

COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL STAYS OPEN... FOR NOW



The CMH governing board sits to the left of president Kermit Riehle and CEO Roy Davis.

Like swirling leaves in autumn, such has been the last few months with many rumors about the future of a local hospital. Most are not entirely true, but all seem to

have some basis in reality. A grim picture was painted, but with hope, at the Community Memorial Hospital meeting that took place with the community of Hicksville and the surrounding residents on Wednesday, December 6. The

community found what was true and what was not. The current CEO, Roy Davis, was introduced by Board of Governors president, Kermit Riehle. Davis came to the struggling community-owned

(Continued on Page 2)

FREE FINANCIAL CLASSES

Postema Insurance & Investments LLC will host free financial classes at the Defiance County libraries during December. Class schedule: Johnson Memorial Library (Hicksville), December 8, Medicare 101 at 11:00 a.m.

and 2:00 p.m.; Sherwood Branch Library, December 12, Retirement You Can't Outlive at 10:30 a.m. and Estate Planning at 4:00 p.m.; Defiance Public Library, December 21, Estate Planning at 10:30 a.m. and Retirement You Can't Outlive at 5:00 p.m. No registration is needed.



OH SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES PLAN FOR IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO REC. MARIJUANA

State Senator Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) announced the passage of a bipartisan plan preserving access to recreational marijuana sales that voters approved under Issue 2 in November, while also protecting the ability of Ohioans to grow marijuana for personal use and streamlining the permitting process for dispensaries.

"It is important that Ohioans have immediate access to tested and certified recreational marijuana they can have confidence in buying," said Senator McColley. "Additionally, this bipartisan plan will help dissolve the underground criminal market with legal sales beginning immediately," said Senator McColley. "Without these changes, Issue 2 would delay the program for nine months."

Key provisions passed by the General Government Committee include the following changes to HB 86, which amends the initiated statute approved by the voters in November:

- Immediate implementa-

(Continued on Page 8)

PPEC RETURNS \$2.5 MILLION TO MEMBERS IN CAPITAL CREDITS



Many Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative (PPEC) members will see a lower electric bill around the holidays. This month, the local electric cooperative is returning nearly \$2,500,000 in prior year margins to over 23,000 current and former members.

Eligible co-op members will see a credit on their December electric bill. The money is being returned to members in the form of capital credits.

As a not-for-profit community-focused organization, PPEC uses these margins for investments, such as building or replacing power lines, transformers, and other electric system upgrades to meet members' evolving needs.

After being used as working capital, the money is returned to members. It represents each co-op member's ownership — or equity — in his or her cooperative. Capital credits are allocated to members in proportion to the dollar amount of electricity used.

This month's payment will go to those who used PPEC's service from 1990-2022.

Including this year's capital credits return, PPEC has returned more than \$34 million

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

Community Calendar

MON & WED

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

December 11-13

- Antwerp Manor Festival of Trees, 12-6pm

December 12

- NA meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 5pm

December 13

- Senior Citizen Christmas Breakfast @ Paulding School, 8:30am
- Christmas @ The Huber, Hicksville, 7pm
- Breaking Free @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

December 15

- Hicksville School Holiday Concert, 7pm

December 16

- NRL 22 Rifle @ Antwerp Cons. Club, 9am
- Five Star Christmas Show @ The Huber, 1pm & 5pm
- Food Pantry open @ Cecil Comm. Church, 12-3pm

December 17

- Siberian Solstice @ The Huber, 7pm

December 18

- Christmas Party @ Summit 60 of Hicksville, 11a-2p

December 19

- Caregiver Support Group @ PC Sen. Ctr., 10-11am
- Social Skills Group @ Foundations Behavioral Health, Paulding Recovery Clubhouse, 4-5pm
- Antwerp Comm. Band Concert @ Huber, 7:30pm

Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

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PJHS VOLUNTEER AT CARING & SHARING FOOD PANTRY



On Saturday, December 2nd eighth grade students and staff members from Paulding Junior High School volunteered at the Caring and Sharing Food Pantry in Paulding, Ohio. Shown in the picture from left are: Lela Brownell, Delaney Scott, Mrs. Tanya Bok (8th grade writing teacher), Gauge Krill, and Nicole Vielma.

NEW HAVEN LIONS DONATION TO THE NEW HAVEN FOOD BANK



At their November 27th meeting, New Have Lions Pres. Susie Hudson presented a check for \$1,000.00 to Jeff Grubb, director of the New Haven Food Bank.

Bargain Box BAG SALE
December 12-16
 134 East High, Hicksville
 Tues., Thurs., Sat. 9-Noon
 Wed., Fri. 9-5
\$5.00 per bag
 does not include dish cloths or knives
 Sponsored by **CMH Auxiliary** for their many projects.

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church (LCMS)
 3497 County Rd. 424
 Antwerp, OH 45813
 Phone: 419-258-6505
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MENDING FENCES

By: Doris Applegate
 Scribed by: Cynthia Nichelson

A broken gate or fence can cause a lot of unnecessary problems. There is nothing worse than a cow or horse running away. A farmer always keeps an eye and makes sure his fences are strong and in good order.

We also must keep our relational fences in good shape or our friends, family, and neighbors can run from our lives and we might wonder why o\ur where they went. Thoughtless words and deeds can break down good relationships and we might never

(CMH stays open ... continued from Page 1)

healthcare facility in December of 2021 only to find what appears to be past malfeasance. In February of 2022, a box was found with affidavits and other legal requests that were never presented to the board.

The room was packed with employees, doctors, and community persons who were there to question the actions of past executives and the board for their decisions that led the hospital to financial dereliction.

Explaining the financial position, Davis told of the current debt burdens, including fines of \$25 million to an insurance company due to a scam that has shuttered numerous hospitals (47 so far) and OPERS (Ohio Public Employee Retirement funds) in the range of \$17+ million. A billing system called Meditech, implemented several years ago, has cost the hospital significantly - in the range of the hospital only receiving \$0.50 on every dollar billed, and has been broken on numerous occasions. There were other penalties and fines mentioned that have also hurt the hospital credit and bond holders. To be fair to the more recent past, it was stated that the last twenty years have not been "in the black".

The hospital had reached out to see if other medical groups might be interested in acquisition and one was in the process until their attorneys recommended against because of the OPERS liability.

The positive side of things is that the hospital board has recognized the problems and has made major cuts. Many of the fines have been paid but there are more and the hospi-

tal credit has been severely hurt. The staff made it clear they like working at the hospital and very much appreciate what Roy has been doing for the hospital by becoming more transparent to the employees and community. The Family Health Center offices in Harlan, Edgerton, and Antwerp will continue to remain open. Finally, the hospital will continue to be able to offer surgeries through Dr. Grothaus and Promedica.

There were many questions asked concerning the future of the hospital and Davis confirmed to the employees that if the hospital were to close, they are required to give a 90 day notice to the employees.

Davis also stated that they will have letters to sign and ready for the people to send to politicians to help get support for the community hospital. He stated that the return to viability begins with becoming transparent with everything. Then, to identify and work on fixing the problems that are causing the the hospital to not get the payments due, including increasing the amounts that Medicare/medicaid and insurance will pay for prescribed procedures. Next is to pay back bonds and debts so their credit rating can increase once again.

Community Memorial has a long history of serving Hicksville, Defiance County, and surrounding counties. Being a \$30 million dollar business, which is quite large for a small town like Hicksville. It would be wise to pray for the hospital, employees and the board to help in this time where many hospitals are struggling.

Video is on West Bend News' YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTMauQNHpCc>

DECEMBER AT CECIL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Upcoming events at Cecil Community Church in December:
 Saturday, December 16th, Food Pantry from 12:00 Noon to 3:00 p.m.
 Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 p.m.
 Sunday December 31st, Celebration at 6:00 p.m.

Scripture of the Week

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
 — John 14:6

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



Navigating by GPS (Good People Service)

On a snowy afternoon when I was around 16 years old, I learned how important it is to have good people around to help in time of need. I was with two other friends in one of their cars on a country road. The sides of the road started to drift in a bit. As an oncoming car approached, my friend who was driving got the car to close to the outside of the drifted in lane. He got us stuck. We got out and tried to push the car free without success. We stood outside the car wondering what to do next, when someone came by. We were excited to see an adult who could help us. We asked him if he could help us and he said, "For how much?" We were taken aback as we didn't fully understand or weren't ready to believe an adult would actually only help us teens, if we paid him. Well, we had next to no money to offer him, so he drove off. We learned a life lesson that day about help from people. We put our heads together, found some branches to stick under tires and got the car free that snowy day, but never forgot that encounter.

A decade later I was moving overseas and this was in the era where you used paper maps and asked people for help and directions when getting around to places. You wouldn't just slow down and

ask out the car window how to get to such and such place. You had to ask them how they were doing, and then allow them to ask us why we were in their area, give them a little personal information about ourselves – have a conversation. After this greeting and getting to know one another, it was considered polite to ask for directions, which they happily gave. It wasn't unusual for them to get in our car to guide us, or for them to jump on their moped or vehicle to guide us personally. It often took two or three conversations like this to get any place and many minutes longer. However, it allowed us to learn the culture, the people and language more quickly.

