

## Merry Christmas!

### SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!



Santa came to Antwerp on Saturday December 9th! He rode into town in style on the Antwerp Volunteer Fire Department truck who took him to the fire dept. Building where over 100 children were waiting for him about their Christmas presents.

There has been multiple sightings of Santa Claus making stops in towns and village all over the West Bend News readership area. From Bryan to Van Wert and Woodburn to Oakwood, Santa has been a

busy person in the past few weeks! He's taken the time to talk to hundreds of children and listen to their Christmas wishes this year.

Community involvement and volunteerism is a pillar in

small town America and was witnesses through these Santa visits this holiday season. Thank you to these volunteers who plan and schedule these events for the communities to enjoy.

### GOVERNOR DEWINE, ODOT CELEBRATE OPENING OF FIRST NEW EV FAST CHARGING STATION IN THE COUNTRY UNDER NEVI PROGRAM



Electric vehicle (EV) drivers now have another place to charge up in Central Ohio. Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Di-

rector Jack Marchbanks celebrated the opening of the nation's first EV fast charging station built as part of the National Electric Vehicle Infra-

(Continued on Page 5)

### HYMAN TO RETIRE FROM AEB

The Antwerp Exchange Bank would like to congratulate Geoff Hyman on his upcoming retirement. Geoff has served many years in the banking industry and has been a valuable asset to the AEB Payne Branch for 17 years.

As a tribute and celebration of Geoff's achievements, an open house will be held on December 22, 2023 from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at The Antwerp Exchange Bank's Payne Branch location.

Please come and congratulate Geoff on his well-deserved retirement.

### NEW HAVEN INTERMEDIATE STUDENT YOUNGEST IN U.S. TO EARN CPR CERTIFICATION



Ronin a 3rd grader at New Haven Intermediate has a dream to become an EMT and work on an ambulance someday. He met Mr. Scott Mabee at church and they struck up a friendship. Mr. Mabee offered to help Ronin get CPR certified and learn some of the skills that an EMT is required to know. He joined Mr.

Mabee's EMT class at the East Allen Career Center the morning of Friday, December 8th met the students, learned some of the skills and then took his CPR class. Mr. Mabee believes that Ronin is the youngest person in the United States to earn their CPR certification.

Congratulations Ronin!

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE IN HICKSVILLE

The most recent Red Cross blood drive, held on December 7th, was an exercise in Christmas giving as donors filed in to give that most precious gift, the gift of life. Forty units were collected.

Red Cross Ambassador, Zelda Zimmerman, was pleased with the turnout, stating that she was pleased so many people showed up at this busy time of year.

Assisting the Red Cross staff were Zelda Zimmerman, drive coordinator; the First Church of Christ,

(Continued on Page 3)

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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 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
- NA meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 5pm

### December 20

- WBESC meeting @ ESC conf rm, Paulding, 5:30pm
- Breaking Free @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

### December 21

- Christmas Banquet Fundraiser @ PC Senior Center, 5pm

### December 24

- Christmas Eve Service @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

### December 26

- NA meeting @ Cecil Comm. Church, 5pm

### December 27

- Breaking Free @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

### December 31

- Celebration @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm

U-MYU PAULDING COUNTY'S OWN  
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**Deadline is January 31, 2024**

### PCBW RADIO SHOW PAULDING COUNTY BUSINESS WEEKLY

**ANGIE FREESE @ ANTWERP MAIN STREET BUSINESS CENTER/HORMANN'S/GEENEX**

LISTEN EVERY TUESDAY & THURSDAY AT 8:00AM & 5:00PM OR ANYTIME AT MY1027.ORG

**102.7 U-MYU**

### OBITUARIES

**Ellison Lynne Kemerer**, passed away peacefully in the arms of her loving parents on Friday, December 8, 2023 at Dupont Hospital.

She was the infant daughter of Michelle & Douglas Kemerer. Though her time on earth was short, all she ever knew was love from her family and many friends.

In addition to her parents, Ellison will be deeply missed by her grandparents, Joe Kemerer, Susan Jones, & Burton Jones, Jr.; aunts and uncles, Kayla (Bryan Blankenship) Jones, Rachel (Kevin) Montgomery, Michael (Carrie) Kemerer, & Nicholas Kemerer; & many other close friends and family members.

Ellison was preceded in death by her grandmother, Vicki Kemerer, & Doug and Michelle's four previous losses. She will be laid to rest privately.

Thoughts and caring words may be shared at [dooleyfuneralhome.com](http://dooleyfuneralhome.com).



**ANTWERP, OH:**  
**Mary Lou Slusher**, 92, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at Laurels of DeKalb, Butler, Indiana.

Mary Lou was born in Antwerp on December 6, 1931, a daughter of the late Mary (Zuber) and Edward Meyer.

Mary Lou will always be remembered for being a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She was known for her smile and gentle sense of humor. Mary Lou treasured the time she spent with her children and grandchildren. She was a member of the Antwerp VFW Auxiliary, Hicksville Eagles, and Divine Mercy Catholic church.

She will be sadly missed by her children, Julie (Bradley) Miller, Nancy (Randy) Wise, Linda (Stephen) Thiel, and Kirk (Jennifer) Slusher; siblings, Ramba Sarazin, Norman and Robert Meyer; 11 grandchildren; & 12 great grandchildren.

Mary Lou was also preceded in death by her husband, Noah and siblings, Margaret (Glen)

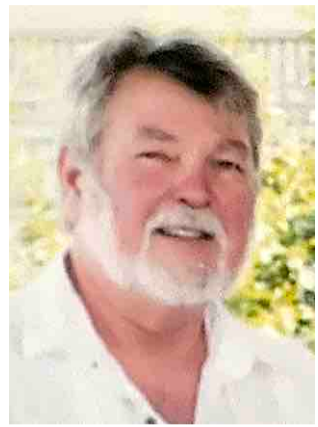
Hissong and Virgil (Dorothy) Meyer.

Viewing is at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp on Friday, December 15, 2023, from 3:30 to 6:30 PM, when the Rosary will be recited.

Her funeral mass is at Divine Mercy Catholic Church, 203 W. Townline Street, Payne, Ohio on Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 10 AM (PLEASE MEET AT CHURCH).

She will be laid to rest at Maumee Cemetery, Antwerp. Memorials are to Divine Mercy Catholic Church.

Fond memories may be shared at [dooleyfuneralhome.com](http://dooleyfuneralhome.com).



**PAULDING, OH:**

**Kenneth K. Schooley**, age 72, passed away on Monday, December 11, 2023 at Parkview Regional Medical Center - Randallia, Fort Wayne, IN.

Kenneth was born on July 1, 1951 in Paulding, OH to the late Robert and Edna Mae (Glick) Schooley. Kenneth served his country in the U.S. Army, Ohio National Guard. He worked for Herbert E. Orr Company in Paulding for over 30 years in various positions. He was a member of the V.F.W. Post 587 in Paulding. Kenneth loved listening to country music and watching western movies.

