary.org/agenda-11-23) and inside the libraries. Meetings of the board and its committees are open to the public.

**PC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PARTICIPATES IN OSPOTA**

The Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club recently participated in a state wide contest. The contest was called "Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA)". This was the 16th year for the contest. The OSPOTA contest was conceived with three main goals in mind:

1. To promote public awareness of amateur radio and Ohio's beautiful state parks system
2. To contribute to the recognition that Ohio has a very diverse and wonderful ecology
3. To promote camaraderie within the ranks of Ohio's Amateur Radio Operators

The Paulding Club competed against 47 other clubs and finished 7th in their category.

The radio club operated from their emergency communications trailer that was set up at Independence Dam State Park. The club members erected their antennas on site and operated using both a generator and battery power.

For more information about the club visit our Facebook page, Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club.

**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, Utlities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)
- Grover Hill:** N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library
- Hicksville:** Sailers, 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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# NSCC BEGINS DEMOLITION AT VAN WERT CAMPUS SITE WITH CEREMONY



Pictured here are Dr. Hernandez, Scott Mull, Lisa McClure, and Mickey Schwarzbek.

Northwest State Community College hosted a ceremonial demolition event for community leaders, elected officials, and other special guests at its Van Wert Campus (the former Kennedy Manufacturing building) on November 16th. As part of the event, Timothy Schneider presented a proclamation from Senator JD Vance to Northwest State for their ongoing work serving Paulding and Van Wert (and surrounding) counties.

"WE ARE NOW HERE TO STAY..."

Following opening remarks by NSCC President Dr.

Todd Hernandez, Board of Trustees Chair Scott Mull of Van Wert provided some inspired comments about the importance of having a full-service campus in Van Wert. "In the past, we have dabbled in providing a local presence but we are now here to stay with the purchase and development of this space. We have spent over \$1 million acquiring this property and have estimated a cost of an additional \$4.8 million we will be spending in renovations to make this space worthy of the educational opportunities you deserve," Mull stated. Following Mull, local and state officials

spoke about their excitement for NSCC providing a full-service campus to the area, and the opportunities it will provide learners, local businesses, and the economy.

STAY UPDATED ON VAN WERT CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

NSCC continues to offer classes in Van Wert at Van Wert Hospital, as well as online, while the Van Wert Campus undergoes demolition and renovation. The College will also endeavor to regularly document building progress via NSCC social media, as well as online at Northwest-State.edu/VanWert.

## SENSORY PATHWAY FOR ANTWERP KINDERGARTENERS

This school year, Antwerp Elementary added a sensory pathway to its kindergarten through second grade hallway. The pathway provides students with additional movement to promote focus and organization throughout their day.

A sensory pathway is a series of guided movements for kids to follow, shown by markings on the ground. It's a great way for children to stim-

ulate cardiovascular health, improve muscle strength and endurance, and support the development of motor skills like balance, hand-eye coordination, and spatial awareness. A sensory pathway provides a safe environment for movement, which encourages appropriate proprioceptive and vestibular sensory input to help decrease sensory seeking behaviors and increase cognitive function.

Antwerp Elementary students have access to the pathway throughout the day as they walk to and from spe-

cial, lunch, recess, etc. Individual students can access the pathway when they take a restroom break, are walking to the office, or are with a staff member if they need some additional input, a break from the classroom, or a refocus moment so they can return to learning.

Antwerp Elementary School would like to thank the following people for their help in bringing a sensory pathway to the school: Lisa McClure, Executive Director of Paulding County Area Foundation, and Lora Lyons, Executive Di-

# PPEC MEMBERS DONATE \$13,044 TO 8 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS



Vantage Career Center students received a \$1,000 donation from PPEC members through the co-op's Operation Round Up program. These funds will be used to purchase Christmas presents for local children through Toss A Toy.

Members of Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative recently donated \$13,044 to 8 local charities and community projects through the cooperative's Operation Round Up program.

About 80% of PPEC members round up their electric bill and donate those pennies to this fund, making a huge impact in the co-op's northwest Ohio and northeast Indiana communities.

Participating members round up their monthly electric bill to the next dollar, with the extra pennies being used to help fund charities and groups in their communities. Each quarter, the funds are dispensed to local causes that applied for funding.

The most recent donation recipients include:

- Delphos Jefferson Middle

- School; \$750 to provide funding for field trip rewards.
- Junior Achievement of Northern Indiana; \$1,000 for elementary programs.
- MAV Youth Mentoring; \$800 to purchase steam materials and provide mentor support.
- Paulding Exempted - LifeWise Academy; \$2,984 to purchase recap cards for students.
- Paulding Middle School; \$1,250 to provide funding for a field trip for social and emotional learning after the loss of a classmate.
- Power2Change; \$3,000 to develop the first marketing plan and prevent burnout.
- Putnam County Habitat for Humanity; \$2,260 to purchase construction materials.
- Vantage Career Center Toss A Toy; \$1,000 to pur-

chase Christmas presents for local children.

Photos of each recipient can be found on PPEC's Facebook page.

Operation Round Up was started in 2010 as a way to give back to PPEC's communities. Groups in both Ohio and Indiana can apply.

Organizations can apply for Operation Round Up assistance by contacting Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op's Marketing and Communications Manager Samantha Kuhn at skuhn@ppec.coop or visiting [www.ppec.coop/operation-round](http://www.ppec.coop/operation-round). If you want to participate by rounding up your monthly bill, call PPEC's office at 800-686-2357. The average member's donation is about \$6 per year.



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- ▶ Oakwood Medical Center 419.594.3520
- ▶ PCH Medical Office Building 419.399.1782, 419.399.1752 & 419.399.1762



\*Cash Pay patients - \$35 Quadrivalent Flu Vaccine. \$75 Hi-Dose Quadrivalent Flu vaccine.



rector of United Way of Paulding County, both donated funds. Cathy Ruiz, Parent Mentor at Western Buckeye Educational Service Center, Lyndsey Miller, Intervention Specialist at Antwerp Elementary, and the Occupational and Physical Therapy Departments of Western Buckeye Educational Service Center all contributed their time and organization to this project.



## Merry Christmas

### 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  
 Antwerp Community Church  
 704 Erie Street  
 Antwerp, Oh



# FAIRVIEW SCHOOLS FUND GIVES THANKS FOR A DECADE OF SUPPORT!



During this time of Thanksgiving, the Fairview Schools Committee would like to share an update on how the Fairview Schools Fund (FSF) has benefited students and the community. Established in 2013, the Fairview Schools fund has a balance of nearly \$140,000, and has awarded \$54,965 to support teacher mini-grants and scholarships during the past 10 years.

We asked Levi and Kelsey Kuhn, a local Sherwood family, to share their community history and thoughts.

Kelsey shared, "I was born in Bryan and am a 2009 graduate of Fairview High School (FHS) and graduated from Northwest State. I worked in the business arena for Spangler Candy for a number of years before making the difficult decision to leave the corporate world to concentrate on raising our three kids. They've become the greatest substitute I've ever done. I also substitute teach when I can.

Fairview Schools has benefited our family greatly in so many ways. The teachers in our district are phenomenal and are truly excited about the future of our kids. When I'm there subbing, I see teachers rally & cheer for each other, making every day seem just as exciting as the next. That's why giving back means so much to us. Knowing our kids have a caring & nurtur-

ing environment to call their school is everything to us, especially in today's world."