Overseas in the places where we have lived, people have exclusively used landmarks not street names nor street numbers to find a location. We are always amazed how many people don't know their own official address. It is explainable to some degree as many live in areas that have been around for hundreds, if not thousands of years. Street names have changed multiple times along with the street numbering system. It is not uncommon to see a building with multiple street names and street numbers on the building wall in order to help the postal worker have a better chance of getting mail to them.

Now a days, newly arriving people to their overseas destination use Global Positioning Systems to find their way around in a new area. They use Google Translate or some other program to even do the talking for them when meeting a local. They learn the new language more slowly and not as well. They connect less with the culture and the people they have come to serve.

Sometimes the old method of GPS, Good People Service, is the best way to get around and connect with a community.

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

Good News doesn't just happen. It's made!
 Send us your good news and let everyone know of the great things happening in your community.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
 The Antwerp Community Band invites the West Bend News' readers to our annual Christmas concert to be presented at 7:30 pm on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at the Huber Opera House, Hicksville.
 On the program: "A Symphonic Prelude on Adeste Fidelis", "Silver Bells", "A Charlie Brown Christmas", "Christmas Fancies", Leroy Anderson's "A Christmas Festival", the jazzy "A Fireside Christmas" and other pieces that define the holiday season.
 Please join us for a musical celebration of this most wonderful time of the year. As always, there is no charge for admission. We look forward to seeing you on December 19!

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH PREPARES FOR CHRIST'S BIRTH



Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Antwerp is preparing for Christ's birth during this season of Advent. Advent suppers are December 13 and 20 at the church at 6:00 p.m. A brief church service with hymns follows at 7:00 p.m. The Woodburn Lutheran School teachers will be preparing and serving the meal on December 13. Everyone is welcome to come out and support the teachers and stay for the service.

The children and youth of the congregation will be presenting the message on December 17 at 10:15 a.m. Christmas Eve morning service is at 10:15 a.m.; the candlelight evening service is at 7:00 p.m. on December 24. The community is welcome. Mt Calvary Lutheran Church (LCMS) is located at 3497 Co Rd 424 west of Antwerp. Rev Mark Peters is pastor of the congregation. Christmas Blessings to all!

DAF AWARDS RONALD MCDONALD CHARITIES OF CENTRAL OHIO



Pictured (l-r) Monica Smith - Certified Nurse Practitioner at Mercy Health Defiance - holding Daniel Proctor, Aryn Proctor (mom), and Laurie McCann - Community Relations Manager at Mercy Health Defiance, and also DAF Board Member.

The Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) recently awarded \$2,500 to The Ronald McDonald Charities of Central Ohio. The grant will be used to help offset expenses for Defiance County residents who stay at the Ronald McDon-

ald House. During this past year, services were provided to 28 families who stayed 162 nights. We asked Aryn Proctor to share her story about her recent experience with their son Daniel (now 16 months old).

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE FOR ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

St John Lutheran Church, 812 East High Street, Hicksville announces their Advent/Christmas Schedule. Mid-week Advent Services will be held on Wednesdays December 13 & 20 at 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. These services will be held downstairs in the Fireplace Room. Elevator is available for use.

The Sundays of Advent will be celebrated on December 17 & 24 at 10:15 a.m. Christmas Eve Candle Light Service will be held on December 24th at 9:00 p.m. Special prelude music will begin at 8:45 p.m. The traditional Lessons & Carols Service will be on Sunday December 31 at 10:15 a.m.

Questions may be answered at 419-542-6269. ALL OUR WELCOME!

PARSON TO PERSON

By: Dr. James Bachman
Dear Parson,
How did Bible-time farming methods differ from today's methods?

Obviously the equipment differed greatly. One of the major differences was not using all the artificial chemicals for weed and pest control. Though chemicals often seem to improve the profit, they often have bad side effects on helpful soil creatures and people.

God had other ways to increase crop production, mostly based on His blessing for obedience and sacrifice. Leviticus 25:18-19 - "Wherefore ye shall do my statutes, and keep my judgments, and do them; and ye shall dwell in the land safely. And the land shall yield her fruit, and ye shall eat your fill, and dwell therein in safety." He also required them to let the land rest every seventh year. Leviticus 25:3-4 - "Six years thou shalt sow thy field, and six years thou shalt prune thy vineyard, and gather in the fruit thereof; But in the seventh year shall be a Sabbath of rest unto the land, a sabbath for the LORD: thou shalt neither sow thy field, nor prune thy vineyard." They still had enough because of God's promise to bless the sixth year with a double-sized harvest to see them through (Leviticus 25:20-21).

Today most farmers push and deplete their land for ongoing annual crops. They try then to build it back up by adding more artificial chemicals instead of trying to live all out for God and by trusting Him to bless their crops.

Another recent trend is no-till farming. Lack of aeration, greater use of burn-down chemicals and more soil compaction are all contrary to God's tilling plan. Genesis 2:5 - "And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a

man to till the ground." Genesis 3:23 - "Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken." See also II Samuel 9:10 and Proverbs 12:11. Proverbs 13:23 - "Much food is in the tillage of the poor: but there is that is destroyed for want of judgment." Proverbs 28:19 - "He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread: but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough."

Who could know more about farming than the Creator of the land, plants and environment?

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

THE REAL TALE OF A REAL CHRISTMAS TREE

Let's assume that you and your significant other have already hashed out the real vs. fake Christmas tree debate. If the real tree won, raise a glass of eggnog to that!

Nothing says happy holidays quite like the amazing scent of a live tree in your house. And, if you cut down your tree on an Ohio Christmas tree farm, you're helping to support local farmers, many of whom have been growing trees on family farms for generations.

It's probably no shock, but choosing and cutting your own Christmas tree guarantees the freshest tree possible and can be a great family holiday tradition when you hike out in the fields to pick your perfect tree. Christmas trees are even a sustainable resource since they clean the air, and the tree farms are usually on land that's unsuitable for other crops.

But what's the best type of Christmas tree to look for? "There's no one best species when it comes to choosing a Christmas tree," said Kathy Smith, Extension forestry program director at The Ohio State University's College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. "It all comes down to what you like and what's available locally."

The Ohio Christmas Tree Association lists 14 different species grown in Ohio and tells about the characteristics of each here. If you're looking for the nearest tree farm to start your holiday tradition, or you just need to know the hours and prices at your favorite farm, check out the Ohio Christmas Tree Association's Farm Finder page. If you prefer the convenience of pre-cut live trees, many of which are sold at retail lots, look for certain features when buying, Smith said. "Most commercially available Christmas trees on lots are harvested the first couple weeks of November, which means that they may not last as long as a fresh cut tree."

A few tips from Smith:
• For starters, grab a hand-

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(PPEC returns \$\$... continued from Page 1)

to its members. "This patronage cash back demonstrates that PPEC members are not just customers; they are members and part-owners of their electric cooperative," said Board Chairman Steve McMichael. "Paulding Putnam Electric

Co-op belongs to the communities we serve. Members have equity ownership in our physical assets — and receive a financial return on those assets, unlike customers of other utilities."

Anyone with questions about their capital credits refund should call PPEC at 1-800-686-2357.

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

Virgil Hudson was born September 11, 1899 in Paulding, Ohio. The son of Edward E., born December 4, 1865 in Henry County, Ohio and Alma O. (Barnes) Hudson born March 20, 1870 in Jackson Township, Paulding County.

This couple was married January 17, 1894 in Paulding. This happy couple were blessed with two children. A daughter Edna Vera was born in November of 1895, and a son, Virgil. By 1900, the Hudson family was living in Paulding. Edward was working as a grocer. The Hudson family also had a servant named Edna M. Powell, she was 13 years old. She had a family which lived in Jackson Township.

By 1910, the family had moved to the country in Jackson Township. Edward took on the role as a farmer. The kids were in school. Virgil's sister Edna, married a fellow named Franklin Clifford Schreiner on October 18, 1916 in Jackson, Michigan. On September 12, 1918, Virgil had registered for the draft.

He was listed as single, 5'7" tall, light brown hair, brown eyes, medium and slender build. He was working for his dad as a farm laborer, but also was a student at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. October 7, 1918, he was enlisted into the S.A.T.C. program. This stands for, Student Army

Training Corp. This would make him eligible for officer material. He was Honorably Discharged from service December 12, 1918.

Virgil moved in with his parents after he came home from college. He became a school teacher. January 25, 1920, Virgil's mother passed away. On June 28, 1928, in Paulding, Ohio, Virgil married a gal named, Hazel Strayer. Born May 13, 1901 in Payne, Ohio. The daughter of Jeremiah and Minnie Strayer. By 1930, Virgil and Minnie were living with Edward. Virgil still teaching and helping on the farm. On May 17, 1932, Edward passed away in Jackson Township.

On May 26, 1932, Virgil and Minnie were blessed with the birth of a son, Jerry Edward Hudson. In later life, Jerry enlisted in the Marine Corp after high school and he made a career out of it. On February 8, 1935, a son, Thomas Paul Hudson was born. He passed away, February 10, 1935 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. Virgil passed away, February 8, 1935 in Ft. Wayne at the Irene Byron Tuberculosis Sanatorium. He died of a far advanced pulmonary and acute tuberculosis. Both Virgil and Thomas were buried in Live Oak Cemetery, Lot 244, Block G. Grave 6. Hazel never remarried. She worked and retired from General Electric in Ft. Wayne.