Kenneth is survived by his daughters: Lisa (Pete) Cline, Paulding, OH; Jen (Kevin) Russell, Paulding, OH; Stacie (Randy) Warnecke, Ottoville, OH; brother, Lonnie (Donna) Schooley, Paulding, OH; sisters: Ruth Schooley, Paulding, OH; Marilyn (Don) Stevenson, Paulding, OH; Gloria Fett, Leo, IN; Rita (Bruce) Bodenbender, Cecil, OH; grandchildren: Bailey Cline, Kiersten Cline, Presslee Cline, Logan Mudel, Jordan Mudel, Karson Mudel, Drew Warnecke, Ashlyn Warnecke, and Austin Warnecke,

Kenneth is also preceded in death by his brothers, Barry and Rick Schooley; sister Garnet Moore; his beloved dogs Frankie and Oreo.

Funeral service will be held at 11 A.M., Thursday,

December 21, 2023 at Den Herder Funeral Home. Burial will follow in St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding Township with military rites accorded by the Paulding V.F.W. Post 587.

Visitation will be from 4-8 P.M., Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at Den Herder Funeral Home. There will also be visitation from 10 A.M. until time of services on Thursday.

Memorial contributions may be made in Kenneth's memory to the Paulding County Dog Shelter, c/o the Paulding County Sheriff's Office, 500 E. Perry St., Paulding, OH, 45879.

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

**PAULDING, OH:**

**Carol Angelina Wagner**, 22 of Paulding, OH passed away early Thanksgiving morning November 23rd, 2023. She was born on July 4th, 2001 in St. Petersburg, FL to Roy Brown Jr. and Tonya Brown. Carol had a very kind soul and loved to spend time with family and friends and make people laugh. She was loved by many and will be sadly missed by her family.

Carol is survived by her parents Roy and Tonya Brown, maternal grandmother, Dorothy Wagner, siblings Kristiana and Brayden Brown, step brothers and sister-in-law Joseph & Brooklyn Carvell, Dustin Jacobs, and Chris Wilhoite, aunts and uncles - April and Danny Kent, Rayanna and Vince Kline Sr, Jennifer Hall, Amy Hall and Michael Wood, two nieces, one nephew and multiple cousins.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Roy Brown Sr. and Robin Nelson, and her Aunt Ada Brown.

Carol - we love you and will carry you with us through the good and bad until we meet again. May you fly high and dance with the angels.

**PAULDING, OH:**  
**Stephen Winters**, 48, of Paulding, OH passed away early Thanksgiving morning November 23rd, 2023. He was born June 21st, 1975 to Jerry and Jacqueline Winters. He had two brothers, Ronny & Matt and a sister Bonita. He touched many lives with his wise jokes and funny sense of humor. He was a wonderful friend and will be greatly missed.

Stephen is survived by his father Jerry, his two brothers, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, many close friends and family.

He was preceded in death by his mother, who passed away just a couple months ago. She was a wonderful woman, and her death was very hard on him. Steven - may you fly high, spread your wings and soar until we meet again.

**PAULDING, OH:**  
**Franklin Augustus Bowman**, 23 of Paulding, OH passed away early Thanksgiving morning November 23rd, 2023.

Franklin was born on November 5th, 2000 to Wes Bowman Sr. and Carrie Spangler. He grew up in Williams County. Franklin loved having fun and enjoyed playing computers and games, listening to music, and annoying his family.

Franklin is survived by his parents Wes Bowman Sr and Carrie Spangler, two sisters Alyssa Spangler and Alisa Bowman, and two brothers Wes Jr. and John Bowman. He will be missed by many.

Franklin - we love you and may you rest in peace.

### Scripture of the Week

"But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.'"

— Luke 1:30-33

### 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



### Kerosene and Mice

There is a country song that goes, "Seventeen, you don't think that much about life, You're just livin', Like kerosene dancin' around a fire, But you're in it, So you jump right in, Ain't afraid to fall, and you give it all"

One of my favorite things to do in grade school (before we became too busy with sports and school) was to go with a few friends to different wooded areas of farmers we knew around the county. We would bring hatchets, hammers, nails, string, BB guns, a cook stove and food. We would spend a Saturday building a treehouse fort in a tree, target shoot, and then cook a meal of Campbell's Chunky Stew or Dinty Moore Stew right from the can.

On one Saturday, a friend's dad asked if we would burn their brush pile at the far end of the yard and we could cook over it. For some reason, the

dad was not around when we got to actually trying to light the wet brush. To speed up the lighting process we looked for what he had in his shed. We found a gas can, and none of us had enough sense of the danger that could pose. We dangled the content of some of the gas can over the brush pile and it lit right up. The dad arrived later and saw the gas can sitting near us. He said that we were lucky that he had kerosene and no place to put it, so had put it into the empty gas can. He let us know that we would have possibly been crispy critters had it really been gas.

Years later, I was overseas and camping with a group along with two of my sons. The campground provided large stone barbecues and piles of firewood to use for free. I wanted my sons to get experience with fire building, so I let them each have a barbecue to build a fire in. We used both for cooking the large meal for the group. The stone barbecues were loosely constructed with no mortar to hold them together. As the stones heated up from the fire, mice began to come out of their home - the barbecues. Needless to say, the gals in the group had their feet lifted up on the picnic table bench during the meal.

Mice are much safer to be around at a campfire than gas or even kerosene, but it would have been hard to convince the gals of that at our campout.

Something similar ever happen to you? Contact me and let me hear your story!

[mattsmishaps@gmail.com](mailto:mattsmishaps@gmail.com)  
Matt's Mishaps, PO BOX 114, Grabill, IN 46741

## FUND RAISER FOR CRISIS PREGNANCY CENTER



Shown above is Father Dan Borgelt and Sheila Bassett at St. Michaels Church in Hicksville, Ohio.

On December 10th, The Rosary Altar Society held a bake sale after Mass with the proceeds going to the Crisis Pregnancy Center (CPC) Women's Health Resource with offices in Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding and Williams Counties.

Their telephone is 1-800-633-3339. They provide free ultrasounds, baby clothing and related items in addition to help & support for pregnant mothers, moms & babies.

Please support them in any way that you can and keep their ministry in your prayers.

### PARSON TO PERSON

**By: Dr. James Bachman**

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

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

One thing that has helped me in the area of consistency has been a list of things for

which I pray every day. I also pray for things as they come to mind and talk with the Lord throughout the day. Let me share with you some of the things on my daily prayer list and encourage you to start one of your own.

Start by praying through the elements of the Lord's Prayer. Follow with a time of praise and thanksgiving. Then search your heart and life and take care of any confession of sin. Next, pray for the Holy Spirit's fullness and control in your life. Pray for wisdom, for help in soul winning and strengthening other believers, for your life goals and each area of your responsibilities. List all your

weakness and pray daily about each one. I pray daily for ten things in the life of each person in my family, that they may:

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

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

In order to make your

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

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

### DPLS MEETING NOTICES

The Personnel Committee of the Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Board of Trustees will not meet in December due to lack of agenda items.

The board's Finance Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, beginning at 1 p.m. at Defiance Public Library, 320 Fort St., For the purpose of reviewing the November financials. Meetings of the DPLS board and its committees are open to the public.

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### THE FORK GOES ON THE LEFT

#### Penny For Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker  
My White House Cookbook from 1887 includes just about anything you would want to know for that time period. (1887)

Table manners were very strict and they followed rules of etiquette at every meal. These were discussed vividly and I am not even sure if I follow all of them.

I know today that most times I will eat meals on a TV tray and sit and watch television while I eat, but unless you were sick or dying, one was expected at the dinner table.

Dinner back then was a festive time with a lot of courses and many liquors, brandies and wine. Plus, you dressed for dinner. Now, remember this was clear back in 1837.