Levi shared, "I am a 2006 graduate of Fairview High School and graduated Northwest State. I have roots deeply planted in Sherwood with three different businesses all located in Sherwood. I am currently employed by Kuhn Truck and RV, where we primarily focus on RV sales and service. My brother and I ventured out on our own in 2022 and started our brother business Kuhn Brothers Service Center.

We have three children who all attend Fairview. Kennedy 2nd grade, Reagan 1st grade, and Calvin preschool. I enjoyed my years at Fairview Schools as it is a small town tight knit community. Through my years of education, the teachers were always very caring and helpful, and now that I have children in the school system, I can see that the teachers really care about not only educating our children, but also the well-being of the children in our district."

I feel that it is important to give back because God has blessed me greatly. In sports you're taught to always have your teammates' backs. I see my community as my team, we're all in this together and we need to be there to support and lift each other up."

To continue our great school system and to support the Fairview Schools Fund, mail a check to The Defiance Area Foundation, c/o Fairview Schools Fund, 613 West Third Street, Defiance, or visit the Defiance Area Foundation website at [defianceareafoundation.org](http://defianceareafoundation.org) to make an on-line donation.

## LADY WARRIORS IMPROVE TO 4-0

Woodlan led at every stop as the Lady Warriors posted a 58-54 victory over Wayne in non-league girls basketball action on November 16.

Woodlan took a 17-13 advantage at the end of one period before extending the margin to 30-23 at the midway point of the contest.

The Lady Generals cut the Woodlan lead to 46-41 at the end of three periods before Woodlan held on to record the four-point win.

Khalise Collins topped Wayne with 20 points and 17 rebounds while adding three assists and two steals as well. Davianna Irons chipped in ten markers for the Generals and picked up six rebounds.

Alyssa Anderson paced Woodlan with 19 points and 13 rebounds while finishing with two blocked shots.

Taylor Kneubuhler posted 18 points and eight boards for the Lady Warriors with Reagan Widenhoefer totaling ten markers and three assists.

Alix Jacquay finished with five markers and seven boards while Makenna Smith recorded four points and four rebounds. Brooke Kneubuhler picked up two points, five rebounds, six assists and four steals to aid the Woodlan cause.

## NEW HAVEN BOYS FALLS TO WARRIORS

New Haven Varsity Basketball falls to Woodlan 66-64 on November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Bulldogs hosted the high school basketball match up and it was a tight game for the duration.

Score by the quarter:  
NH - 20 15 14 15 = 66  
Woodlan - 14 11 18 23 = 64

New Haven Scoring:  
A. Washington - 31, Cottrell - 10, Ezell - 7, White - 5, Ledbetter - 3, Baskerville - 3, Wright - 3, Stewart - 2

## LATTA & COMMITTEE SLAM TIKTOK FOR SPREADING TERRORIST PROPAGANDA

Congressman Bob Latta (R-OH5) joined Reps. Earl L. "Buddy" Carter (R-GA1) and Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA5) in sending a letter to TikTok CEO Shou Chew demanding action to combat the platform's spread of terrorist propaganda and antisemitic content surrounding Hamas' attack on Israel.

The letter, signed by 25 members, comes as videos on the Chinese Communist Party (CCP)-connected platform with the hashtag #freepalestine received 946 million views in a 30-day period. More than half of those views came from young adults ages 18-24. At the same time, a trend glorifying Osama Bin Laden and the September 11, 2001, attack on Americans garnered millions of views, demonstrating the app's influence over young users.

In the letter, the members write: "On October 7, the

# PJHS PASSION FIRST MINDSET MOTIVATORS



Paulding Junior High School uses a social-emotional curriculum called The 7-Mindsets to help students explore positive character traits. After each mindset unit is completed teachers at PJHS select Mindset Motivators who have actively participated in the lessons. Shown in the picture are the PJHS Mindset Motivators for the unit Passion First.

# PJHS ANNOUNCES OCTOBER PRIDE CARD RECIPIENTS



Each month students at Paulding Junior High School earn Paulding Pride cards for going above and beyond what is normally expected of Paulding Junior High students. Shown in the picture are the Paulding Pride card recipients for the month of October.

Palestinian terrorist organization, Hamas, brutally attacked Israel and killed more than 1,400 people. Since this terrorist attack, disinformation related to the conflict has run rampant on your platform, stoking antisemitism, support, and sympathy for Hamas... Many of the younger generations are turning to TikTok rather than search engines and other verifiable sources for their news. You have led these generations to believe that TikTok is an "unfiltered" news source."

The members continue: "This deluge of pro-terrorist content is driving hateful antisemitic rhetoric and violent protests on campuses across the country. The CCP has already co-opted your platform, and it seems TikTok and TikTok's employees are resigned to becoming a mouthpiece for antisemitism, terrorists, and propaganda."

The letter was signed by Reps. Troy Balderson (R-OH), John Joyce (R-PA), Dan Cren-

shaw (R-TX), Kat Cammack (R-FL), Larry Bucshon, M.D. (R-IN), Tim Walberg (R-MI), Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL), Rick W. Allen (R-GA), Gary Palmer (R-AL), Greg Pence (R-IN), Brett Guthrie (R-KY), Jeff Duncan (R-SC), Debbie Lesko (R-AZ), Randy K. Weber (R-TX), Russ Fulcher (R-ID), Richard Hudson (R-NC), Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D. (R-IA), Bill Johnson (R-OH), Neal P. Dunn, M.D. (R-FL), August Pfluger (R-TX), Diana Harshbarger (R-TN), and John Curtis (R-UT).

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# THE LEFT TURN



Devin Shiels UMP Late Model Champion, Action Photo's Ohio

By: Ron Burt

Attica Raceway Park has announced the official final point standings. The racetrack handed out \$47,000 in point fund money to the top 10 in the track's three weekly divisions for 2023. The 410 Sprint Car Champion is Cap Henry. He won the trifecta of local sprint car racing in 2023. He won his second Attica Raceway Park 410 sprint champi-

total in the division to 20. He's fourth on the division's all-time win list. In the 12 A-mains in 2023, Shiels only fin-



Jamie Miller #26, 305 Sprint Car Champion. Action Photo's Ohio

ished out of the top eight once. He had an 11th place run on opening night. He scored an incredible 10 top five finishes. Shiels' average A-main finishing position was a remarkable fourth. Rounding out the season top 5, 2nd Ryan Missler, 3rd Ryan Markham, 4th Justin Chance, and 5th Jeff Warnick. Winning Rookie of the year, Cody Truman.

Jamie Miller had a solid year and finished on top the 305 Sprint Car points. Attica's 2005, 2019 and 2021 division champion had a dominant performance for his fourth 305 Sprint Championship. Miller had four wins to run his career total to 39, placing him second on the division's all-time win list. In the 11 A-mains in 2023, Miller never finished out of the top 10 and posted nine top four finishes. His average A-main finishing position was an unbelievable third. The rest of the top 5 included Brandon Moore, 3rd Kasey Ziebold, 4th John Ivy, and 5th Dustin Stroup. Blayne Keckler was the 305 Sprint Rookie of The Year.

In USAC news the Outlaw

Midget series is on the west coast. Kyle Larson picked up a couple of big wins last week. Logan Seavey clinched the 2023 NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship. This is his second career USAC National Midget title. He won his first in 2018 for Abacus Racing.