She passed away June 5, 1982 in Ft. Wayne. The Rev. Jackie Leigh officiating. She is buried with Virgil and Thomas in Live Oak Cemetery. As for their son Jerry, he retired in 1971 from the Marine Corp with the rank of Major after serving 21 years. He served as a drill instructor in Korea, Japan and Vietnam. He was an intelligence officer at the Battle of Khe Sanh. He moved to North Carolina to attend a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He taught at the University of North Carolina Charlotte. He retired in 1989. He passed away from cancer June 29, 2005 at his home.

... Until next time!

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ANTWERP

PHARMACY

Glory to the Newborn King!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

from the children and staff of the Woodburn Christian Children's Home!

Dear WCCH Family,
Our hearts are filled with joy as we prepare for the first Christmas party in the Learning and Counseling Center. This simple party conveys deep meaning. The gathering helps each child come to believe God cares about their lives and needs. For many, this is a new feeling. The default setting for many children is low self-esteem produced

by an identity crisis. "Who am I?" is the resounding gong – the heartbeat. Feeling less than is the "noise" within their hearts. Abuse and neglect reinforce their worthlessness. The child wrestles, but in the end succumbs to a self-depreciating identity: "I am a mistake." This identity produces frustrating antisocial ideas and behaviors. It all begins in the heart.

However, we know God has a plan. We know Jesus solves our core need of identity and value. Faith in Jesus fills the cup and changes the tune so that Love beats the heart. The upcoming Christmas party, in the new ministry setting, creates a horizon of hope for the children. The simple party will always be a memory for the children: "God loves even me!"
At Woodburn Christian Chil-

dren's Home, we do not have expenses, we have faithful investments in the lives of children. We count these investments as privileged opportunities and responsibilities. Join the choir! Proclaim hope this Christmas season. No gift goes unnoticed. Each prayer, every note of encouragement, every sacrificial act of giving is magnified

through the grace of God. Filling the pantry conveys sustenance. Continuing to give financially teaches commitment. When children ask, "Who am I." Unequivocally, the answer is: "You are a child of God." Your gift powers the heartbeat of love at WCCH. May God bless you!

—In Service to Him,
Joe Heins Executive Director

Transformation: Before and After New Learning & Counseling Center

Transformation is a key word at WCCH, both in hearts and our ministry environment. This is played out in the new Learning and Counseling Center. Dedicated to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the center is a stage of hope, enabling WCCH to minister to children, communities of families and a Kingdom of churches. The new center helps children discover God's calling through biblical studies, academics, vocational investigation, while healing from abuse, neglect, and trauma. The center knits together our mission to minister to children physically, emotionally, educationally, and spiritually. Discouraged children come to WCCH, but will leave as the next generation of Kingdom workers.

Funding the new center also voices our commitment to the WCCH core values. Specifically, only accepting funding through the Christian community while not accepting any government funds. This is a very unique characteristic of WCCH. This commitment calls us to *feed on God's faithfulness*.

As we approach the funding goal for the new building, we are grateful you have embraced the WCCH vision. As a result, we find ourselves only \$600,000 away from the goal. We appreciate your faithful consideration.



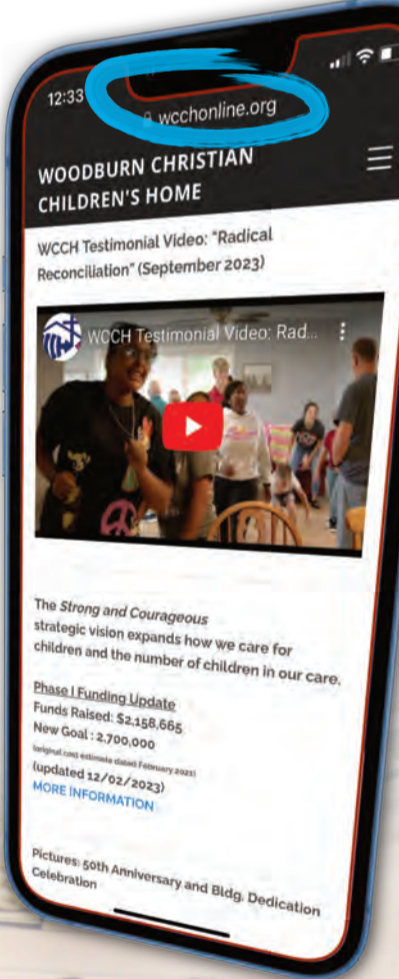
God Answers Prayers!

The story of Christmas is of Faith, Hope, and Love. The message of the Old Testament points to Jesus as the Savior, a hope the Israelites had been waiting for. The Promise of God was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus and his life.

Hope for all mankind was turned around when Jesus gave his life for each of us. This great sacrifice, which demonstrated God's love for us, is realized when his followers demonstrate a living sacrifice to provide in ministries such as taking care of orphans and widows. God's promises are not done only with the life of Jesus. But they are made real in all of us.

Woodburn Christian Children's Home is blessed by the people who God provides to make this ministry a success.

Check out our website (wcchonline.org), not only see the latest updates, but to look at the new testimonial video. Listen to our recent children to see the difference you have made in the lives of these young people!



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PO Box 459, Woodburn, IN 46797
www.wcchonline.org

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

OVERPRICED AIRPLANES

Lately I've been seeing in the news, aviation sites etc about the new B-21 stealth flying wing bomber. It looks no different than the B-2 we already have, and don't we have the B1B plus so many other overpriced warplanes to kill people? And I think the good old B-52 is still available to be used.

Why are we so intent on

killing machines of this nature when the so called "war on terror" is by individuals on the ground making their attacks by crude methods not in the air. I started wondering how much this thing costs and how many they want to waste taxpayers money on! I did some looking and these things go for 750 million dollars apiece!!! Just to kill people on the ground and an airplane so aerodynamically unstable it can only fly with computers, if they take a dive it falls out of the sky.

Why are we so infatuated with war that we are spending our country into debt and people do without. They say in Russia the people suffer because the military get all the money for war machines and equipment but look at America, are we any different now?? We use these airplanes to drop outrageous priced weapons to kill one or two so-called terrorists and another one steps in to take over.

It's unreal that in WW11 the finest all around fighter plane, the P-51 only cost around \$50,000 a piece and the bombers probably twice that. Here is one plane that costs more than most of the warplanes back then put together and how much for how many they want?? We need protection and defense but at what cost to taxpayers? Can't they just update the aircraft we already have, they have been doing the job for a long time very well.

Besides, any war may be fought more with missiles and smart bombs, rockets etc. Terrorists will never be stopped by expensive machines when they are fanatics who use crude methods of destruction. You don't stop

mosquitoes by killing one, they just keep coming. Why not use these outrageous sums of money to try to make peace and try to live together. It would be a lot cheaper and good for everyone.

America needs to stop trying to be the police of the world, let other countries run their own lives, we can't help everyone and if we help one someone else gets mad at us. Get out of the UN and take care of ourselves first.

I have a book here at home that covers the years 1900-2000, one hundred years, day by day. There was not one year that there wasn't a war going on somewhere in the world. Most were small, short and between small countries and nations but were still killing each other over trivial things. Now 24 years later almost, it's still going on. It's sickening, so many people dying for ridiculous reasons. Isn't it time to stop the madness and put money to help veterans, seniors, homeless and just the whole population in general?

In the 60's, Edwin Starr had a song called WAR (what is it good for) some lyrics were, "absolutely nothing, only good for the undertaker". I don't know how a total peace could be gained but why can't our warmongers in our government try thinking this instead of constantly wanting to defeat some people that doesn't do anything for us and is financially destroying our country.

I don't get papers because I'm tired of reading about our military people being killed for nothing as well as other innocent people because some one doesn't like something about them. You cannot defeat any so called enemy one at a time as we have been doing for over 20 years now. Why not try a different peaceful approach, might surprise you and other countries.

Just as the great John Lennon always said " Give Peace a Chance. We are coming up on the holiest of holiday seasons, why can't things change and our military people be home with their families instead of some hellhole somewhere in the world wondering if they will see another year.

Give Peace a Chance, so simple and full of meaning. War has never worked, let's try something else!! Thank you and the West Bend News for letting us speak our minds and feelings.