Then there was and still is, a proper way to set a table and a proper way to seat people around a dinner table.

When I was growing up, my Grandma was pretty strict when we ate.

She of course said not to sit at the table and no elbows on the dinner table as well.

She always said not to hand a person a fork or it meant you would get in a fight with them.

Another interesting section is what food you serve to the sick.

Some foods included Slippery Elm tea, water toast, gruel, and mutton or beef broth.

A sick person needed to be served on fine small dishes on a nicely decorated tray or bedside table. We do eat with our eyes first and a sick person is apt to eat better with an inviting tray.

One food the sick could eat was "Soft Toast." Directions were : to toast in the oven, a couple of pieces of stale bread. Then take the toast and put on a plate. Add a pinch of salt.

Pour a little bit of boiling

water over the toast and place another plate the same size on top.

Drain water from the toast and put a little butter on each slice. Serve hot.

Now we used to make "hot milk toast" when I was young and when I get sick with the flu, I still make myself some. The recipe is as follows:

After toasting two slices of bread, tear into cubes in a bowl.

Then pour warmed milk over the toast and add sugar and cinnamon. Yum, this is enough goodness coming from toast and milk that I could eat it "once a day."



Now, when I always said to, "put butter on a burn" my Granny was right. In 1887 it said to treat a burn: you are to grab the butter, apply it to a clean cloth. Then place the buttered cloth on top of the burn. See, I still always put butter on burns.

For a sore throat it was recommended to gargle. My family used hot water, vinegar and salt and pepper to gargle. I never could get the conception of gargling because each time I put my head back and make that gargle sound, I start laughing.

One last remedy from 1837: Grandmas Cough Syrup:

1/2 lb of dried horehound leaves, one red pepper pod, 4 TBS of ginger, and boil in 3 qts of water. Steep and add in one teaspoonful of good fresh tar and a pound of sugar.

Boil slowly until mixture is like a syrup.

Well, my Grandma never gave us tar but she used to give us coal oil and sugar to ward off the germs.

This is truly a great book and maybe if you go to the library, maybe you can check out a copy.

Have you ever made or used a home made remedy? Did it work? Can you carve a cow or a pig? Let me know and I'll give you a Penny for Your Thoughts.

## GLEANERS ANNOUNCE VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Shown above is President Brandon Manz and two recipients of this award: Addyson Hormann and Mark Rassman.



President of the Black Swamp Arbor Brandon Manz with Jane Nice, volunteer, one of the three people to be presented with honor.

The Gleaner #780 Black Swamp Arbor recently selected three local people to receive the Volunteer of the Year Award for 2023. These individuals exhibited generous volunteerism throughout this past year.

## NH LIONS CLUB DONATION TO WOWO PENNY PITCH



Pictured below are (l to r) Marsha Eastman, Lion Pres. Susie Hudson, Jon Zimney from WOWO, Lion Bob Hudson and Rachel Baker.

On December 7th, New Haven Lions Bob and Susie Hudson went on the WOWO broadcast at the junior

achievement building and presented a check for \$250.00 to John Zimney from WOWO for their penny pitch project.

(Red Cross Blood Drive cont'd from Page 1)

where the drive was held; members of the Rotary club for setup and tear down; Alice Breidenbaugh and Marilyn Guilford, canteen; Susan Guilford and Colleen Richter, registration; and members of St. Michael's

Catholic Church for donations of cookies.

The next scheduled blood drive will be on February 22, 2024 at the First Church of Christ in Hicksville. Please schedule an appointment at redcross-blood.org. Blood can only come from one place - and that is YOU!

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

William Vilas Keckley was born April 28, 1894 in Jackson Township Paulding County, the son of William Sherman, born December 15, 1858 in Union County Ohio and Alice (Bowdre) Keckley, born April 15, 1861 in Ohio. William and Alice were married March 15, 1885 in Union County, Ohio.

In 1888, a daughter, Ruby Gael was born, followed by William V. in 1894, then on March 10, 1900, a son Carroll Paul. By 1900 the Keckley family were living in Payne, Ohio. William was a bookkeeper.

By 1910, the family was living on Merrin Street in Payne. William senior, was working for the Coal Real Estate Company as a clerk. William and Carroll were in school at Payne, and Ruby was a school teacher, I wonder if she had her brothers in the classroom.

On May 10, 1912, Alice Keckley passed away, she was buried in Wiltzie Cemetery. On July 21, 1915, William Vilas signed up to join the navy at the Naval Recruiting Station in Indianapolis, Indiana. On December 12, 1916, William married a gal named Alice Brogan, born August 19, 1898 in Manhattan, New York.

Alice and William were married in Manhattan, New York. On May 2, 1917, while living in New York, Alice and William, were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Alice Virginia Keckley. William served on the U.S.S. Neptune April 6, 1917 to June 28, 1918. William was on the first vessel that sailed to France when war broke out. He was there in France, when the first transport arrived in that country.

William received a transfer to join a receiving ship in Norfolk, Virginia to serve as an Armed Guard Detail. He served at this post until July 19, 1918. On September 12, 1918, William's brother, Carroll, registered for the draft, he was not chosen.

On January 18, 1919, William Sherman Keckley, passed away, he was buried with his wife, Alice, at Wiltzie Cemetery.

William Vilas Keckley, served as a Chief Electrician on the U.S.S. Kalk in Boston, Massachusetts. He was honorably discharged April 19, 1919. By 1920, William was stationed in Philadelphia, serving with the Navy, but Alice and daughter, were living at 127th Street, between 7th and 8th Avenues in Manhattan, New York.

By 1930, William and Alice and little Alice, were living at Fort Sherman, Cristobal District, Panama Canal Zone. On March 29, 1935, at San Pedro, California, William enlisted back into the Navy. He became a Chief Radioman. In 1936, daughter Alice, married a fellow named Clyde Raymond Wells. They lived in Los Angeles, California. William



and his wife Alice, lived at 4214 East 8th Street, Long Beach, California. By 1940, William and Alice, were living in Los Angeles at 11763 Nebraska Avenue. William was working as an electrician.

On October 31, 1941, William was called back to active duty. On January 12, 1950, he passed away in Los Angeles, California. He was buried in Woodlawn Cemetery, Santa Monica, California. His wife Alice, passed away June 14, 1992 in Los Angeles, California and was buried in Valhalla Memorial Park Cemetery, North Hollywood, California. Daughter Alice passed away June 14, 1975, and is buried with her mother.

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A+ Rating

## WOODLAN HIGH STUDENT LILLY ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Madison Franklin, senior at Woodlan High School was surprised by being presented with the Lilly Endowment Scholarship award from Community Foundation representatives! Madison will be attending the University of Saint Francis and studying Medical Imaging.

The Lilly Endowment Inc. awards full-tuition scholarships to selected students from each county in Indiana. Each scholarship must be used to pursue a baccalaureate degree at any accredited public or private Indiana college

or university. The Endowments hopes that this program will continue to encourage many of Indiana's most talented students to attend one of Indiana's fine higher education institutions and after graduation consider pursuing occupations in Indiana." The students will also receive full tuition, required fees, and a \$900 book stipend each year for four years. Recipients may attend any public or private, Indiana four-year college or university. Congratulations Madison Franklin!