Until next week keep your wheels down! Remember I have nightly high school basketball scores and other sports coverage on the Ohio Sports Blitz Facebook page on Facebook Live and 9:30PM. Join me [www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz/](http://www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz/)

## PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

### Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

**CORRECTION: Timothy J. Mann**, Cecil, OH; Domestic violence; Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs waived

**Lucas D. Wheeler**, Wauseon, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived

**Alex J. Wurth**, Cloverdale, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Chelsea Bullinger**, Paulding, OH; OVI/under influence, Count A dismissed; Reckless operation, Guilty, 30 days jail suspended, Complete 40 hours of community service; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

**Isai Solis Hernandez**, Haviland, OH; FRA suspension, Case dismissed at defendant's cost; Seat belt/drive, Case dismissed

**Rachel R. Newsome**, Oakwood, OH; Junk ordinance; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

**Leonard J. Feeney III**, Melrose, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence, Guilty; 30 days jail, 28 days suspended, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general goos behavior, No contact with victims; Criminal damage, Count B dismissed

**Ciarra C. Owens**, Oakwood, OH; Theft; Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs waived

**Franklin Bowman**, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence, Pled no contest, found guilty, 30 days jail, 28 suspended, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior, No contact with victim; Aggravated menacing, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior

**Nathan A. Robertson**, Paulding, OH; Strangulation; Count A dismissed

**Jack C. Carnahan**, Oakwood, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Miranda D. Collins**, Oakwood, OH; Improper backing; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Samuel C. Mitchell**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jesse R. Martin**, Temperance, MI; Possession of marijuana; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

**Elizabeth A. Pollock**, Oakwood, OH; Cross yellow line, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Child restraint, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

**Brian M. Ford**, Defiance,

OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Rodolfo Sanchez**, Fort Wayne, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jordan L. Bradley**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Alan W. Griffiths**, Paulding, OH; Left of Center; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Juan A. Montez, JR.**, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving/texting, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

## CITY OF WOODBURN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 11/6/23

The city of Woodburn Council monthly meeting took place on November 6, 2023. The meeting began at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Cummins, Superintendent Walls as well as Council Members Sarrazine, Martin, Gerig, and Watts. Chief Parker and Council Member Thompson were not present.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report.  
Superintendent's Report: Nothing to report.  
Mayor's Report: Mayor Kelsey discussed options for the city to respond to the non-payment of hydrant fees by Milan Township. He would like to either see the Milan Township amount for hydrant use be paid in full, or if this is not possible, that either the amount be passed on to the end user or hydrants be decommissioned as they need replaced until this amount is satisfied. After discussion, it was determined that the mayor will reach out to the Havenwood homeowner's association to discuss a recently decommissioned hydrant there in an effort to discover what input they may have for the Milan Township Trustee. The Mayor explained a formal rezoning request for 4025 Carl Street that asked for a variance R1 zoning. This would allow the current child care center to continue to operate as normal without changing the zoning from R1. After discussion, it was determined that the city approves this recommendation. The mayor will write a letter to this effect for the business owner's benefit for the upcoming public hearing. The Mayor explained that there are 19 homes that have been built in the Ashlar Pointe Addition with another 17 homes built in the Homestead Addition Phase III section to date. The Mayor gave an update on the work being done on the trail from Norfolk Southern.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the October 2nd meeting. After discussion, Councilman Gerig moved to accept the minutes from the October 2nd meeting as presented, second by Councilman Watts, all present in favor. The warrants were presented. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Pay application #1 for the 2023 Community Crossings Matching Grant program through IDOT was presented for inspection and payment. After discussion, Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to pay the \$237,993.09 to Wayne Asphalt Construction, second by Councilman Watts, all present in favor. The clerk-treasurer explained the financial impact for the summer meter program for 2023.

Councilmen's Report: Councilwoman Sarrazine inquired about the proposed Maumee Meadows addition and if any progress had been made. The mayor asked the current owner to voluntarily annex the portion of the land that is not in the city limit, as a portion of the land in question is in the city limits and a portion is not. Councilman Martin inquired about details about the old PNC building. The mayor gave an update on what he believed was to be the outcome for the building's use. Councilman Martin also asked about what was being done at the old Horizon Bank building. The mayor explained that BF Goodrich was still in that location for temporary use. Councilwoman Sarrazine inquired about the timeframe for the installation of new officers. The mayor explained that this will occur in anticipation of January 1st, which will be the first day of the new term.

Audience: Kevin Hileman asked the council to consider a request to purchase a new computer and three years of Apple-Care+ for him in the amount of \$4,547.95 in anticipation of his installation for the 1st of the year as the clerk-treasurer. After discussion, it was determined to wait until the next meeting where the IT representative from Reliance is expected to attend in order to more properly consider this proposal.  
Councilwoman Sarrazine moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilman Martin, all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:54pm.  
Go to [www.cityofwoodburn.org](http://www.cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

## HICKSVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION - NOVEMBER 20, 2023

Hicksville Board of Education held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, November 20 with members Jennifer Caryer, Minda Jones, Galen Methvin, Stephanie Mazur and Eric Vetter in attendance.

Erika Willitzer, Executive Director of the Defiance County Economic Development Corporation, presented an Enterprise

## NORTHWEST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DONATES \$826 TO THE PATH CENTER FROM CHILI COOK-OFF



Pictured from left to right: Kelsey Peterson, Jamie Huber, Mikyla Garcia, Tobi Fleischman (all employees of the Path Center), and NSCC representatives Mike Jacobs and Kristine Robertson.

Northwest State Community College Student Activities recently held its 28th Annual Chili Cook-Off in the College's atrium. Each year, money raised from this event is donated to the PATH Center in Defiance, to be used for area residents in need of assistance. The 2023 event proceeds totaled \$826, which were recently donated to representatives from the PATH Center.

### OVER \$13,000 HAS BEEN RAISED...

The Chili Cook-Off has raised over \$13,000 for the PATH Center over the nearly 30 years of the event. This

year, eight teams competed in the event. Congratulations to STEMi--people's choice winner and "golden ladle" winner and also to Heartburn Lane (CTS)--judge's non-traditional choice and STEMi, again, for Judge's traditional choice.

### QUOTABLE

NSCC Career Services and Student Activities Coordinator Mike Jacobs commented, "Apart from Commencement, the Cook Off is the longest running event in the College's history. People love to be a part of tradition, especially one that has such a positive impact on the community."

Zone Agreement request from Nemco Food Equipment for 75% abatement of Real Property Taxes and an annual donation of \$4138.00 for ten years.

Structured Literacy Teacher Jamie Altman shared a presentation with the Board highlighting the district's Title 1 program. She explained the process used in Hicksville to work with students in grades K-3 in developing and strengthening language skills through intervention on the various early language skills. Regular assessments are provided to families throughout the school year to monitor their student's progress.

Principal reports highlighted the upcoming winter sports programs opening for junior high and high school. Middle School Principal Tony Tear mentioned the Middle School spelling bee which will be held on Wednesday, November 22. He also recapped the first quarter incentive day activities. Elementary Principal Kirsten Coffman reported on current programs and activities. Assistant Principal Angie Smith presented the upcoming high school activities.

Eric Vetter, Four County board representative reported that Four County treasurer Connie Nicely is moving on to the Northwest State Community College as treasurer, so Four County is now seeking a new treasurer. He also reported that Four County has received a \$14.7 grant for welding and electrical programs allowing the programs to grow by an additional 112 students.