—Gregg Gorman, Paulding, OH

ANTWERP ELEMENTARY ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Congratulation to Antwerp Elementary's Students of the Month, who demonstrated gratitude during the month of November. Pictured here (first row): Emma Cross, Chloe Lavers, Kyler Smallwood, Emma Smith, Jasper Sweeney, and Sophia Busch; (second row): Madi Muir, Pearl Overmyer, Cambria Beregszazi, Elise Graham, Easton Baumert, Westin Winslow, Kalieaha Edgar, and Leah Ruffing; (third row): Landyn Hermiller, Braxton Schneider, Wynter Johnson, Garrett Bair, Ashlynn Dunham, Bristol Kauser, Leni Johnson, and Braxton Smith; (back row): Brady Stairhime, Henley Gross, Charlotte Kauser, Conley Bissell, Sophie Partin, Sophia Friend, June Zuber, Sebastian Yanez, and Ethan Smith. Not Pictured: Reece Bidlack and Chance Dockery

PAYNE ELEMENTARY ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Payne Elementary School announced their November Students of the Month. Eight of these students also received movie passes to Van Wert Cinemas. The character word for November was gratitude. The following students displayed this character trait in the month of November. Front Row: Nellie McMillan, Layne Delgado, Eli DeJarnett, Maia Lotz, Kraeton Tempel, Gabby LaBoe, Waylon Stoller, Silas Dempsey, Madilyn Sinn, Caden Richardson, Addilynn Danner. Back Row: Aaron McMillan, Olivander McCague, Jaden Johnson, Cerenity Seibert, Luna Schmidt, Lienna Stoller, Kennedy Childs, June Wenninger, Kelsey Folsom, Audrey Reuille

WBESC DECEMBER BOARD MEETING NOTICE

The next Western Buckeye Educational Services Center Records Committee will meet on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. with the regularly scheduled Governing Board meeting to immediately follow in the ESC Conference Room at 835 N Williams St, Paulding, OH.

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

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

- OHIO LOCATIONS**
- Antwerp:** Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows
- Bryan:** Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General
- Cecil:** 127 Maramart
- Charloe:** Charloe Store
- Continental:** Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware
- Defiance:** Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library
- Edgerton:** Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)
- Grover Hill:** N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library
- Hicksville:** Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library
- Ney:** Marathon
- Oakwood:** Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip
- Paulding:** Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County
- Hospital, Kwik Mart, PC Carnegie Library**
- Payne:** Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library
- Sherwood:** Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library
- Scott:** Scott Post Office
- Van Wert:** CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Family Video, Orchard Tree
- INDIANA LOCATIONS**
- Fort Wayne:** Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Great Clips & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living
- Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales
- Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank
- Hoagland:** Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub
- Milan Center:** Milan Center Feed & Grain
- Monroeville:** Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, The Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General
- New Haven:** ACP Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, McDonalds, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's
- Woodburn:** Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACP Library, Willies Cafe II

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STOLLER GETS WIN IN FIRST GAME



Paulding Boys defeated Continental in the opening game. Here is Sophomore Barton Grady getting a jump shot in the third quarter, adding to the Panther victory! More pictures at westbendnews.net

New Paulding boys basketball coach Logan Stoller was victorious in his first game as head coach of the Panthers as the maroon and white rolled to a 50-24 victory over visiting Continental Friday night.

The maroon and white led at every stop, taking a 14-9 lead at the end of one period before seizing a commanding 30-13 halftime ad-

vantage.

Paulding added eight markers in the third quarter while Continental bucketed seven, expanding the margin to 38-20 entering the final period.

The maroon and white were paced by Grady Barton and Casey Agler with 11 markers each while Blake Rhonehouse chipped in ten points for Paulding.

Other scorers for the Panthers were Greyson Harder (seven), Kane Jones (six), Max Daeger (three) and Luke Beckner (two).

Mason Rayle paced the Pirates with ten markers and Jonathan Etter chipped in seven points.

Monty Rayle (five), Carson Etter (one) and Quinn Tegenkamp (one) also found the scoring column for Continental.

ACAC ALL-LEAGUE FOOTBALL TEAMS RELEASED

The ACAC released its all-conference football teams recently with several local players being recognized in voting by the league coaches.

First team offense honorees included Adams Central's Lain Lengrich, Bluffton's Johnny Cruz, South Adams' Luke Bauman and the Heritage duo of Brandon Burnham and Charlie Riddle on the offensive line.

South Adams' Owen Wanner and Heritage's Kobe Meyer were the top quarterbacks while Adams Central's Keegan Bluhm and Jay County's A.J. Myers were selected at running back. Wide receivers on the squad included Bluffton's Andrew Hunt and Woodlan's Braden Smith with Adams Central's Trevor Currie named at tight end.

On the defensive side, linemen included Adams Central's Cam Fravel, Bluffton's Tucker Jenkins, Heritage's Logan Teichman and Jay County's Bryce Wenk.

Linebackers selected

were Adams Central's Ryan Tester, Bluffton's Fletcher Wagner, Heritage's Caleb Abbott and South Adams' Grant O'Dell while the defensive backs named included Adams Central's Jack Hamilton, Bluffton's Ben Ramseyer, Heritage's Landon Hicks and Adams Central's Cam Smith.

Luke Meyer of Woodlan was selected the first team punter and Trevor Currie of Adams Central was named the first team placekicker.

Woodlan senior Jack Culler was tabbed a second team offensive lineman and Heritage junior tight end Zeke Litchfield also earned a second team selection. Junior wide receiver Eli Tigulis of Heritage and junior running back Drew Fleek of Woodlan earned second team honors as well on the offensive side of the ball.

Defensively, second team selections included Heritage junior defensive lineman Greyson Mullins, Woodlan junior defensive back Carter Fleek and Heritage junior Braden Walter.

LADY WARRIORS CRUISE TO WIN OVER ACES

Host Woodlan picked up an inter-state victory over visiting Hicksville in non-league girls basketball action Thursday evening.

Woodlan improved to 6-2 overall on the season with the 50-16 victory over the Aces as the Lady Warriors were paced by Alyssa Anderson with a dozen points, seven rebounds, one assist and one steal.

Reagan Widenhoefer chipped in nine markers, two rebounds and three steals while Brooke Kneubuhler posted eight points, one rebound, three assists and one steal. Taylor Kneubuhler also contributed six points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal for Woodlan.

Alix Jacquay added five markers, three rebounds, one assist and four steals with Mariah Thullner totaling five points, three rebounds and one steal. Karina Pepler posted three points and two rebounds while Addison Klotz finished with two points.

Makenna Smith contributed two rebounds, three assists and one steal with Leah Elwood picking up six rebounds. McKenna Goble recorded one rebound and one assist and Kyra Elwood added one steal.

WARRIORS FALL IN ACAC OPENER TO PATRIOTS

Host Jay County jumped in front after one quarter and held on to post a 55-42 victory over visiting Woodlan in the ACAC boys basketball opener for both schools Friday night.

The Patriots led 15-9 at the end of one quarter but the Warriors cut into the deficit in the second stanza. Woodlan scored a dozen markers in the second quarter while limiting Jay County to ten, trimming the Warrior deficit to 25-21 at the midway point of the contest.

Jay County extended the margin in the third quarter, bucketing 14 points while holding Woodlan to nine as the Patriots widened the lead to 39-30 entering the final period.

Liam Garringer scored 14 points to lead the way for Jay

RAIDERS WIN BIG IN LANCERS COUNTRY



Raider Kyle Stoller goes up for a jump shot with Brady Miller ready for a rebound. Photo by Harlee Moore

To kick off the month of December, Wayne Trace boys basketball traveled to Lincolnview for some Friday night high school basketball play.

The Raiders were on fire from the jump ball scoring a mammoth 22 points in the 1st quarter. The Lancers rallied in the 2nd quarter with 17, but still outpaced by the Raiders who gained an additional 23 points. Half-time buzzer showed Wayne Trace with a big lead, 45-22. Momentum evened out in the second half, and the Raiders kept bringing the heat adding 18 points in the 3rd & 8 more points before the final buzzer, 71-45 was the final giving Wayne Trace their first win in the season opener.

Score by Quarters:
Wayne Trace - 22 23 18

8=71
Lincolnview - 5 17 8 15=45

Wayne Trace Scoring:
Hudson Myers 3-0-0-6;
Tanner Laukhuf 3-0-0-6;
Brady Miller 0-1-0-3; Caden Sinn 1-0-0-2; Tyson Gerber 2-1-0-7; Cale Winans 2-0-2-6; Brooks Laukhuf 10-0-4-24; Carter Clemens 2-0-0-4; Lance Maenle 1-0-0-2; Kyle Stoller 3-1-2-11

Lincolnview Scoring:
Kreston Tow 2-1-0-7; Cal Evans 1-0-0-2; Reide Jackson 2-0-1-5; Gavin Evans 1-0-0-2; Chayse Overholt 1-0-0-2; Max Hammons 0-1-0-3; Holden Liams 1-2-0-8; Bennett Kill 4-0-0-8; Jared Jesse 3-0-1-7; Steven Smith 0-0-1-1

Junior Varsity - Wayne Trace 40, Lincolnview 22

County while Wesley Bihn chipped in a dozen markers.

Trevin Dunnington posted nine for the Patriots followed by Peyton Nichols (seven), Gradin Swoveland (six), Ben Crouch (five) and Jackson Edwards (two).

Braden Smith bucketed 17 points to pace Woodlan and Trey Yoder reached double digits with 11 markers.

Other scorers for the Warriors were Drew Fleek (seven), Mason Moore (three), Lincoln Sparks (two), Luke Meyer (one) and Oliver Adams (one).

NSSC RECEIVES \$98,754 OHIO DEPT. OF HIGHER EDUCATION GRANT

Northwest State Community College received a grant from the Ohio Department of Higher Education

(ODHE) in the amount of \$98,754 for the Commercial Truck Driver Student Aid Program. A total of \$2.54 million was awarded in this round of funding.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

Per the original confirmation letter dated November 28, 2023 from Chancellor Randy Gardner at the ODHE, the grant provides "critical financial aid to in-state students who complete a CDL program and agree to reside and be employed in Ohio for a minimum of one year upon completion. (Students) who earn a CDL with this award will help strengthen and grow this high-demand occupation and improve job growth for Ohio's commercial drivers."