## NEW HAVEN HIGH STUDENT LILLY ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP WINNER



Ezra Yoquelet, senior at New Haven High School was surprised by being presented with the Lilly Endowment Scholarship award from Community Foundation representatives! Ezra is leaning towards attending Trine University and studying to become a Physician's Assistant.

The Lilly Endowment Inc. awards full-tuition scholarships to selected students from each county in Indiana. Each scholarship must be used to pursue a baccalaureate degree at any accredited public or private Indiana college or university. The Endowments hopes that this program will continue to encourage many of Indiana's most talented students to attend one of Indiana's fine higher education institutions and after graduation consider pursuing occupations in Indiana." The students will also re-

ceive full tuition, required fees, and a \$900 book stipend each year for four years. Recipients may attend any public or private, Indiana four-year college or university. Congratulations Ezra Yoquelet!

### IMPROVING HERBICIDE PERFORMANCE

Farmers (even gardeners) use herbicides to kill weeds. There are many factors that affect herbicide performance. Water quality; water pH; water, air, and soil temperature, type and volume of water; size of weeds; and even time of day can impact herbicide effectiveness.

Purdue University has several good publications on improving herbicide performance. PPP-86: The impact of water quality on pesticide performance. PPP-107 Adju-

vants and the power of the spray droplets. PPP-112 Water temperature and herbicide performance. PPP-115 Compounds. This last publication explains how to prevent water minerals from tying up herbicides. Here are some tips from these publications:

Check your water quality. Water makes up at least 95-99% of the spray volume, so water minerals affect herbicide performance. Water quality is measured by water hardness. The more minerals there are, the higher the hardness. Hard water can reduce not only the herbicide solubility but also how well it is absorbed. Herbicides that are tied up in the spray tank are diluted, which can reduce their performance.

Common dissolved water minerals include calcium, magnesium, and iron. Water hardness measures the concentration of calcium and magnesium in water; the higher the concentration, the higher the number measured in parts per million (ppm). Soft water replaces calcium and magnesium with sodium and potassium ions. Soft water is 0-114ppm, Moderately Hard 114-342ppm, Hard 342-800ppm, and Extremely Hard > 800 ppm. The ions that tie up herbicides are listed in the order of greatest potential to reduce herbicide activity: aluminum (Al+++ ) > iron (Fe+++ , Fe++ ) > magnesium (Mg++) > calcium (Ca++). Water conditioners can be used to soften water and reduce ions that tie up herbicides. For best herbicide performance, follow the label and use soft water.

Use clean water for sprays. Tap water may appear to be clean, but small organic debris and even suspended solids (soil) in water tie up herbicides in the tank. Always use a filter before putting water in the spray tank. Avoid using water from ditches or ponds because it probably contains organic debris or may be higher in suspended solids.

Even water and air temperature can affect herbicide performance. Purdue University studies show that cold water (410F) and hot water (1000F) reduced herbicide effectiveness. The best performance occurred with warm water at 720F. Water that is too cold or too warm shocks the plant and reduces herbicide absorption. The best air temperature is when plants are actively growing so they can readily absorb the herbicide. Apply herbicides when it is too cold (below 450F) or even to warm (above 900F) may reduce herbicide performance. The best time to apply herbicides is between 10AM and 3PM when the sun is shining and plants are actively growing and absorbing nutrients. Also, most herbicides are absorbed best by small weeds (LT 4 inches tall).

Check your water pH and follow the label for adjusting pH to the desired level. Most herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides work best when the pH is slightly acidic, around pH 4-6.5. A pH of 7 is considered neutral. Sulfonylurea herbicides perform better in slightly alkaline (above pH 7) conditions. When the pH falls outside the upper or lower pH boundaries, performance can be reduced. This may affect how long the herbicide can remain in a spray tank before it becomes ineffective.

The University of Califor-

## CHRISTMAS GIVING TAKES CENTER STAGE AT VANTAGE



Merry Christmas from Vantage Career Center!

At Vantage Career Center, the spirit of giving takes center stage every year as the Interact Club embarks on a mission to spread joy and happiness through their Toss-A-Toy event. This year, the club not only surpassed their previous fundraising efforts, but set a new record by raising an astounding \$8,000.00. This impressive accomplishment allowed the students to fill the stage with larger toys, making a significant impact on the local community.

The Interact Club at Vantage is known for its commitment to service, leadership, and community philanthropy, with funds going to organizations like, Enouf Cats (Paulding County), Challenged Champions (Putnam County), Marsh Foundation (Van Wert), Open Arms Rescue (Mercer County) and Deb's Dogs (Allen County), and the Van Wert Humane Society through the Van Wert Chamber Leadership class. One of their noteworthy events, the Toss A Toy initiative, has been a beloved tradition within the school for years, and this year's record-breaking achievement of \$8,000.00 not only reflects the

hard work and dedication of the Interact Club, but also the continued generosity and support of Vantage community partners.

For the third year in a row, the Interact Club received a generous \$1,000.00 donation through the Operation Round Up Program, with Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative Trust. Each year, this foundation grant provides the club with a great start in achieving their fundraising goals. Another continued partnership is with Van Wert Walmart, who have opened their doors to the club's annual shopping extravaganza, as well as contributed an added \$300.00 to the club's mission. The club also received a kind-hearted donation from the Steve and Linda Unverferth Family. Lastly, the staff and students at Vantage had a large part in the support of this fundraiser by providing additional monetary donations and transportation of gifts.

The substantial funds raised by the Interact Club, along with the grant and donations, allowed them to take their Toss A Toy event to new heights. Armed with a budget that surpassed all expecta-

tions, the students were able to purchase a variety of larger toys, ranging from bicycles to playsets, filling the stage with an impressive display of joy-inducing gifts. The decision to invest in bigger toys not only enhanced the visual impact of the event but also ensured that the children receiving these gifts, ages newborn to 12 years, experienced an unforgettable holiday season. Thanks to the longstanding partnership with Lee Kinstle GM located in Van Wert, the purchased gifts were loaded into their box truck and distributed to local families who are unable to afford special gifts for their children during the Christmas season

The success of Toss A Toy extends beyond the monetary value raised. The event serves as a catalyst for community engagement, bringing together students, faculty, and local residents in a shared mission of spreading holiday cheer. The Interact Club's dedication to service not only brightens the lives of children during the festive season but also fosters a sense of unity and compassion within the Vantage Career Center community.

## ELEMENTARY STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT HOUSES AND BUILDINGS



Preschoolers from Mrs. Kohart's morning class are shown with their Taco Bell.

The preschoolers in Mrs. Kohart's class at Paulding Elementary have been learning about houses and buildings. They are so excited about the new Taco Bell that is being constructed in town, that they have been building their own Taco Bell in their Blocks and Building center.

## The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:

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

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

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

Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments

Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

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Responses need to be received by Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. to be considered for the next publication. We reserve the right to edit for length, content and worthiness.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

America & God or less

This letter should be about Christmas, God and Jesus, but we still have too many non-thinkers out there. They think that voting Democrat or Republican is the only way. They don't appear bright enough to bother investigating who to vote for. Take this last election, if Biden was such a 'Hot Shot' politician, why did his Washington co-workers call him 'Do nothing Biden'?

Are you a Christian? Do you know that just going to church on a regular basis or doing good deeds for others doesn't make you a Christian? You must confess that you are a sinner and ask Jesus into your heart and be your Lord.