Superintendent Keith Countryman presented his report. He would like to recommend upgrading job descriptions for the district. He thanked Elementary Principal Kirsten Coffman for her work as well as her assistants, on the annual Veterans Day program. He mentioned that he recently passed his bus driver's license recertification. He took the opportunity to thank the community, on behalf of the school district, for the continued support of the school through their support of the levy.

Minutes and financials were approved. Employment for certified and classified staff members were approved.

Also approved was a European trip (June 3-12, 2024) for the Foreign Language Club.

Resolution 2024-03 approving an Enterprise Zone Agreement between Defiance County and NEMCO Food Equipment, including a ten (10) year 75% Abatement of Real Property Taxes and an Annual \$4138.00 donation for ten (10) years, was passed.

The Board recommended to approve January 15, 2024 at 5:30 pm as the date and time for the 2024 Organizational Board Meeting and appoint Steph Mazur as President Pro-Tem.

Representatives Jenn Caryer and Eric Vetter shared reports on their attendance at the annual Capital Conference.

Board member Steph Mazur extended thanks to the community from the School Foundation on the support received at the recent Dueling Pianos fundraiser. After expenses, the Foundation raised approximately \$8600.

Christopher Warner presented a report on his involvement with the Christmas Cruise Thru and the school.

The board adjourned to meet again in regular session on Monday, December 18 at 5:30 pm.

## HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2023

Hicksville Village Council met in regular session on Monday, November 20. Council members Toni Egly, Taylor Klepper, Charlie Martin and Mike Barth were in attendance. Members Eric Basset and Ron Beverly were absent. Previous minutes and bills to be paid were accepted.

Kelsey Klepper, representing the Beautification Committee, updated Council on the Committee's activities for the past year. She spoke of the continuing updates for the Village downtown floral planters and 25 flower beds throughout the Village. The May Plant Sale location was changed to the Multi-Purpose Building at the fairgrounds. The Committee was pleased with the outcome and will keep the sale at the fairgrounds for the coming year. She noted that the Committee has given donations back to the Village in the form of funds for the mural project and funds for the Trail Association to purchase trees. The Committee has also funded the wrapping of the downtown trees with holiday lights as well as lighting the Christmas tree near the

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**The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office**  
The Paulding County Veteran's Service Office is dedicated to aiding Paulding County veterans and their families in time of need.  
There are two basic services the agency provides:  
1 - EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE - Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.  
2 - CLAIMS ASSISTANCE - Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.  
We also provide reimbursement for the cost of transportation to VA medical facilities in our area, or in the case where the veteran cannot drive himself, we will provide a driver.  
Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.  
Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments  
Any questions, please call 419-399-8285



# CHRISTMAS AT THE OLD FORT - A JOURNEY THROUGH TIME



As the festive season approaches, the city of Fort Wayne is gearing up for an extraordinary event that promises to transport visitors back in time. "Christmas at the Old Fort - A Timeline Event," scheduled for December 2, 2023, at The Old Fort on Spy Run Avenue, is more than just a celebration; it's a living history experience.

Hosted by Historic Fort Wayne, Inc., a nonprofit organization committed to preserving the rich heritage of Fort Wayne, this unique event is set to offer attendees a glimpse into the Christmas celebrations of yesteryears, specifically focusing on periods of war in American history.

Imagine walking through the gates of The Old Fort and finding yourself in the midst of Christmas as it was in 1812 in Fort Wayne or 1770 in Virginia. This event aims to recreate such scenarios, allowing visitors to engage with history in a way that is both educational and entertaining. Reenactors from these eras will share stories about how Christmas was observed during times of conflict, providing a rare insight into the lives of those who lived through these pivotal moments in history.

In addition to the historical reenactments, the event will showcase local artisans presenting traditional hand-crafted gift ideas. These crafts are not only a nod to the artisanal skills of the past but also

offer unique gift options for the holiday season.

No Christmas event would be complete without treats and treasures, and "Christmas at the Old Fort" is no exception. Attendees can indulge in a variety of homemade baked goods, adding a sweet touch to the experience. The event also features a range of Old Fort-themed merchandise, perfect for those looking to take a piece of history home with them.

The real charm of the event lies in its ability to create an immersive and interactive atmosphere. The historic ambience of The Old Fort, combined with the festive spirit, provides a perfect backdrop for families and history enthusiasts to explore and enjoy. It's not just about observing; it is about participating and becoming a part of the historical tapestry that the event weaves.

Admission to the event is free, with the option for free will donations. This gesture highlights the community-focused nature of the event and the organization behind it. Historic Fort Wayne, Inc., established in 2004, has been a stalwart in promoting the historical significance of Fort Wayne and its role in the development of the Northwest Territory, Indiana, and the United States during the 17th and 18th centuries. As a volunteer-driven organization, it relies heavily on community support and donations to continue its mission of education and preservation.

Annual Appropriations. A second reading of Resolution 2023-26 was given by caption only to enter a contract with Vernon Nagle Inc. for construction of the pool, pool house and pumphouse. Members discussed if voting on the measure at the December 4 meeting will be within bid expiration limits. Mr. Wann said the agreement will still be in effect. Second reading of Resolution 2023-27, by caption only, was presented to hire Rachel Hammersmith as Village Solicitor.

Police Chief Mark Denning requested Council go into executive session following the regular meeting to discuss personnel.

Fire Chief Bruce Hart reported that Pumper 504 is being repaired. He thanked all who supported the Fire Association's Feather Bingo event.

Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith presented regular reports to Council.

Mayor Jones reminded citizens the Christmas Cruise Thru opens November 20 through December 24 and volunteers are always needed.

Council adjourned to executive session with no action reported. The next regular Council session will be Monday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. in Council chambers.

## USDA SELECTS OHIO STATE TO SUPPORT NEW URBAN AGRICULTURE EFFORTS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency (USDA FSA) recently selected The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) to support the creation of new Urban Service Centers designed to further urban agriculture and innovative production in Ohio.

The USDA is opening 17 new Urban Service Centers in 15 states nationwide, including in Ohio. The first Ohio location is in Cleveland and is supported by Ohio State University Extension, the outreach arm of CFAES. The five-year collaborative partnership will later expand to metropolitan sites across northeast, central, northwest, southwest, and urban Appalachian areas in Ohio.

"Until now, there has been no vehicle for urban growers to easily access USDA priorities and funding," said John Patterson, state executive director for the USDA FSA in Ohio. "Whether a farm is in a rural area or the middle of a city, the USDA FSA is committed to working with farms of all sizes and in all locations. Urban farming is in every county across Ohio, and agriculture is for everyone."

"We look forward to our partnership with OSU Extension, as they will help us reach more urban farmers and help us provide education and awareness of USDA programs and resources available to urban growers."

USDA Urban Service Centers offer farmers and

producers a place to connect with FSA and Natural Resources Conservation Service staff to discuss their business and conservation goals and learn ways in which the USDA can help their urban operation. The service centers also offer conservation and climate-smart practices, disaster assistance, farm loans, and risk management programs.

OSU Extension's role in supporting the USDA Urban Service Centers in Ohio will include conducting outreach and education and providing technical assistance. OSU Extension will also assist to address local priorities in urban, indoor, and other emerging agricultural enterprises, as part of an overall goal to raise awareness and expand equitable access of available USDA programs and resources.

"Urban, indoor, and emerging agricultural enterprises in Ohio's metropolitan areas play a vital role in Ohio's agricultural community," said Cathann A. Kress, Ohio State vice president for agricultural administration and dean of CFAES. "Our college recognizes Ohio's rural-urban interface and collaborates with other organizations, such as the USDA, to advance the innovation and success of agricultural entrepreneurs of all ages."