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COOPER FAMILY FOUNDATION DONATION



Pictured (back L-R) is Damien Peffley, Avery Klinebriel, Jasper Belcher and Karl Davis, (front L-R) Alex Thompson, Lexi Johnston, Jakob Elkins, Dianne Cooper, Renee McCabe, Jocie Hawk, Zaine Bidlack and Cully Thompson

The Paulding High School Band would like to acknowledge the Cooper Family Foundation for their generosity! Due to Cooper's donation, the band was able to purchase a whole new

drumline!!! In the photo the panther percussionists are showing off the new drums.

HUBBARD FAMILY FUND GRANT GOES TO CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS



Christmas for Kids was the recent recipient of a \$1,000 grant from the Keith Hubbard Family Fund maintained through The Defiance Area Foundation. This donation, in memory of Keith Hubbard, will be used for children in need in Defiance and surrounding counties. Pictured is Steve Hubbard, along with the Christmas for Kids fund-raising team.

The Grant / Loan program provides eligible Ohio residents the opportunity to complete their federally mandated Class A Entry Level Driver Training Program without having to pay any amount of the cost out of pocket initially. If an individual taking advantage of the program then utilizes their CDL to work for an Ohio based employer (full time, part time, or self-employed) for a duration of 12 months, their loan will then be eligible for complete forgiveness, effectively bringing

the out of pocket program cost to \$0.00. This is the third round of funding that Northwest State has been awarded for this specific program. Last round, every single dollar of funding awarded was utilized to completely fund the program cost of 17 Ohio residents. A similar story can be told for round two, where all funding was utilized to cover the entire program cost for 21 Ohio residents. With this new round of funding, NSCC is on track to fully fund another 15 students in

2024. The CDL Training Center, Powered by Custom Training Solutions (CTS), has a federally registered Entry Level Driver Training program starting roughly every other week at the NSCC Archbold Campus. The program is designed to generate safety conscious drivers, while also providing more than just the necessary training needed to pass a CDL driver's licensing exam. This year (2023), the NSCC CDL Training Center had an overall passing rate of 96%. The result of this effort was the addition of 48 new drivers to our local area. With the addition of a new instructor and a ramp up in course offerings expected, Northwest State expects to serve approximately 77 students next calendar year (2024). For more information on the CDL program, please visit NorthwestState.edu/cdl or call 419.267.1332.

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

- December 11:** Euchre at 10:00 a.m.; Bridge Club at 12:30 p.m.
- December 12:** Euchre at 9:45 a.m.; Bus Trip to Festival of Gingerbread at Fort Wayne History Museum at 12:15 p.m.

BREWER, ALTIMUS LEAD ARCHERS PAST TIGERS



Archer Zaine McMichael takes a free throw shot. Photo by Harlee Moore.

Landon Brewer scored 19 points and Carson Altimus added 16 to lead the Antwerp Archers to a 49-36 victory over Holgate in the Archers' boys basketball season opener Saturday evening. Zaine McMichael chipped in six markers for the blue and white, which also got four points from Aiden Lichty and three by Reid Lichty. Ben Savina scored the remaining Antwerp point on a free throw. The host Tigers took a 9-8 advantage after one quarter but Antwerp scored 13 points compared to Holgate's dozen markers in the second stanza, tying the contest at 21-21 after two quarters. In the third period, the blue and white picked up 11

markers compared to seven for the Henry County squad as Antwerp recorded a 32-28 lead at the end of three periods. The Archers put the game away in the fourth quarter, outscoring the Tigers 17-8, to record the 49-36 victory. #21 Landon Brewer #2 Aiden Lichty #5 Zaine McMichael Xavier McCord topped the Henry County squad with a dozen markers while Dylan Boecker posted ten points. Other scorers for Holgate included Logan Miller (seven), Wyatt Meyer (five) and Kaiden Giesige (two). In the junior varsity contest, Antwerp defeated the Tigers 52-19.

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

(OH Rec. Marijuana ... continued from Page 1)

tion and access to recreational marijuana sales

- Provide process for immediate expungement of marijuana possession convictions upon request
- Provide a funding stream covering legal fees and court costs related to expungement
- Protects voter approved possession limits and THC limit for plant based material

- Allows for home grow with 6 plants per household

The plan as amended would also end the unfair anti-competitive advantage the industry wrote for itself in Issue 2, by opening the process to apply for retail licenses to anyone who qualifies, not just cultivators already in business.

"The backers of this amendment deliberately avoided a constitutional amendment because the constitution would prohibit the sweetheart deal they granted themselves," said Senator McColley. "We corrected that to allow all Ohioans the chance of owning a dispensary. This is big business, and big business wrote the language to help it control the process from the soil to the sale."

The Senate is expected to approve the plan during its full Senate session.

FERGUSON SPEAKS TO KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Ian Ferguson (Pastor, First Presbyterian Church) as the guest speaker at the December 7th, 2023, club meeting. Ian spoke to the Kiwanians about the 5th quarter events that a variety of area churches and volunteers host to provide a safe place for our area students to have fun.

PASSED BY ENERGY & COMMERCE COMMITTEE: LATTA'S BIPARTISAN BILL TO BOLSTER U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY PRODUCTION

Congressman Bob Latta's (R-OH5) bipartisan legislation, the Nuclear Fuel Security Act, was approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee. The bill will establish and expand critical U.S. nuclear fuel programs to boost domestic uranium mining, production, enrichment, and conversion capacity. Latta introduced the bill in September with Representative Jim Clyburn (D-SC6), and the bill was approved by the Energy, Climate, and Grid Security Subcommittee in October.

"As a senior member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I've long advocated for an all-of-the-above energy strategy, which includes increasing domestic nuclear energy production to meet Americans' growing energy needs," Latta said. "I'm pleased that today, my bipartisan solution to expand nuclear fuel programs right here in the United States passed the Energy and Commerce Committee. With this solution continuing to advance in Congress, we are one step closer to reducing our energy reliance on foreign countries and securing American energy independence."

"I'm pleased the Nuclear Fuel Security Act passed out of the House Energy and Commerce Committee today," Assistant Democratic Leader James E. Clyburn said. "The United States has overwhelmingly relied on foreign nations to meet our energy production needs for far too long. This passage marks a significant step towards establishing full energy independence, meeting our climate goals, and unlocking the economic and security benefits that only investments in nuclear power can achieve."

"The Nuclear Fuel Security Act will ensure America continues to lead in deploying safe, reliable nuclear energy—one of our largest domestic sources of clean energy," Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Cathy McMorris Rodgers said. "I thank Mr. Latta for his work on this legislation, which will contribute to a strong energy mix in the United States."

Background on the Nuclear Fuel Security Act:

This legislation would authorize the Secretary of Energy to:

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

CPC WOMEN'S HEALTH RESOURCE RECEIVES GRANT



Congratulations to CPC Women's Health Resource on their recent grant of \$3,710 from The Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) that will be used for the Earn While You Learn curriculum. This program assists new moms/families on prenatal care, birthing, care of a newborn, and so much more. Pictured (L to R) are DAF Vice President and Grants Chairman Dan Michel, CPC Women's Health Resource Board Member Scott Towers, and Deb Spieles, RN ultrasonographer.

ANGEL FUND RECEIVES DONATION FROM MOOSE LODGE FAMILY CENTER



The Defiance City Schools was the recent recipient of a \$10,000 donation from the Moose Lodge Family Center for their Angel Fund. This fund is used to help students in grades K - 12 that are in financial need of lunch funding. Pictured (L to R) awarding the check is Stacy McCartney - Moose Lodge Administrator, and Deanna Hull - Defiance City Schools Food Service Supervisor.

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Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

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Case No. CI 22 040

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

**5014 Road 33, Payne,
Parcel Number: 03-10S-026-00**

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

Said premises appraised at Forty-eight Thousand and No/100 (\$48,000.00) 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 January 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

<https://pauling.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 11, 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.

Sheriff Jason K. Landers
Paulding County, Ohio
www.paulingohsheriff.com

Chris Manolis, Attorney for Plaintiff

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

PAULDING COUNTY
ANN L. PEASE
CLERK OF COURTS
2023 NOV 16 PM 2:23

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

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

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://pauling.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.

Sheriff Jason K. Landers
Paulding County, Ohio
www.paulingohsheriff.com

David W. Cliffe, Attorney for Plaintiff

THE LEFT TURN



Rusty Schlenk, Gateway Nationals Bound. Charlie Orns photo.