Maybe you will come to the point of hearing God's Holy Spirit talk to you. You may think, how can that be? I don't know but I feel that He spoke to me at least three times. All three relate to my life being so blessed today. I will attempt to tell the last time, the one that changed my life forever.

I became a widower after 45 1/2 year marriage. My wife was sick for 43 1/2 of those years. I feel that when you speak your marriage vows to your mate, you are also confessing that same to God and that is never to be broken. We lived in rural Defiance but shortly after her passing on Feb. 10, 2003 I decided to return to church in Hicksville.

I became friends with two sisters there. Early that fall I read they lost a sister. I went to Browns Funeral Home to pay my respects. Only one sister was in the chapel so we talked for about 10 minutes. I knew her husband since about 1947. When I turned to leave there was a fourth sister about 5 or 6 feet behind me. The instant I saw her, I heard God's Holy Spirit say: She is the one.

That was 11-1-03 and Sandy was a widow of 17 years. Sandy is a terrific Christian lady and come March 6, 2024 we will celebrate 20 great years. Our goal is to celebrate being 100 together.

I had not planned on telling that but it does show how faith in God can improve any situation you face. Right

now the America we love is facing its greatest challenge in modern history. Do we remain a free people or become enslaved to some communist tyrant. It can and will happen if today's Democrats get their way. If they should happen to win in 2024, there will be no stopping them.

Think back to how our churches got packed after the Twin Towers came down. People couldn't look for God fast enough. Thinking America was under attack, they all felt good and a need to find God before it was too late for them. What about your upcoming car accident or being shot by one of our non-Christian military under orders to do so or he could be executed.

You may not see communism coming but I feel it is coming at us faster than that proverbial snow-ball. Only you can stop it but you must stand for and with God to do so. Don't think or leave it to the other guy to take action. If I looked at life like that I wouldn't have written my first letter to the editor 22 years ago, which was responsible for a Hicksville Christian hating doctor being removed from staff. He actually praised the towers coming down.

I believe Democrats have strived for this dark day in our history since 1950. The ACLU drew up the plans in the 1930's, believing full well America could be captured. They only had to wait for the right time and do it slow so we wouldn't be aware of their evil.

The average age of a nation surviving is 250 years. America's last birthday saw us at 247 years. Are you going to let us die off or will you help us survive.

Sandy and I pray you all have a safe and blessed Christmas and that you may attend a church near you.

—Richard Mastin  
Hicksville, OH

(EV Station ... cont'd from Page 1)

structure (NEVI) program.

Located at the London Pilot Travel Center along Interstate 70 at U.S. 42, as part of a collaboration with General Motors, the nation's first NEVI charging station is equipped with fast chargers installed by EVgo and owned by Pilot Travel Centers LLC. Each charging stall is capable of providing up to 350 kW when charging a single vehicle and when multiple vehicles are charging at the same time, each port will receive up to 175 kW. This amount of

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BAUGHMAN TILE HOSTS PAULDING COUNTY BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL



Baughman Tile Company recently hosted the final Paulding County Business Advisory Council (BAC) meeting for 2023. The quarterly meetings are open to all business professionals and educators, located in and around Paulding County, that are interested in developing communication between the two sectors. The goal is to make sure a pipeline of opportunities are available for students, and residents alike. The meeting continues to grow as a new record of 37 guests attended.

Eric Baughman, Vice President of Direct Sales with Baughman Tile, welcomed all guests to the facility and gave just a brief overview of the facility, now under its fifth generation of leadership. The Paulding County Economic Development team of Director Tim Copey and Office Manager Kristen Schilt then shared the agenda and introduced James Ricker, Coordi-

nator of Workforce Development and Community Partnerships with Rhodes State College, who discussed apprenticeship and other workforce opportunities with attendees.

The agenda for this fourth quarter meeting was education heavy as the BAC Steering Committee works to make stronger connections with business leaders and educators. Northwest State, Ohio Northern, Defiance College, Rhodes State and Indiana Tech were all in attendance. Rhodes State, Vantage Career Center, Western Buckeye Educational Service Center and all three county high schools updated the BAC on projects or plans they are working on or looking to initiate.

Copey then shared that the Paulding County College, Business and Industry Expo has been scheduled at the Paulding County Fairgrounds for Thursday, April 4, 2024.

This is a growing event that currently brings all Paulding County junior and senior students on site to meet with businesses, armed services and educational providers from the region. Copey explained that this is not aimed at being a hiring event, but more so an event that allows students to learn about and understand all the great businesses and employment opportunities in the region for future employment. Great discussion followed in how the event might be improved with businesses offering hands-on opportunities and if there could be younger classes of students invited to participate.

The first quarter BAC Steering Committee meeting in will be hosted at the PCED office on February 7 from 1-2pm. The BAC meeting will then be held on Wednesday, March 6 at a time and site to be determined.

power is enough to charge most EVs up to 80% in 20-40 minutes, depending on the vehicle's battery.

As a leader in creating a statewide network of fast charging stations, Ohio has acted with urgency to give the state an advantage in securing the equipment and workforce needed to successfully implement its plan. Building a reliable network of fast chargers is key to eliminating "range anxiety" for EV drivers and increasing access to cutting-edge technology in every part of the state.

In addition to being reliable and conveniently located less than a mile from the interstate, NEVI stations must include access to restrooms and a place to buy food and beverages while you charge.

At this Pilot location, customers can also access Wi-Fi

and are sheltered from the weather by a large overhead canopy.

"Today marks a major step toward America's electric future, as we work to scale up a nationwide network of electric vehicle chargers by the end of the decade," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. "By investing in electric infrastructure, we are creating good-paying jobs, reducing carbon pollution, and securing America's position as the global leader in automotive innovation."

ODOT and Pilot Travel Centers expect to begin construction on nine more EV charging locations in Ohio over the next several months. By the end of 2024, a total of 25 new fast charging stations are anticipated to be operational in Ohio, which represents a total investment of

more than \$24 million. This includes \$18 million in NEVI funding plus \$6 million from the private entities selected to install and operate the charging stations, including Pilot Travel Centers, Francis Energy, Meijer, EVgo Services, and ChargeNet Stations.

In total, Ohio will receive \$140 million in NEVI funds over five years to support the installation of EV charging stations across the state. While the first round focused on interstates, future rounds will fill in infrastructure gaps along major U.S. and state routes as well. ODOT is currently accepting proposals for the next round of funding through January 25, 2024, at 1 p.m. EST. To learn more about how to submit a proposal, please visit http://drive.ohio.gov/nevi.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

- OHIO LOCATIONS**  
**Antwerp:** Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H2O, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows  
**Bryan:** Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General  
**Cecil:** 127 Maramart  
**Charloe:** Charloe Store  
**Continental:** Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware  
**Defiance:** Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library  
**Edgerton:** Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)  
**Grover Hill:** N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library  
**Hicksville:** Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library  
**Ney:** Marathon  
**Oakwood:** Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip  
**Paulding:** Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County

- Hospital, Kwik Mart, PC Carnegie Library  
**Payne:** Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library  
**Sherwood:** Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library  
**Scott:** Scott Post Office  
**Van Wert:** CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Family Video, Orchard Tree

- INDIANA LOCATIONS**  
**Fort Wayne:** Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Great Clips & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living  
**Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales  
**Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank  
**Hoagland:** Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub  
**Milan Center:** Milan Center Feed & Grain  
**Monroeville:** Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, The Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General  
**New Haven:** ACP Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, McDonalds, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's  
**Woodburn:** Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACP Library, Willies Cafe II

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# PJHS PRIDE CARD HOLDERS



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

## PAULDING COUNTY ZONING INSPECTOR MEETING

The fourth quarter and final Paulding County Zoning Inspector meeting was hosted recently at the Paulding County Economic Development (PCED) office. Sarah McCabe from the Paulding County Auditor office shared 2023 permit reports with inspectors present from their respective townships and villages.