Support for urban agriculture

FSA is also creating 17 new urban county committees with the new Urban Service Centers. Focused exclusively on urban agriculture, the committees will help make determinations on programs such as disaster assistance and hiring decisions, and they will listen to appeals and conduct outreach to urban and suburban farms and farmers for FSA.

To help strengthen the Urban Service Centers and urban county committees, the USDA is investing \$40 million through American Rescue Plan funds into partnerships with community-based organizations, of which \$1.5 million will be invested in Ohio. OSU Extension is one of the 17 organizations selected for this effort.

Part of the reason is because OSU Extension's longstanding presence in all of Ohio's 88 counties provides a

# The West Bend News Sudoku Puzzle

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

foundation for advancing existing and emerging urban agricultural opportunities, said Julie Fox, director of OSU Extension strategic initiatives and urban engagement.

"The CFAES urban agriculture team of faculty, staff, and students recognizes significant momentum as they engage with people from the public and private sectors who are advancing urban agriculture in communities across the state," Fox said. "This cooperative project

with Ohio's USDA FSA team builds on local, state, and national initiatives, as well as on CFAES investments in additional urban ag expertise."

"Together, we can make Ohio one of the most outstanding examples of people coming together in support of the urban contribution to the state's diverse agricultural community."

Visit [farmers.gov/urban](http://farmers.gov/urban) for more information on programs and services for urban producers.

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

The Hicksville Village Council will hold a Public Hearing to consider a zoning request on the day of Monday, December 18, 2023, starting at 6:00 pm in the council chambers located at 111 S. Main St, Hicksville, OH.

The request, submitted by the Hicksville Planning Commission, is to rezone lots 171 & 172 Auditors Plat, with a physical address of 301 Meuse Argonne Avenue. The lot is presently zoned as A-1 Agricultural/Public Use.

The request is to rezone to B-1 Central Business, B-2 Local Business, B-3 General Business.

—Mike Bailey,  
Zoning Inspector  
Village of Hicksville

## ON-LINE SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

**PREMIER BANK, FORMERLY KNOWN AS FIRST FEDERAL, Plaintiff,**

vs.

**ROBERT A. WINSLOW, ET AL., Defendants,**

Case No. CI 23 102

Pursuant to an Order of Sale in the above-entitled action, the following real estate will be offered for sale:

**422 East Canal Street, Antwerp,  
Parcel Number: 12-40S-001-00**

A full legal description of this property is on record at the Paulding County Recorder's Office located in the Courthouse or at: [www.uslandrecords.com](http://www.uslandrecords.com)

Said premises appraised at One Hundred Twenty Thousand and No/100 (\$120,000.00) Dollars and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of that amount on the first sale date.

The first sale date will be on the December 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

<https://paulding.sheriffsaleauction.ohio.gov>

Registration and deposits must be completed at least one week before the date of sale.

In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on January 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. On this date, there will be no minimum bid. However, the purchaser will be responsible for any costs, allowances, and taxes which the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

The appraisal of this property was completed without an interior inspection. Neither the Sheriff's Office nor the appraisers are responsible for the condition of the property at the time the purchaser takes possession.

Purchasers are advised they have no legal right to access this property until the Sheriff's Deed has been filed with the Paulding County Recorder's Office.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand and No/100 (\$5,000.00) Dollars will be due at the time of the sale. Balance of the purchase price shall be paid before the deed is recorded.

The successful bidder will have Thirty (30) days from the sale date to obtain an examination of title at their expense, if so desired. Should such examination disclose the title to be unmarketable by any defect in the court proceedings or the existence of any outstanding interest rendering the title unmarketable, the successful bidder has Thirty (30) days to file a written motion requesting the sale be set aside. If the court finds the title unmarketable, the court will refuse to confirm the sale or fix a reasonable time, not to exceed Ninety (90) days, within which the defect of title may be corrected.

Taxes shall be prorated to the date of the sale and paid from the sale proceeds.

PAULDING COUNTY  
ANN L. PEASE  
CLERK OF COURTS

NOV 16 PM 2:23

## NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS  
OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

LOU ANN WANNEMACHER,  
PAULDING COUNTY TREASURER  
Plaintiff,

vs.

LORINDA L. ALLEN aka LORINDA ALLEN, ET.AL.  
DEFENDANTS,

Case No. CI-23-161

Judge Tiffany R. Beckman

TO: Lorinda L. Allen aka Lorinda Allen; Unknown Spouse of Lorinda L. Allen aka Lorinda Allen; Unknown heirs, administrators, executors and assigns of Lorinda L. Allen aka Lorinda Allen; Unknown heirs, administrators, executors and assigns of Unknown Spouse of Lorinda L. Allen aka Lorinda Allen; Unknown Spouse of Phillip J. Flemming

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: 206 N. Maple Street, Grover Hill, Ohio 45849

Please take notice that a complaint has been filed in the above-captioned action against you seeking a foreclosure of tax liens and a public sale of real property owned by Lorinda L. Allen aka Lorinda Allen to pay delinquent real estate taxes owed on said real estate recorded in Volume 595 Page 0418; Volume 405, Page 1028 of the Paulding

Court Records.

The real property in question is situated as follows:

Auditor's Parcel #26-06S-026-00; 26-06S-025-00

Property Address: 206 N. Maple Street, Grover Hill, Ohio

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

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

By: *[Signature]*  
Deputy

Respectfully submitted,

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

High and Main Street intersection. She thanked the Village for helping with electrical issues for the project. She reported on the June through September Farmer's Market activities which are under the direction of the Committee as well. She said over 30 vendors participated during 2023 season and reported special events like the ladies market and the young entrepreneurs market days were highlights of the season once again. Anyone interested in helping or joining the Committee are welcome to ask members for information.

Administrator Cory Wann reported the final leaf pickup in the Village will be November 30. There have been 63 loads

picked up so far. The recycle lot will be closed for the months of January and February. The electrical work at the new water tower is scheduled. The tower will be disinfected and filled and hopefully will go on line in approximately three weeks. The Defiance Avenue water project is planned to cost \$2,652,870. Choice One and the Village are working on a match grant submission for the project.

Solicitor Troy Essex presented the second reading, by caption only, for Ordinance 2023-17, establishing pay ranges for employees beginning January 1, 2024. The first reading for Ordinance 2023-18 was given by caption only establishing 2024

## PAULDING COUNTY WMEA RECYCLING

*New Schedule For Large Villages*

**1st Weekend- Paulding , Fair Grounds**  
**2nd Weekend- Grover Hill , VFW**  
**3rd Weekend- Payne ,**  
 (Paved lot east of Homier's)  
**4th Weekend- Antwerp ,**  
 (13744 CR 43, sewer treatment plant)

*New Schedule For Smaller Villages*

**3rd Wednesday of each month**  
 Cecil 11:30-12:00 (Fire Station)  
 Junction 12:30-1:00 (Catholic Church)  
 Haviland/Scott 1:30-2:00 (SR 114 at Haviland Park)  
 Latty/Briceton 2:30-3:00 (Latty Park)

**For Questions Call : 419-399-3630**  
**or Visit : www.pauldingcountywmea.com**

Sheriff Jason K. Landers  
Paulding County, Ohio  
[www.pauldingohsheriff.com](http://www.pauldingohsheriff.com)

David W. Cliffe, Attorney for Plaintiff

# SORRY! WRONG CHIMNEY!



Sorry! Wrong Chimney!, the upcoming play for Van Wert Civic Theatre, follows the story of a young executive who takes on a nighttime job as a department store Santa to afford a fabulous Christmas gift for his wife. However a series of comedic misunderstandings ensue, involving a nosy neighbor, a psychiatrist husband, a burglar, an accomplice, and a befuddled police officer.