By: Ron Burt

Millstream Update

Race fans and drivers are looking forward to Millstream Speedway coming back to life in 2024. For years it hosted major races before it went idle. New owners Matt and Beth Cogley have been working hard on the track and grounds and fans have volunteered time to help. Matt knows more than a thing or two about racing, he's raced sprints and so has his son. Recently the Cogley's got a big shot in the arm. Rich and Shelly Farmer have come on board to help promote races at Millstream. The Farmers operated Millstream Speedway for 10 years (2008-2017). This year they are back at Fremont once again promoting the races. This gives the Farmers two tracks to work with and it sounds like a win, win for owners and promoters. The 2024 racing schedule will depend on how much work can be done in the off-season. Because of the proximity of Findlay to other tracks it's a challenge to decide what classes of cars to run and what nights. Right now, the 410, 305, and 360 Sprints all have weekly tracks and on special nights Waynesfield runs Sprint shows. Millstream has always been known to run Sprints. Will other classes draw a crowd? I personally would like to see Sportsman, and the Fremont Dirt Trucks have one more night of racing each week. Currently they both race on Saturdays. We all have our ideas, and it will be interesting to see how everything unfolds. Even if they only hold a handful of events this summer, race fans will come out and support Millstream once again.

Schlenk Headed to St. Louis

The 7th annual Gateway Dirt Nationals are December 14th-16th and area Late Model ace Rusty Schlenk will be in St. Louis at the Dome (the former NFL football stadium). Last year he qualified in his group on the first night. He placed 3rd in his heat and



Paul Weaver #1w, Fremont Speedway 305 Sprint Point Champion. Photo by Action Photos

won the B Main. He started the feature 13th and finished 11th. Schlenk started the Saturday night's feature 15th settled for 11th. Back in 2018 he won the Race of Chapions in the Dome. If you can't make it to St. Louis, FloRacing will be doing the TV broadcast. Besides the Dirt Late Models, UMP Dirt Modifieds will be competing.

The Rumble Is Coming

Racing promoter Larry Boos gave me an update on the 25th Rumble in Fort Wayne. It will be held December 29th and 30th at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, inside the Expo Center. The Midget division will headline the two-day racing event. In the past 24 years, 46 different drivers seen victory lane, but Tony Stewart sits on top all time win list with 12 victories. Russ Gamester and Billy Wease, each with 5 triumphs to their credit.

The first Rumble was won by Tony Elliott. Nick Hamilton is the most recent driver to crack victory lane. Even though this is the 25th Rumble, the Coliseum has hosted indoor racing for 61 years. It gave racing fans a much need fix when the outdoor tracks closed for the winter. Early races were held in the hockey arena until 1989 with racing legend Tom Bigelow getting the last win before the Expo Center opened the following year. This years car classes include the Midgets, Quarter Midgets, 600cc Midgets (wing and non-wing) and go-karts. The Left Turn plans to cover as many of the weekend events that we can. Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out! ohioportsblitz@yahoo.com

(Real Christmas Tree ... continued from Page 3)

ful of needles and pull: Most needles should stay firmly attached and feel pliable. All evergreens shed their oldest needles every year, so don't worry about the brown needles that fall down from the inside of the tree if you tap the base on the ground. Lastly, look for a tree with a fresh scent and bright green appearance, and a stump that's sticky with fresh sap.

- A fresh tree will lose few, if any, green needles. Two other options are to ...

- Hold the tree by its trunk and shake it. Or bounce the bottom of the trunk on the ground. Again, a fresh tree should lose few, if any, green needles.

- Keep the tree in a cool, protected place if you don't plan to take it indoors right away. Put it under an overhang, say, or in an unheated garage or porch.

- If you're going to store the tree outside for a couple of days, put the end of its trunk in a bucket of water. But first ...

- If the tree has been cut for more than 6-8 hours — and so has been out of water that long — make a new, straight cut at the bottom of the trunk. Use a saw to cut an inch or so off the end. Otherwise, during that time, sap will have started to seal the original cut. The tree won't take up water as well, or maybe not at all, and will dry out sooner than it should.

- Keep the room cooler than normal, if possible, once you set up the tree. If you can, turn down the thermostat, or close or partly close the room's heat vents. This slows down

the tree's drying out.

- For the same reason, locate the tree away from heat vents, fireplaces, radiators, and windows that get direct sunlight.

- Last, but not least, the real secret to Christmas tree success is WATER. Your tree will drink a lot—and we do mean a lot—of water, especially in the first week. Ideally, use a tree stand that can hold at least 1 gallon of water, and more for bigger trees. Keep it filled. Check it daily. Don't get lazy and don't let the water get lower than the end of the trunk. If the water gets too low, the end will seal with sap resulting in little or no uptake of water and premature drying out.

Also, don't drill a hole in the trunk to improve water uptake (this doesn't work!) or whittle off the outer layers to fit it in your stand (those layers are most efficient at taking up water, so you're actually harming the tree).

You've probably been told to add things like soda, aspirin, bleach, molasses, sugar, honey, commercial tree preservative, or whatever else to your tree stand to make the tree last longer. No matter what you've seen on social media, the science just doesn't support it. In fact, research has shown that some substances actually harm the tree and cause needle drop! Trees only drink water in the wild and that's all they need indoors, too.

According to Smith, most fresh-cut trees will last a month with proper care. Remember when it's time to take down the Christmas tree, it still has a useful life left! Cut boughs and cover perennials to shield them from cold and

NEW HAVEN TREE LIGHTING



Pictured are (seated) Lion Bob Hudson, and (l to r) Lion Terri Hargrove, Lion Pres. Susie Hudson, 1st VP Lion Steve Stewart and past Pres. Lion Dennis Stoll.



The New Haven Lions donated \$1700 to buy the lights for the big Christmas tree in Canal Park in downtown New Haven.

wind, or place them on the ground near your bird feeders to create protection for ground-feeding birds. Also, check with your community for free pick-up or drop-off services that grind Christmas trees into garden mulch.

Last chance for a Christmas ad is NEXT WEEK!
Deadline is THURS 12/14 @ 5pm - Call or email: 419-258-2000 info@westbendnews.net

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PAULDING STUDENTS COMPLETE TEEN MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING



By: Emily Remaklus

On Thursday December 7th the Paulding High School's Personal Growth and Positive Mindset class completed their Teen Mental Health First Aid training. With the help of a grant secured by the OSU Extension Office, each student in the class was able to take part in the program.

Every Thursday from August to December the students were instructed by Sarah Noggle and Michael Schweinsberg from the OSU Extension Office on understanding what mental health challenges are, resources to help with mental health challenges, how to help someone going through a mental health crisis, and

how to help those in a substance use crisis.

The students certified through the program are pictured above and include Josh Funez, Hayden Gill, Kaitlyn Goings, Ronnie Goodwin, Devyn Haller, Brayden Kingen, Layla Logan, Bryce Manz, Adam Stahl, Ameriona Stiltner, Alyssia Wilson, and Camron Wolford.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Ciarra C. Owens, Oakwood, OH; disorderly conduct; Guilty; 30 days jail, 29 days suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Joe E. Bonar Sr., Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; 30 days jail, 17 days suspended; Defendant to be released today, 13 days jail, Credit for time served

Joshua R. Fish, Antwerp, OH; Nonsupport of defendant, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Maintain general good behavior; Placed on standard probation, No alcohol, No bars or taverns, No drugs of abuse, Random drug screens, Maintain employment; Nonsupport of defendant, Guilty, Same conditions as Count A

Justin A. Parrett, Grover Hill, OH; Physical control; Guilty; 90 days jail, 87 days suspended, May attend DIP

in lieu of 3 days jail, ALS terminated; Standard probation, Secure valid driver's license; Probation risk assessment SCRAM to be removed when court is available; OVI/refusal, Count B dismissed; Driving/texting, Count C dismissed; Left of center, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Unsafe vehicle, Count E dismissed

Hannah E. Rufenacht, Defiance, OH; OVI/US .08 breath; Guilty; 30 days suspended; Operator's license suspended from 12/01/23 to 6/01/24

Meagan R. Egnor, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving/texting; Guilty; Pay all fines and costs

Khari L. Howell, Fort Wayne, IN; Turn signals; Case dismissed

Jose A. Calles, Downey, CA; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Eric M. Bond, Defiance, OH; Distracted Driving, Guilty, Defendant completed course; Marked lanes, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

Chloe A. Beining, Grover

Hill, OH; Failure to control, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Failure to control, Double ticket, Case dismissed

Samuel A. Bok, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Hannah C. Sanderson, Grover Hill, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Marc W. McNabb, Paulding, OH; Assault; Guilty; 180 days jail, 99 days suspended; Defendant to pay all costs; Placed on standard probation; No contact with victim; Report to probation upon release from incarceration today

Ramon R. Nadeau, Keego Harbor, MI; Receiving stolen property, Preliminary hearing waived, Bond continued, Case shall be bound over to the Paulding Common Pleas Court; Flee/elude, Defendant waived the preliminary hearing, Bond continued, Case shall be bound over

William F. Alvarez, Pontiac, MI; No operator's license; Guilty; Warrant and warrant block recalled; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Sky N. Schooley, Melrose, OH; Left of center; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Robert A. Scott, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

David R. Torman Jr., Cloverdale, OH; Driving/texting, Pled no contest, found guilty, Proof of insurance provided, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Seat belt/drive, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Brent A. Johnson, Columbus, OH; No operator's license; Count A dismissed

Robert J. Laukhuf, Haviland, OH; Hunt without permission; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jonathan S. Laukhuf, Chesterland, OH; Hunt without permission; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Ramkumar Venkatachalam, Fisher, IN; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 11/20/23

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

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

Mayor's Report: The mayor had brought up the previously mentioned issue regarding the non-payment of the Milan Township to the Havenwood HOA and is awaiting a conclusion from that initial meeting. The Mayor gave an update on the signage at the front of the industrial park and is waiting for the work to be done. Regarding the work being done on Roemer Drive, the Mayor explained different options that will be implemented as part of a cost savings measure there. The mayor explained a project to widen the bridge near Roussey Road on Woodburn Road that will allow for a trail in the future.

Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the November 6th meeting. After discussion, Councilman Watts moved to accept the minutes from the November 6th meeting as presented, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, 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. The clerk-treasurer presented a potential list of meeting dates for the 2024 calendar year. After discussion, there were no suggested changes to incorporate into the list.

Councilmen's Report: Councilwoman Sarrazine asked about an update regarding the sidewalk at the railroad crossing. The Mayor mentioned that he has been in touch with Congressman Jim Banks' office and is hoping for a resolve here in short order. Regarding Kevin's request for a MacBook and ancillary equipment in the amount of \$4,547.95 that was presented at the last meeting, Councilman Watts moved to proceed with a not-to-exceed figure of \$4,600, pending approval by the City's IT group, Reliance, specifically Kaleb, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Councilwoman Sarrazine asked if there was an update regarding the Lifewise proposal. Councilman Watts explained that there was no updated news to share at this time.

Audience: Nothing to report.
Councilman Watts moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Councilwoman Sarrazine, all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.

Go to www.cityofwoodburn.org to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 12/4/23

Hicksville Village Council met in regular session on Monday, December 4. All Council members were in attendance. Previous minutes and bills to be paid were accepted.

Among the actions addressed by Council were the hiring of Jennifer Caryer as Police Department Administrative Clerk. She will replace Clerk Julie Cleland who retired December 1 after over 26 years in the position. Mayor Ron Jones and Police Chief Mark Denning recognized Julie for her excellent service and thanked her for her dedication to the Department and the Village.

Council also welcomed Rachel Hammersmith as Village Solicitor after being elected to the position by a 6-0 vote. Mrs. Hammersmith will begin her duties in January replacing current Solicitor Troy Essex who will become the Defiance Municipal Judge.

Mayor Ron Jones announced a Public Hearing is set for December 18 at 6pm in Council Chambers to hear a request by the Planning Commission to rezone 301 Meuse Argonne from A-1 Agriculture/Public Use to B-1 Central Business, B-2 Local Business, B-3 General Business.

Among other items coming before Council for action, the final reading of Ordinance 2023-17, establishing pay ranges for employees beginning January 1, 2024. The ordinance passed by a 4-2 vote.

The second reading of Ordinance 2023-18 by caption only establishing 2024 Annual Appropriations and declaring an emergency was given. Council voted to suspend the rules, third reading was presented. Council voted to approve

PJHS POSITIVE PANTHERS



Each month Paulding Junior High School teachers select one Positive Panther per grade level. These students are recognized for the positive character traits they exhibit as students of Paulding Junior High School. Shown in the picture from left are Gia Wagenhauser (Grade 6), Rylee Cox (Grade 8), and Ingrid Escobar (Grade 7).

PHS ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Paulding High School announced their November Students of the Month. They are from left to right: Freshman-Leonel Reyes, Sophomore-Xander Bartley, Junior- Kiara Adams, and Senior-Riley Stork.

the Ordinance by a vote of 4-2. The final reading of Resolution 2023-26 was tabled to enter a contract with Vernon Nagle Inc. for construction of the pool, pool house and pumphouse.

Councilman Eric Bassett reported on a recent Finance Committee meeting. Among items discussed was the dissolution of Mayor's Court in the Village. After reviewing conditions concerning the item, it was decided to retain the Court in the Village.

Bassett also announced the Village will be looking for a Council representative to replace Mike Barth beginning January 1. Mr. Barth will begin his term as Mayor and his current term of two remaining years will need to be filled. Bassett asked that anyone interested please submit a letter of interest and/or resume to the Village offices (Mayor or Clerk) by December 15. Council will interview and select a replacement by the first Council meeting in January.

Administrator Cory Wann reported the annual village wide collection of leaves has ended. Residents may still bring leaves to the recycle lot through the end of December. Due to AEP scheduling conflicts to install the meter at the water tower, filling the tank will be delayed.

Wann also reported he has submitted an application for a \$2 million wastewater infrastructure grant to be used for the Defiance Avenue water project as well as water and sewer separation projects. The grants will be awarded in 2024.

Police Chief Mark Denning reported they will be doing a walk-through on the MARCS tower site on December 12. He anticipates the system will be going on line shortly thereafter.

Fire Chief Bruce Hart reported that Pumper 504 has been repaired and is back in service.

Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith presented regular reports to Council.

Mayor Jones reminded citizens the Christmas Cruise Thru will be open nightly through December 24 (fireworks December 10, 6pm) and volunteers are needed and appreciated. He announced that the new Vancrest facility community open house will be moved to Sunday, December 17 from 1-4 pm.

Concerned citizens have also mentioned to Mayor Jones about the cat problem in the Village. He said Defiance has offered the use of live traps to capture the animals so they can be taken for spay/neuter.

Councilman Taylor Klepper reported over 160 meals were served at The Gathering Place on Thanksgiving Day. He thanked all who came and all who volunteered with the meal.

The next regular Council session will be Monday, December 18 at 6 pm in Council chambers.

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NEW HAVEN LIONS DONATION TO FT. WAYNE WORKERS FOR THE BLIND



At our November, 13th meeting, New Haven Lions made a donation to the Fort Wayne Workers for the Blind. With the proceeds from their recent cookout and the donations from their tin cup they pass around at meetings, the Lions presented them with a check for \$640.00. Pictured above (l to r) are Lion Pres. Susie Hudson presenting the check for \$640.00 to Ron Collins, President of the Workers for the Blind. Next to him is Lion Bill Hart and Ken Yahne, board chairman for the Fort Wayne Workers for the Blind.

PJHS ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Each month Paulding Junior High School teachers select one Student of the Month per grade level. These students are recognized for being some of the top academic performers at Paulding Junior High School. Shown in the picture from left are Hedwin Ramirez-Cortes (Grade 7), Anna Baughman (Grade 6), and Brodin Adkins (Grade 8).

NAVIGATING GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS: A PERSONALIZED APPROACH TO HEALING

Grief is universal, and the particular challenge of facing holiday seasons after losing a loved one is universal as well. Such times can feel isolating as we struggle with renewed feelings of loss and sadness. This is not a challenge we need to face alone, however, or without the benefit of shared input from

those who have gone through it before. Understanding the impact of grief during the holiday season, and embracing specific strategies for coping with it, can help us move ahead in our healing journeys.

Lean Into Your Feelings

As universal as grief is, it is also very personal. We each feel a range of emotions that we must process to find our own way forward. The journey starts with giving ourselves permission to feel

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FOR SALE: Shardor Anti-Static Coffee Grinder, **NEW IN BOX.** 120V, 60Hz 200W, stainless steel conical burr coffee grinder. Anti-static technology, 35 grinding settings, 2- 12 cup quantity selection, large capacity bean hopper 8.5oz. \$50obo. Call or txt 419-258-0656

whatever it is we feel, while understanding that not every feeling has equal value. Feelings of shame or guilt, for instance, can be common but they also drain our energy when we need to invest in healing. The more intentional we are about which feelings receive more of our attention—such as those that calm, relax, and soothe—and which ones receive less—such as those that increase anxiety, sadness, or fatigue—the more we take control of our path and more easily move forward along it.

Remembering

Honoring the life of a departed loved one can be a constructive way to heal, especially during the holidays. By ensuring that these efforts reflect the unique strengths and joys of those we have lost, we give these acts of remembrance even more meaning. There are many ways to do this, such as writing down or sharing stories; visiting favorite locations; planting flowers or trees in places where you shared a special experience; or engaging in symbolic gestures that reflect interests or joys. These can all help us preserve cherished memories but also foster a sense of connection and, dare we say it—even celebration. As hard as it can seem, celebration can and should be part of our lives going forward if we let it.

Adjusting Holiday Traditions

The first holiday after a loss is often the most challenging. This is when embracing tradition can often be the most helpful since it facilitates remembrance. Yes, there are still feelings of loss, but if we accept those feelings as signs of the strength of a relationship, it can actually help us focus on thoughts of celebration and thanks. This might require

adjustments to past routines, so we should be open to celebrating in a different location, with different people, or even on different days than in past years. Sharing these ideas and feelings with friends and families is also useful as it helps dispel loneliness and empower others to be sensitive and supportive.

Letting Ourselves Seek Support

Everyone grieving should remember that support is out there, both from our friends and families but also from online resources and professional counseling services. A good place to start is the State of Ohio's Careline, 1-800-720-9616. Operated by the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and staffed 24/7 with behavioral health professionals, the Careline serves as a one-stop resource for those seeking help. Also, when engaging friends and family, communicating your needs clearly is crucial, whether one prefers private grieving, the support of close friends, or a broader network accessible through social media. Those that care about us will be eager to help and can play a vital role in providing assistance during this challenging time if we let them.