PCED Director Tim

Copsey provided updates on land bank projects and informed the group about where the land bank stands on Ohio Department of Development funding and how funds remaining from the previous round are being allocated. There is a growing list of structures being accumulated now for the next round of funding. Applications for this funding will be due April 1, 2024.

Copsey also shared that as blight is being removed and

properties are being remediated, there is also an opportunity for the land bank to purchase these open lots with the purpose of selling to residential builders for building new speculative homes. As these opportunities transpire, it is important for the zoning inspectors to have accurate zoning information available and be involved early in the building discussions.

McCabe then closed out the meeting showing the Paulding County Auditor GIS

# ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZENS MEAL HOSTED BY WT VISUAL ARTS STUDENTS



The Wayne Trace Performing and Visual Arts Departments hosted their annual Senior Citizens' Meal on December 6 with over 120 people in attendance. Choir and band students spread their holiday cheer with a va-

riety of songs to accompany the meal.

The event was decorated with centerpiece baskets made by students in grades 7-12 under the guidance of local artist Jayne Smith as part of an Art Possible Ohio Grant.

Placemats, holiday cards, and ornament favors were made with the help of the Wayne Trace Art Technology classes along with Payne and Grover Hill Elementary students through the support of an Ohio Arts Council Grant.

website and sharing information about how to navigate the site along with helpful hints in finding the critical information in research.

The 2024 first quarter meeting will be held on March 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the PCED office.

## BOWLING WITH THE COUNTRYSIDE KIDS



Ella Zimmerman helping a Cloverbud bowl!

By: Krandon Crites, DHI Media 4-H Writer

On December 2, 2023 the CountrySide kids had the opportunity to go bowling at Pin-A-Rama lanes in Antwerp for their annual Christmas party. If you would like to check them out, they are located on 207 Daggett St, in Antwerp, OH. The kids were divided into eight groups, with one leader and two or more Cloverbuds.

The groups bowled for about an hour and a half. The CountrySide Kids had pizza

and were supplied 2 free drinks each. Before everyone left, each kid went through a cookie line and get four cookies each time they went through. There were many different kinds of cookies including sugar cookies, frosted cookies, and even candy canes! I would like to thank our club advisor, Beth Schweinsberg, and the Cloverbud advisor, Jason Zimmerman, for their help. And I would also like to thank the employees of Pin-A-Rama Lanes for helping and allowing us to come!

## NSCC RECOGNIZES PHI THETA KAPPA AND ALPHA DELTA NU INDUCTEES AT RECENT CEREMONY



Phi Theta Kappa inductees: L to R: Braden Beck, Jaden Bowers, Justin Galbraith, and Rebekah Faber-Starr (PTK Advisor)

Northwest State Community College recently recognized Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Delta Nu inductees at an evening ceremony on the Archbold campus. The event, held on 11/30/23, opened with a welcome by Dr. Melanie Hicks, Nursing Faculty and ADN advisor, followed by an inspirational and congratulatory address by Dr. Franklin Roberts, Dean of

STEM and Industrial Tech. Dr. Hicks inducted the ADN students, while Rebekah Faber-Starr, NSCC Science faculty and PTK advisor, welcomed the PTK inductees to the Honors Society. The evening welcomed six ADN members, and three PTK members.

ADN AND PTK DETAILS In order to qualify for induction into the Alpha Delta

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# PAULDING FFA GETS IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT THROUGH SERVICE



Pictured here are the 17 Paulding FFA members who helped to take down the Christmas trees and put them in storage for the year at the Paulding Historical Society.

By: Grace Goyings, Paulding FFA Reporter

The Paulding FFA gets in the Christmas spirit early in late October when a group of members go and assist the Paulding Historical Society with the setup of their Christmas trees for the annual festival.

The Paulding FFA officers then put together their own tree as a team following the theme for the year. This year's theme was a story book Christmas and we focused on children's Christmas books that involved agriculture.

This year the FFA tree received the most donations in their can to contribute back to the historical society. Then each year in late November the Paulding FFA participates in Paulding County Adopt a Family Program. This year a group of 12 members went to Walmart and went shopping for four children from the ages of 6 to 16.

These are some of our favorite community service events where we get to help our local community and live by the FFA motto "Living to Serve." Once all the gifts were bought we had a group of 18

members help to wrap and label all gifts for the children to have a wonderful Christmas.

Then in early December a group of 17 members met at the historical society to put away all the trees in storage from the festival until next year. Finally, in class on Friday FFA members were served hot chocolate, decorated sugar cookies and constructed and decorated gingerbread houses as our FFA chapter Christmas celebration. We are so happy to partner with many community organizations to assist others and volunteer in our community.



Alpha Delta Nu inductees: Lindsay Pedraza, Alexis Miller, Alexis Woods, Kyla Karzynow, Kamdyn Etzler, Kylee Trucks, Tera Thompson, Dr. Melanie Hicks (NSCC nursing faculty).

Chapter of the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society, students must maintain a minimum 3.0 grade point average, with at least a B in all nursing classes. The mission

of the Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society is to recognize the academic excellence of students in the study of Associate Degree Nursing. The society encourages the pursuit

of advance degrees in the profession of nursing as well as continuing education as a life-long professional responsibility.

To be eligible for induction into Phi Theta Kappa, students must have a minimum 3.5 grade point average after completing at least eighteen credit hours of college coursework. Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) recognizes the academic achievement of college students and provides opportunities for its members to grow as scholars and leaders. Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa has a presence on almost 1,300 community col-

lege campuses in 11 nations. The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the official honor society for two-year colleges in 1929. More than 3.8 million students have been inducted since 1918, with approximately 250,000 active members in the nation's community colleges, making Phi Theta Kappa a true catalyst among members and colleges.

Alpha Delta Nu recipients: Lindsay Pedraza (Napoleon), Alexis Miller (Wauseon), Alexis Woods (Napoleon), Kyla Karzynow (Defiance), Kamdyn Etzler (Paulding), Kylee Trucks (Wauseon), and Tera Thompson (Paulding).

Phi Theta Kappa inductees: Bradon Beck (Archbold), Jaden Bowers (West Unity), and Justin Galbraith (Wauseon).

## STRONG FIRST HALF PROPELS PAULDING TO WIN OVER PETTISVILLE

After suffering their first loss on Friday night, the Paulding Panthers rebounded the following evening to record a 53-47 win at Pettisville Saturday evening.

The maroon and white did so based on a strong first half, outscoring the Blackbirds 16-8 in the opening period before adding a 19-point second quarter in expanding the margin to 35-21 at the intermission.