Show dates are November

30 - December 3 and December 7 - 10. Tickets are available for advance reservations by calling the box office at 419-238-9689 or go to the website at vwct.org.

It seems like a perfect opportunity to gather friends, co-workers or family members for a fun Christmas outing. Don't delay getting tickets. Enjoy the holiday season with this feel-good comedy at the Van Wert Civic Theatre!

## WHAT HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY IN DECEMBER

The Paulding County Carnegie Library is bustling with the Holiday spirit. The main branch will be hosting "A Stroll Through the Trees" Check out all the trees decorated for Christmas, all December. You can still get your pictures taken by the fireplace. Be sure to come by often for different events and activities all month long. The library will be closed on Monday, December 25 so our employees can enjoy some time with their families.

The Adult sections Black Swamp Bookworms Book Club will meet on December 11th from 6:30-8:00 p.m.. We are reading "A Redbird Christmas" by Fannie Flagg. You may call the main library to reserve your copy at 419-399-2032. Stop by every Thursday for "Coffee Talk" at 1:00 p.m. Immediately following Coffee Talk at 2:00 p.m., join Eva Sharron Koebe for "Knitting, Purl and Simple". A hands-on workshop to learn basic knitting. All supplies provided. Wednesday, December 13 join us for Medicare 101. Learn all you need to know about Medicare and Medicare Supplements. Bring your questions. Sessions at 11:00 a.m. and again at 2:00 p.m. All day Tuesdays, there will be Make and Take crafts available. Every Friday Holiday movie bundles are available. Take a break from your busy schedule, stop by and say "Hi". It's fun and free to visit

the library. Cookbook Club is December 18 at 5:30 p.m., December's theme is Holiday Treats and Eats.

The Children's room will be hosting "Santa Claus is coming to Town", on December 7th, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Visit with Santa, make a craft and have a cookie or two. Storytimes with Kirk are on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. There will be crafts available to make during the month. Christmas movies playing or check out a few movies to take home and enjoy. There are a lot of Christmas books to read also.

### ANTWERP BRANCH

The Antwerp Branch will be having a Book Club on December 11th at 6:00 p.m. Cookbook Club will meet December 18th at 5:45 p.m. Story time is every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. Antwerp Library Friends Group Wreath Fundraiser will be happening. Stop in for a chance to WIN a wreath. The wreath drawing will be on December 16th. Craft Fridays from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., all ages!!

### GROVER HILL BRANCH

The Grover Hill branch will bring in the month of December with a new monthly drawing. Enter for a chance to win a coniferous gift basket brimming over with everlasting goodies by simply signing up each day you visit the library. Saturday December 9th, the Friends of the Grover Hill Branch library will be presenting their 3rd Annual Breakfast with Santa. See Santa come to town on GHFD fire truck,

then eat pancakes and sausages, plus get a picture taken with Santa, for a free will donation. Breakfast is from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at Grover Hill VFW Post #2873. Also, on December 9th from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. the library will open and give out a gift to the first 25 families who come in. See Santa make his last stop in Grover Hill. Monday, December 11th at 10:30 a.m. is Munchkin Club story time. Enjoy the story "How to Catch a Reindeer", read aloud with a coordinating activity and treat. This event is designed for children 6 and under. Thursday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m. is Senior Bingo, aged 50+ and enjoy a light luncheon, bingo, fun and laughs. This event is fully booked. On December 20th the GHBL Book Club meets at 4:00 p.m. for a special before Christmas discussion of "The Christmas Tree", a story of the Rockefeller Center tree by Julie Salamon.

### OAKWOOD BRANCH

The Oakwood branch wants kids to visit the library during December 1-13 and decorate a gingerbread house for our contest during our town Christmas, while supplies last. Every Monday in December is story time at 11:00 a.m. The Oakwood library will be doing a Facebook Trivia December 4th and 11th. Winners will be announced on December 6th and 13th. Tuesday, December 5, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. is the Good Morning Book Club. Adults can sign up to make a wooden gingerbread house taking place on December 11, 5:00-6:30 p.m. December 14th at 11:30 a.m. will be the monthly Senior Bingo luncheon. December 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m. is Oakwood Community Christmas. Stop by the library and have some hot chocolate, do some holiday crafts, vote on your favorite gingerbread house, and get your picture taken with the Grinch. The week of December 17, stop in and pick up a letter to Santa kit, while supplies last. December 19, adults can sign up to machine embroidery a gingerbread themed kitchen towel. On December 21, kids can pick up their gingerbread house, and the winner will be announced.

### PAYNE BRANCH

The Payne branch will be hosting a "Natural Holiday Room Scent" for our December oil class. This would be a nice gift. Bring a friend and join us for some food and fun. The class will be held on Monday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m. with Judy Hook. Hey kids, come to the library on Tuesday, December 12th from 3:30-5:00 p.m. The Wayne Trace Art Club will be here to do crafts, games and a Christmas photo booth. There will be all kinds of merry fun! Coffee Talk is every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. Come in and have a cup of coffee with us. We can talk about books! Story time is every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. Bring your kids in for a story and a craft. All are welcome. Fridays are Movie Buckets at the library. Check out 3 or more movies and the popcorn is on us. There will be a Candy Cane Hunt for kids all month too.

Friends of the Paulding County Carnegie Library would like to thank everyone for the support of our used book bookstore. Open registration for the Friends of the Library begins December 1, 2023. Everyone is welcome to

# FAIRVIEW FFA ATTENDS NATIONAL CONVENTION



Fairview FFA Members stopped at RSG (the Reproduction Specialty Group) on their way to Indy. Pictured above are Kortney Grinnell, Kayla Mavis, Miguel Garcia, Breavan Williams, Brady Zeedyk, Dalton Haver, Emma Zeedyk, Calvin Woodring, Summer Hiler.

### By: Elizabeth Bok

The 96th National FFA Convention was held from November 1st through the 4th. Nine members from the Fairview FFA Chapter had the opportunity to attend this convention. The National FFA Convention is held in Indianapolis, Indiana every year.

The members who were able to attend the convention this year were Miguel Garcia, Emma Zeedyk, Dalton Haver, Brady Zeedyk, Breavan Williams, Kayla Mavis, Kortney Grinnell, Summer Hiler, and Calvin Woodring. They departed the school at 5:30 on Wednesday morning of the 1st. On their way to Indy, they stopped at RSG (the Reproduction Specialty Group). At RSG they got to tour their goat and sheep breeding facility. They started their time in Indy by exploring the FFA Expo Center. Here they got to

talk to colleges, businesses, and military representatives. Then, the members attended the first session to kick off the 96th National FFA Convention. To end the first day in Indianapolis they went to dinner at Texas Roadhouse.

On Thursday, they started the day by traveling to Louisville, Kentucky for the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). They went to NAILE to watch Sara and Renee Bok, fellow Fairview FFA members, show their Guernsey dairy heifers. From there they went to the Squire Boone Caverns in southern Indiana. After that, they went back to Louisville to tour the Louisville Slugger Bat Factory. Once the tour was over the members got to explore downtown Louisville and see the Ohio River.