Grief is complex and personal on any day of the year, but significantly more so during the holidays. By leaning into this reality, embracing one's emotions, being open to adjusting traditions, incorporating meaningful remembrances, and seeking or providing support, we can navigate our grief in constructive and healing ways. Ultimately, there is no one-size-fits-all approach to managing grief, and granting ourselves the flexibility to cope in whatever way feels authentic will help fuel our healing journey.



GOING FOR A SPIN

This is a story that I heard years ago, and I have no reason to believe it isn't true. Time for a Christmas story so let's go.

It was about mid afternoon on Christmas Eve and mum asked her son Charlie if he'd like to go for a spin. Of course Charlie thought this was a splendid idea, but he must ask dad and he wasn't quite sure. After much discussion and pleading of both granny and Charlie, dad gave his consent.

Granny's personal Packard was brought around front and things were starting to get serious. What I haven't told you was that Granny had a lust for speed. Fast cars and fast horses were her downfall. This car had been made especially for Granny and it had her name on gold plates inside both doors.

It had 285 screaming horses under the hood and Granny had been known to open it up.

But today was just going to be at leisurely drive out in the country and Granny had promised. What I haven't told you was that it started snowing about noon and now there was about three inches on the ground and still snowing hard. But granny was a good driver and they were enjoying their drive out into the country.

When all of a sudden granny came upon a turn that she didn't know and the car started sliding off the road. They slid down into a ditch, the car flipped over on his side, and Granny landed on top of Charlie. Now the only thing they could do was climb out, start walking, and look for a house. As they went they saw

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

Sudoku solution from page 8

a house, but it was a good way away.

When they got near the house it looked like someone was home and they were able to make it to the front door. Three ladies were preparing for Christmas Eve dinner, and the men were out feeding the animals. They would get a team of horses and have them out in a jiffy. They were quite surprised to find that their Christmas Eve visitors were the Queen of England and the heir to the throne Prince Charles.

You can imagine they had a grand time entertaining their visitors, and the men pulled the car out and brought it around. A simple call to the palace and they told them they would be a bit late but they would be back shortly. After a bit more visiting and reminiscing it was time to say goodbye.

That evening at the Christmas Eve celebration at the palace, Charles had something to tell them. After telling his story with great relish, and Prince Philip being scared of his wits, they all had a good laugh. This would be a Christmas Eve which they would never forget. And the people in a farmhouse in rural England would tell a story no one could believe and every Christmas Eve would reminisce about the time that Queen Elizabeth and Prince Charles payed them a visit.

—James Neuhouser

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PAULDING COUNTY WMEA RECYCLING

New Schedule For Large Villages

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

New Schedule For Smaller Villages

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

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

FOR RENT: THIS SPACE

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657-5700 shop
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Woodburn, IN 46797

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

PAULDING COUNTY REPUBLICAN WOMEN SWEARING IN



2024 incoming officers for the Paulding County Republican Women: Stacey Rinebolt, treasurer; Shannon Ruschel, secretary; Cheryl Stromski, vice president; and Laurie Lucas, president.

The Paulding County Republican Women Christmas Dinner took place on Thursday, December 7 at the Paulding County Senior Center. Around 30 people were in attendance and everyone had a great time over the potluck style dinner. After the dinner there was a swearing in of four ladies to be the officers of the group which includes Stacey

Rinebolt, treasurer, Shannon Ruschel, secretary, Cheryl Stromski, vice president, and Laurie Lucas, president. If you are interested in joining the Republican Ladies contact Laurie Lucas. Concluding the evening, a Christmas gift exchange took place: one for the men and then one for the ladies. Each went home with a great gift!

PEVS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR 2024 ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME

The Paulding Exempted Village Schools Academic Hall of Fame was created to recognize graduates of any high school currently within the boundaries of the Paulding Exempted Village School District who have achieved a significant degree of success in their professional careers. The first class was inducted in May 2010 and thirty-six individuals are currently in the Academic Hall of Fame. These individuals provide outstand-

ing role models for the students in the PEVS District.

Current members of the Academic Hall of Fame have many traits in common. Each person has achieved success at high levels of education, including advanced degrees such as MD, PhD, DO, DDS, JD, DVM, MA, or MS. In addition, these individuals have great career and/or societal accomplishments. Many have pursued a military career, while others have become outstanding teachers in their field. Others have served the public through careers such as medicine, law and dentistry,

or education. No matter the educational or career path, each inductee has one thing in common... they have provided outstanding role models for the students in the PEVS District.

Do you know someone who graduated from one of the high schools within the current Paulding Exempted Village School District prior to 2003, who would be an excellent candidate to join this elite group? Nomination forms are currently available on the PEVS website at www.pauldingschools.org under the 'Academic' tab or can be picked up in the Administration office. Complete qualifications are listed on the website, along with the bios of previous inductees. The deadline to apply for the Class of 2024 is March 1, 2024.

CHRISTMAS PARTY @ SUMMIT 60

Summit 60 of Hicksville (senior center) is hosting a Christmas Party at Summit 60 in Hicksville on December 18, 2023. Festivities begin at 11:00 a.m. and include pizza, games and bingo! There will also be door prizes to attendees.

Call Jennifer to RSVP at 419-769-8046. Summit 60 is located at 708 E High St., Hicksville, OH.

HICKSVILLE AUTHOR TO SPEAK @ LIBRARY

Children's author Joshua Roth, a Hicksville native, will visit Johnson Memorial Library, 116 W. High St., Hicksville, Jan. 6 from 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. to meet anyone interested in his first book, "A Good Day at Long Lake."

ANNOUNCING THE 2024 FORT WAYNE FARM SHOW

The Allen County War Memorial Coliseum, Fort Wayne, Indiana hosts the 35th Annual Fort Wayne Farm Show on:

Tuesday January 16, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday January 17, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday January 18, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Admission is free!!

The Fort Wayne Farm Show has established itself as one of the Midwest's most respected farm shows, featuring the latest technology the industry has to offer. Over 30,000 farmers attend the show annually, to view the area's largest variety of farm equipment and services in one location.

The northeastern Indiana Soil and Water Conservation District, along with Purdue Cooperative Extension Services, present educational seminars daily. This year's grand prize will be a Toro Myride Zero Turn lawn mower. Courtesy of Plevna Implement, located at 102 Peckhart Auburn, IN

In support of Indiana's FFA Scholarship Foundation, a fund-raising auction will be held at 1:00 p.m. both Tuesday and Wednesday, featuring a variety of donated items. Their last auction raised over \$21,000.00 for scholarships.

In addition to the Fort Wayne Farm Show, Tradexpos produces the North American Farm & Power Show in Owatonna, MN, and the Topeka Farm Show in Kansas.

Visit the Tradexpos web-

PAULDING KIWANIS DONATION



Pictured above is Paulding Kiwanis President Erica Noggle presenting the check to the WBESC Superintendent, Thomas Taylor.

The Western Buckeye Educational Service Center participates in the Franklin B. Walter All-Scholastic Award's Program that was established by the Ohio Superintendent's Educational Service Center Association to promote student achievement and recognize outstanding students. Eligible students for this award must demonstrate outstanding academic achievements as indicated by high school test scores along with success both in and out of the classroom.

Locally, each high school in Paulding and Van Wert counties nominates a student

to represent their district. From the district nominations, a county winner is chosen. Each county winner is awarded a \$500 scholarship and the other two students from each county school district are given a \$100 scholarship.

The Western Buckeye ESC (WBESC) will host a recognition program for this scholarship in March. The WBESC would like to thank the Paulding Kiwanis who recently donated \$275 to cover the expenses of hosting the local recognition night for this scholarship.

site at www.tradexpos.com

For more information on the Fort Wayne Farm Show contact Tradexpos, Inc. PO Box 1067 Austin, MN 55912

Or call Dan Slowinski @ 1-800-347-5225 dan@tradexpos.com

Last chance for a Christmas ad is NEXT WEEK!
Deadline is THURS 12/14 @ 5pm - Call or email: 419-258-2000 info@westbendnews.net

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10lb Bag RUSSET POTATOES \$4.99	HAM STEAKS \$1.99 PER LB	LOUIS KEMP IMITATION CRAB MEAT 2 LB BAG \$3.99	HORMEL LOADED MASHED POTATOES DINNER SOUR CREAM & BACON 1.4 LB \$3.79
IMPOSSIBLE BURGERS HAMBURGERLESS PATTIES 24 OZ BAG \$5.99	HUNGRY JACK HASHBROWNS 4.2 OZ CTN \$1.59	ZAP'EMS PIZZA ROLLS 1LB 4OZ BAG \$2.29	MARGHERITA PEPPERONI 32 OZ WAS \$4.99 NOW \$3.99
<div style="text-align: center;"> <h1 style="color: white;">SPECIALS OF THE WEEK</h1> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>PRIME RIB \$8.99 PER LB</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>ECKRICH NASHVILLE HOT-STYLE CHICKEN BREAST \$3.99 PER LB</p> </div> </div> </div>			
NESTLE 14OZ LA LECHERA CONDENSED MILK LIGHT & REG. 99¢	HILLSHIRE FARM CHEDDAR LIT'L SMOKIES 13 OZ \$1.99		