Pettisville did outscore the Panthers 15-11 in the third period to trim the deficit to 46-36 entering the final quarter. The Blackbirds won the fourth quarter as well, putting up 11 points to Paulding's

## DAF DONATES TO FDHS



Fort Defiance Humane Society (FDHS) was the recent recipient of \$4,800 from The Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) to be used to purchase a back up generator for the

shelter. Pictured (L to R) is Lisa Weaner - Executive Director of the FDHS, Drew Shindler - DAF Grants Committee and Board Member, and our furry friend Stewey.

seven, but it wasn't enough as the Panthers held on for the six-point victory.

Blake Rhonehouse led the way for the maroon and white with 15 points while Grady Barton bucketed 14 markers for Paulding. Casey Agler also reached double digits with 11 points for the Panthers.

Kane Jones chipped in seven for Paulding with Tytus

Manz and Greyson Harder both recording three points.

The Blackbirds were led by Jack Leppelmeier with 17 points while teammate Joey Ripke posted 11 markers.

Other scorers for the Fulton County squad included Caden Bishop (eight), Johnny Fenton (seven), Kaleb Wyse (three) and Mason Wyse (one).

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# THE LEFT TURN



Ashton Winger won the Oakshade feature and the Dirt Car Summer National Championship. *Charlie Orns Photos*



5M Ryan Markham battles Kyle Blight at the Oakshade Dirt Car Summer Nationals. *Charlie Orns Photos*

By: Ron Burt

The Rumble Is Coming  
On December 29th and 30th several very competitive classes of cars will compete at the Allen County War Memorial Coliseum inside the Expo Center. The Midjets are the headliners for the weekend. Let's not count out the other classes that are loaded with veteran drivers that know how to run around a flat track, wheel to wheel, bumper to bumper and not letting off the gas pedal as drivers try to figure out how to pass cars to take and keep the lead. I'm talking Go Karts. When they take the track, don't visit the concession stand. If you do, there's a chance you'll miss one of the best races of the



Shawn Kluck looks to get his G21 owned Kart back in victory lane. *Rumble File Photo*

weekend.  
Go kart racing has been a very important part of the Rumble in Fort Wayne. Racing Karts are often overshadowed by the various Midget divisions, the Go Kart classes have traditionally captivated the fans with their harrowing speeds and intense competition on the purpose-built concrete oval.  
"There is no other racing

like it in America," said Nick Welch (Brownsburg, IN), who has competed in the event and now serves as crew chief for several teams. "You're an inch off the ground, circling a 1/6th mile oval in seven seconds; all while side by side with your competition and both of you trying to keep all 4 tires on the ground."

All competing classes will be racing on a surface consisting of racing rubber built up over a syrup base, the set-up needed for victory can be difficult. Shawn Kluck (Fremont, OH), a multi-time kart winner at the Rumble agreed. "It is by far the most grueling, technical, and prestigious race when it comes to coke syrup racing. That is the lure that attracts the best concrete racers in the Nation to gather in a battle against not only each other, but against the track, to hold the checkered flag and bragging rights for a full year."

Promoter Larry Boos talked about this year's track. "The base layer will remain Coke syrup spread on to the concrete floor of the Expo Center, but over that we will be spraying VHI, a liquid rosin, similar to what is used at the dragstrips. This is the process successfully used at the Atlantic City (NJ) indoor racing events, and the folks from there are working with us on their set-up to see if we can bring back more side-by-side racing that the Rumble enjoyed over the years."

This year Kart racers competing in the 360 Clone

class will have a huge payday with the 6th annual John Limbacher Memorial Race on night two. A payoff of \$2,000 awaits the victor of this special event honoring the memory of veteran engine builder Limbacher from northwestern Ohio. Fremont, Ohio's Shawn Kluck will be going for his third straight win in the classic event.

2024 Dirt Car Summer Nationals

The Dirt Car Summer Nationals for Late Models and Modifieds have 29 race dates on this year's calendar. The closest tracks to our area in N.W. Ohio will be in July. On the 10th the cars will be at Hartford Motor Speedway, 11th Butler Motor Speedway, 12th Crystal Motor Speedway all in southern Michigan. In Ohio the cars will race July 13th at Oakshade Raceway in Wauseon and the series will conclude the following night in Orrville Ohio at Wayne County Speedway.

Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out! [ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com](mailto:ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com)

## DEFIANCE COUNTY FARM OUTLOOK MEETING

While there is not much fieldwork a farmer can do as the winter weather begins to take hold, there is no lack of work that can be done to plan and prepare an operation for what the next season may hold. In Defiance County, Ohio State Extension is kicking off winter programming with an opportunity for farmers and ag professionals to sit down, have a meal, and listen to specialists in their fields discuss the outlook of agriculture for the coming year.

The lineup of speakers will cover what is happening regionally and internationally, as well as actionable items and programs available to farmers. Starting off will be state farm management specialist Eric Richer, who will give the presentation "Beginning Farmer Programs" discussing three opportunities for beginning farmers to overcome key hurdles. Following will be a presentation titled "Halfway to Go: What's over the Horizon in the Rest of this Grain Marketing Year?" from Dr. Seungki Lee, with his overview of the grain market. Closing will be Dr. Ian Sheldon with a discussion on the global scope titled "The Global Economic Outlook: Tilted to the Downside Risks".

Defiance County Extension is excited to host this program for our local agricultural community. The program will be on January 23rd, 2024, from 5:30 pm to 9 pm at the Jewell Community Center. Registration closes by January 12th. For more information and to register for the program visit the county website at [defiance.osu.edu](http://defiance.osu.edu) or call the office at 419-782-4771.

## NORTH WESTERN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE RETURNS \$590,800 TO MEMBERS

Many North Western Electric Cooperative (NWE) member-owners will see a lower electric bill around the holidays. This month, the cooperative is returning \$590,800 in capital credits to current and former member-owners. Eligible member-owners will receive the refund as a credit on their electric bill or as a separate check in December. These capital credits

represent the cooperative's margins, or money left over after all bills have been paid.

As a not-for-profit community-focused organization, NWE uses these margins for investments, such as building or replacing power lines, transformers, and other electric system upgrades to meet members' evolving needs. This helps keep the co-op's service reliable.

After being used as working capital, the money is returned to member-owners. It represents each co-op member's ownership — or equity — in his or her cooperative. Capital credits are allocated to member-owners in proportion to the dollar amount of electricity used. Then, usually on bills due in December, some of those allocations are distributed back to the members in what NWE calls a retirement.

This month's payment goes to eligible member-owners who purchased electricity from NWE in 2003 and 2022 (allocation notices were included on bills for March use). If you were a member during either or both of those years, you get a return on your ownership and will see a "capital credit retirement" line item on your bill due in December. If you are no longer a member now, NWE will send a check to your last known address.

"Returning capital credits demonstrates that NWE members are not just customers; they are members and part-owners of their electric cooperative, which belongs to the communities it serves," said NWE President/CEO Darin Thorp. "Members have equity ownership in NWE's physical assets — and receive a financial return on those assets, unlike customers of other utilities."

For more information about capital credits, contact NWE at 1-800-647-6932.

Bryan-based North Western Electric Cooperative (NWE) is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric utility dedicated to providing superior member service; safe, affordable, and reliable electricity; and improved quality of life for its community. NWE serves nearly 5,900 consumers in Williams, Defiance, Henry, and Paulding counties.

## WINTER READING CHALLENGE KICKS OFF JAN. 1

Defiance County residents can win prizes just for reading during Defiance Public Library System's (DPLS) 2024 'Where We Come From' Winter Reading Challenge, taking place online from Jan. 1-31.