To start the third day of the

convention they went to the 4th General Session and got to see contest results and listen to a speaker. Then, the students got to attend a student workshop, "The Power of Questions." From there, they headed to the World's Toughest Rodeo at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. To finish the day, the members went to the 6th General Session and watched our region's National Vice President give her retirement address.

To finish their time in Indianapolis, four of the chapter's graduated members received their American degrees. At the 7th and final Session, the nine members who got to watch the Degree ceremony were Evan Saylor, Dakota Shaffer, Blake Zeedyk, and Kaitlyn Zeedyk all received their American Degrees.

become a Friends' member of the Paulding County Carnegie Library. The next meeting is December 11th at 6:00 p.m. upstairs at Main Branch.

## NAPOLEON DEFIANCE & WESTERN RAILWAY SUCCESSFUL IN FEDERAL CRISI GRANT AWARD

On November 9, 2023, the Ohio Rail Development Commission (Rail Commission) approved \$264,000 in grant funding to the Napoleon Defiance & Western Railway and authorized staff to administer a recently awarded Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvement (CRISI) grant. A total of \$10,792,000 was awarded in CRISI funds, with \$4,361,000 in private railroad funds contributing to the total \$15,417,000 project.

The Napoleon Defiance and Western (NDW) partnered with the Rail Commission on a December 2022 submission to the Federal Railroad Administration. The project is a continuation of previous partnerships between the railroad and the Rail Commission and is the second federal grant received for this rail line.

NDW owns and operates 43 miles of track from Woodburn, Indiana to outside Napoleon, Ohio. The railroad has suffered from years of deferred maintenance and ranks among the highest derailment rates in the country, leading it to hold the unfortunate distinction as the "Worst Railroad in America." With ownership changes at NDW in 2019 and 2022, the preserva-

tion and rehabilitation of the NDW became a high priority. The awarded project will complement the work undertaken by previous projects in 2020 and 2021, focusing on the portion of the line between Defiance and Napoleon.

"We are privileged to work with the Ohio Rail Development Commission and deeply appreciate the Rail Commission's direct grant to the Patriot Rail Napoleon Defiance & Western Railway," said John E. Fenton, CEO Patriot Rail.

Matthew Dietrich, Executive Director of the Ohio Rail

Development Commission, said, "After decades of deferred maintenance of this rail line, the Rail Commission is happy to partner with the railroad to continue these critical investments in the line. This project ensures the rail line continues to be an asset for the region's economic development efforts for many years to come. The enhanced safety improvements make this project a huge win for all involved."

For additional information regarding this project, please contact Wende Jourdan at (614) 728-9497

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# SELLING APPLES



When I think I about fall I think about selling apples. I've sold apple or cider nearly all of my life. Back in the day, seems like nearly everyone had an apple tree or two and were glad to get rid of the apples. At that time there were at least two cider mills where I would take the apples. We would never have imagined Thanksgiving without cider.

Most of these were trees that had never been sprayed, and of course there might have been a worm or two but I guess we didn't mind. I was able to sell all I could make quite quickly by just putting it out. I'm not sure which would be worse, having a worm or two or eating the pesticides which we use today. There are at least five diseases or pests that attack apples.

My father went to Barr Street and South Side market in Fort Wayne, and always sold apples and cider. Back in the day, there was an apple orchard smack dab in the middle of Hicksville High School. There was also an orchard about a mile North of Farmer, Ohio, on Highway 2. The sales barn is still there. So much for the 100 year lifespan.

We picked apples at both orchards and my mother fell off a ladder in the orchard at Farmer. She broke a vertebrae in her neck and recovered, but it bothered her the rest of her life. There were many varieties of apples that are no longer around. I remember McIntosh, Winesap, and a few others. We old duffers miss those varieties.

Nowadays it seems the popular one is Honeycrisp. For years I stored apples in a well pit. One of the interesting things, was that when you took the remainder out about next march, the Granny Smith apples would be red and sweet as sugar. I think perhaps they just ripen later, kind of like the Kiefer Pear.

When we moved to Grabill there was a big Bartlett pear tree in the yard. We sold pears from that tree for years and had some of the same customers every year. A man from Paulding would call every year. That tree died and it was probably old because it had been hollow many years.

It is sad to see the trees go. My dad had an apple orchard, peaches, apricots, and plums, gooseberries and strawberries. A neighbor had a huge spray rig mounted on a

wagon . All of these went away with the family farm. We see some of these coming back with the farm to table movement. Perhaps in the future we will regret turning all the farm land into houses.

I remember seeing the orchards in Ohio being bulldozed. Where my son lives in Bloomington, Illinois, there was a huge orchard on a farm, and they had a festival every fall. They sold apples, pies and baked goods, and took you out to the field to pick out a pumpkin. We went there for years, and when the old folks retired, none of their four kids wanted to do the work , so the bulldozer was called.

Ramblings of a seasoned citizen. My dad attended Barr Street market in Fort Wayne, and the city in their infinite wisdom had it torn down, to use for parking for Wolf & Dessauer. A big part of two blocks had been donated to the city for perpetuity to be used for a farmer's market. So much for perpetuity.

When it was closed my father attended South Side market. That is still there and covers a city block, but they have struggled for years, because the city isn't what it used to be, and they have had zero publicity. Barr Street is coming back but the beautiful building is no longer there.

—James Neuhausser

## FAIRVIEW GRANGE: OVER ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF HISTORY

By: TJ Bennett, Friend of Fairview Grange

Fairview Grange No. 1666, was established in June 1889, per earliest recordings in the Paulding Democrat. An article appeared in the Democrat dated March 6th, 1890, proclaiming the installation of new officers for the year, while making reference that Fairview Grange had been organized for ten months. As a budding social organization for farmers, the Grange overall had an enormous impact on agriculture in a variety of ways. Early members of the Grange were eager to embrace new farming techniques to include improvements in machinery and equipment as well as new methods of planting crops. In addition to being a premiere innovative social environment, the Grange provided ample opportunities for demonstrations at various venues, to include county fairs. Members had the chance to showcase different varieties of crops, hand work, canning, and devotion to community service.

As we have learned so far, the Grange seems like it would have been the best place for farming folks to gather for learning, socialization, and community service. Fairview Grange had been a staple in Paulding County Ohio for over one-hundred and thirty years. Most recently, this county treasure has closed its doors. A handful of members remained at

# Classified Ads

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Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and \$.15 for each additional word.  
**Bold is \$1.00 additional.**  
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the time of closure to include:

Tom and Nancy Bennett, Jim and Karen Laker, and Doris Heckleman. The Fairview Grange Hall stood for many years on Rd. 230, North of Antwerp. Until November 2010, a brief burst of tornadic activity moved the structure off the foundation and into collapse. The Paulding County Progress described the Grange Hall as "flattened" in the storm.

Long before the loss of the physical structure in the 2010 storm, Fairview Grange played host to a long list of community activities. The Antwerp Bee Argus is noted to have run a weekly column for many years entitled Grange Echoes. Within the Echoes, it could be read of the local goings on at Paulding County Granges. Fairview was known to throw an annual Fox Hunt, which appeared to be a highlight for the local community. Additionally, it was found that a spinoff group came about called the Fairview Social Circle. From various articles, the Circle consisted of women of the Fairview Grange, who also appeared heavily involved in community service. From all vantage points, this local Grange had an enormous impact on rural living.

Although the closure of the Fairview Grange could be considered a loss to the community, it is interesting to see how other grassroot ideas and organizations have taken shape in the local area.

In our modern world, social media and formation of new social clubs have taken hold, paving a new way for farmers to connect for socialization, sharing of new ideas, and maintaining a great sense of community service. Fairview Grange will certainly be missed, but it has certainly left a lasting legacy on the community and Paulding County.

### TOLEDO POST ANNOUNCES TROOPER OF THE YEAR

Toledo – Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper Jacob E. Blossom has been selected as the 2023 Trooper of the Year at the Toledo Post. The selection of Trooper

sors, peers and the public.

Trooper Blossom is now in contention for the District and State Trooper of the Year Award to be announced at a later date.

Trooper Blossom joined the Highway Patrol in 2015 as a member of the 158th Academy Class and has served at the Swanton, Bowling Green and Toledo Posts. Originally from the Toledo area, he is a graduate of Whitmer High School. Other Highway Patrol awards he has received in the past include: District Trooper of the Year, Post Trooper of the Year and multiple Criminal Patrol awards. Trooper Blossom and his wife Lindsay live in Lucas County with their three children.

### BOWLING GREEN POST ANNOUNCES TROOPER OF THE YEAR

Bowling Green- Ohio State Highway Patrol Trooper Casimir A. Vonsacken has been selected 2023 Trooper of the Year at the Bowling Green Post.

The selection of Trooper Vonsacken, 38, is in recognition of outstanding service during 2023 at the Bowling Green Post. Fellow officers stationed at the Bowling Green Post, chose Trooper Vonsacken based on leadership abilities, professional ethics, courteous treatment of others, enthusiastic work attitude and cooperation with

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

Sudoku solution from page 9

supervisors, peers, and the public.

Trooper Vonsacken is now in contention for the District and State Trooper of the Year Award to be announced at a later date.

Trooper Vonsacken joined the Highway Patrol in 2010 as a member of the 150th Academy Class, and has served at both the Lima and Bowling Green Posts. Originally from Toledo and a graduate of Start High School, Trooper Vonsacken graduated from Owens Community College with an Associate of Criminal Justice Degree. Other Highway Patrol awards received in the past include: Post and District Trooper of the Year, the Ohio State Highway Patrol's Distinguished Service Medallion, and multiple Criminal Patrol awards.

Trooper Vonsacken and his wife Rebecca, live in Wood County with their two children and take pride in being very active in their community.

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## NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given by Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District that sealed bids are being accepted for the sale of the following items:

- 1) 1997 16' Utility Trailer - Minimum bid \$1,200
- 2) 2000 14' Tracker Topper boat - Minimum bid \$500
- 3) 300-gal Water Tank - Minimum bid \$150

Items are being sold as-is and are available for inspection at 13387 US 127, Paulding Ohio 45879.

Bids will be received by Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District at their office located at 451C McDonald Pike, Paulding, Ohio 45879 until 4:30 Tuesday, December 12, 2023. Bids will be opened at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at their regular monthly board meeting. Bids must include your name, address, phone number, item you are bidding on and the amount you wish to bid.

If you have questions, please call the office at 419-399-4771.

# NW OHIO ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE \$20,000 FROM FIRST FINANCIAL



From Left, Natosha Mendoza, First Financial Bank; Sandy Short, NOCAC; Amy McMaster, NOCAC; Brad Harsha, First Financial Bank.

November 20, 2023 – First Financial Bank (Nasdaq: FFBC) and the First Financial Foundation have provided \$20,000 in grants to organizations in Northwest Ohio, teaming up with community groups to create positive change in the areas of workforce development and education, and neighborhood development, with a particular emphasis on low-income communities. Throughout Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois, First Financial's 2023 Annual Grant Campaign is providing funding to 66 organizations.

"Our work to help communities thrive and grow often takes the form of collaboration with strong local organizations and projects such as these, and I'm confident that our work together will deliver a powerful lift to the neighborhoods, towns and cities we serve," said Roddell McCullough, chief corporate responsibility officer for First Financial Bank.

In Northwest Ohio, First

Financial provided grants to Downtown Lima, Inc., Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission in Defiance and Young Womens Christian Association of Van Wert County.

"Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission is delighted and honored to have First Financial's support in providing important financial literacy resources to low-income individuals and families in rural Northwest Ohio," said Angie Franklin, executive director, NOCAC. "We look forward to supporting stability and success through access, education and encouragement."

With a total of \$510,000 being awarded, this is the First Financial Foundation's largest grant campaign to date. First Financial is achieving even greater impact by including external funding from CREA, a low-income housing tax credit organization, in addition to funding from the bank's Foundation.

First Financial recently

completed its Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) for the period 2018-23, achieving 192 percent of its goals in multiple categories, with almost \$3.3 billion in mortgage lending, small business lending, community development lending and investments, philanthropy and marketing. In 2022 alone, First Financial Bank and the First Financial Foundation provided over \$4 million in community donations.

## HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING TO FEATURE TOWNSHIP CELEBRATION PLANS



Paulding County's Crane Township will be celebrating its 200th birthday in 2025. On Nov. 28, John Paulding Historical Society will welcome township Fiscal Officer Carol Razo as guest speaker to discuss event plans.

John Paulding Historical Society will host a general meeting and special program at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, November 28, 2023. The meeting is open to everyone.

The guest speaker will be Carol Razo, Fiscal Officer for Crane Township. She will discuss planning for the Crane Township Bicentennial celebration in 2025.

Crane Township was named for Oliver Crane, an

early settler. The township has played a vital part in the county's history, being home to two of the county's earliest settlements, the main site of the Reservoir War, and important early industry. It also contains a nature preserve, stone quarry and cement plant.

The museum is located at 600 Fairground Drive in Paulding, across from the county fairgrounds.

Admission is free. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

Any updates or notices will be posted on the historical society's Facebook page at facebook.com/jphsmuseum.

## A STROLL THROUGH THE LIBRARY

The Paulding County Carnegie Library would like to invite the public to visit the library in all its wonder and Christmas decorations. Stop by and see all the trees that are decorated. Christmas pictures can be taken by the decorated historic fireplace, bring your camera or phone and we can assist you with your pictures. Take a "Stroll Through the Library" during library hours December 1st to the 31st. For more information or library hours call 419-399-2032.

## CORRECTION

Antwerp Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Saturday ad in last week's West Bend News omitted one of its members from the listing: The Country Butterfly.

We apologize to The Country Butterfly for this oversight.

—Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Board

# WT KICKS OFF MILITARY BANNER PROGRAM



As an introduction to this community arts project, senior Lynsey Pease designed garden signs for veterans who participated in the school's annual Veterans' Day program.

The Wayne Trace community is kicking off its military banner program, honoring those veterans who currently live in or formerly lived in any of our Raider communities. Thanks to the generous support of the Ohio Arts Council, the National Education Association, the Ohio Education Association, and the Paulding County Foundation, these banners are being designed

and produced by students in the Wayne Trace Art Technology program and will proudly be displayed at no cost to our veterans and their families starting this coming Memorial Day. More information about the full-sized community banners and order forms can be found on the Wayne Trace school website or Facebook page.

# THE CHOP SHOP

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1.4 LB  
**\$3.79**

**OBERTO BITE SIZED CHICKEN BREAST**  
W/BUFFALO DIPPING SAUCE  
1.5 LB  
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**FRUITY PEBBLES SHAKE UPS**  
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**10lb Bag RUSSET POTATOES**  
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