Registration for the challenge, sponsored by Lerner Publishing Group, is open now at [defiancelibrary.beanstack.org](http://defiancelibrary.beanstack.org). Participants can also use the Beanstack Tracker app, available in the Apple & Google Play stores, to log their reading on the go.

All ages can participate, and readers are challenged to read (or listen to audiobooks) for at least four hours during the month. There will be a weekly drawing for a \$5 gift card to a local coffee shop, and a grand-prize drawing for a \$40 gift card. The prizes were sponsored by the Friends of Defiance Public Library and an anonymous donor.

This year's theme was inspired by the picture book 'Where We Come From,' by John Coy, Shannon Gibney,

# BOUCHER GOYINGS SPEAKS TO THE KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Sharon Boucher Goyings as the guest speaker at the December 14, 2023, club meeting. Sharon came at the invitation of Jane Gray (Clerk, USPS). Sharon spoke to the Kiwanians about her journey obtaining American citizenship.

## OUR SNOWMEN MELTED! AT ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS



I made a little snowman, with a little hat. The sun came out and melted him, and now my snowman's flat! The children at Ann's Bright Beginnings had a good time creating this craft after reading "Sneezy the Snowman" during class this week. Shown here with their creations are: Amelia Thrasher, Mateo Ash, Van Snyder and Johanna Federighi.

Sun Yung Shin, and Diane Wilson, and is centered on topics of family, identity, and personal history.

Books do not need to fit the theme to count toward the

challenge.  
For more information, visit [defiancelibrary.org/winter](http://defiancelibrary.org/winter) or call the library at 419-782-1456.

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

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

**CROSSCOUNTRY MORTGAGE, LLC, Plaintiff, vs. ANGEL R. OMONAYIN, ET AL., Defendants,**

Case No. CI 23 133

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

**725 North Main Street, Paulding, Parcel Number: 30-04S-021-00**

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

Said premises appraised at Fifty-four Thousand and No/100 (\$54,000.00) 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 18, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

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

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

In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on February 1, 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.pauldingohsheriff.com](http://www.pauldingohsheriff.com)

Ronald J. Cherek, Attorney for Plaintiff

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DOT Inspections • ASE Certified Staff  
Tim & Victor Klopfenstein 19718 Notestine Road  
657-5700 shop Woodburn, IN 46797





**ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS**

November 27, the police department received a call from Antwerp School in reference to a phone call they received from a former student.

November 28, a minor accident was reported at the intersection of Canal and Waterplant. A report was prepared.

November 29, Maumee Police Department requested several records check on individuals. The local record checks were performed and provided to them.

December 1, a report was received of a suspicious vehicle at the Jehovah Witness Hall. The call was referred to the Paulding County Sheriff's office.

December 1, an individual that was charged with shoplifting at Dollar General returned the money for the items that were stolen. The

money was returned to Dollar General.

December 2, Antwerp Police Department responded to a car fire. When officers arrived, they were met by the fire chief and it was determined to be an overheated radiator.

December 2, an officer was called to a residence on Stone St for a possible domestic dispute. It was determined nothing physical had occurred and it was referred to the prosecutor's office.

December 2, a resident of Buffalo St. reported someone had called and she wanted to report the call as a scam call.

December 6, Antwerp Police Department received a call of someone driving up and down Wentworth Ave. firing a gun. An officer responded, pursued after the vehicle after they had fled. The officer arrested individual and charged them with domestic violence and improper handling of a firearm. The individual was taken to Paulding County Jail. Further charges are pending at the prosecutor's office.

December 7, officers were called to a residence on Stone St. in reference to someone yelling, screaming and pounding on the wall.

December 8, Antwerp Police Department received an arrest warrant for an individual in the village. At the

**FATAL STRUCTURE FIRE**



At 9:18 p.m. the evening of December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, the Cecil Fire Department was dispatched to 204 N. Stafford St. in the Village of Cecil for a mobile home on fire. Cecil is situated in Crane Township in northern Paulding County.

The burning structure was fully involved when first responders arrived on scene. Witnesses said a resident was still believed to be inside. Once the scene was safe, fire fighters located a deceased person inside the residence.

The State Fire Marshall and Paulding County Coroner was summoned to the scene to assist the fire department and deputies with this investigation.

At the time of this press release, Cecil Fire Department is currently working this fire scene with mutual aid from neighboring jurisdictions. More information will be released once positive identification and proper notification is made regarding the deceased person.

time of this report, he has not been located.

December 8, Antwerp Police Department received a request to be present in reference to custody issue at residence on Erie St.

December 8, Antwerp Police Department was requested to go to an apartment at Park Avenue Villas in reference to custody issue.

December 9, a set of keys were turned in to the Police Department that was found in the village.

December 9, one of the downtown businesses reported receiving a \$50 bill that was found to be counterfeit. Officers located the individual that spent the \$50, and they were unaware that it was counterfeit. A report was made and forwarded to other agencies.

December 11, Antwerp Police Department was contacted by a resident on Woodcox St in reference to someone suffering from mental illness. Antwerp EMS was called and transported the individual.

December 12, members of the Antwerp Police Department assisted members of secret service with executing a search warrant at a residence in the village of Antwerp. The investigation is on going.

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

**PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS**

**Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report**

**Zachary L. Zeedyk**, Hicksville, OH; Hunt without permission; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Chykeria C. Carr**, Muncie, IN; Possession of marijuana, Case dismissed per state, Costs to defendant; Driving under non-FRA suspension, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs  
**Victor M. Mendoza**, Anderson, IN; OVI/under influence, Pled no contest, found guilty, 180 days jail, 178 sus-

pending, Operator's license suspended 8/5/23 to 8/5/24, All contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency; Driving under non-FRA suspension, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs  
**Westen H. Phlipot**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Chase Schaefer**, Payne, OH; Permit/operate; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Gale W. Davis**, Defiance, OH; Traffic device/signal; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Sherman E. Preston**, Toledo, OH; Driving under FRA suspension  
**Dean D. Bowers**, Defiance, OH; Child restraint; Case dismissed with prejudice; Costs to defendant  
**Chad M. Schnepf**, Grover Hill, OH; Reckless operation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Erby J. Gonzales Jr.**, Defiance, OH; Hunting without permission; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant  
**Eson B. Hutson**, Detroit, MI; OVI/under influence, Guilty, 90 days jail, 80 days jail suspended, Operator's license suspension 1/15/24 to 1/15/25; Reckless opera-

**WEST BEND NEWS Crossword Puzzle WINTER SOLSTICE**

- Across**
- The Earth's tilt on THIS causes the changing seasons, including the Winter Solstice.
  - Ancient devices and some modern ones are designed to align with the Winter Solstice sun.
  - This astronomical event marking the shortest day and longest night of the year marking the beginning of winter.
  - The Winter Solstice is sometimes referred to as the longest WHAT.
  - Besides Stonehenge, other OF THESE align with the Winter Solstice.
  - A traditional festival celebrated around the time of the Winter Solstice.
  - The Winter Solstice is a time when these (Aurora Borealis) can be visible.
  - Ancient Celtic priests and WHO celebrated the Winter Solstice.
  - A Neolithic monument, in Ireland, are aligned with the Winter Solstice sunrise.
  - The Sun enters the sign of Capricorn around the time of the Winter Solstice. Capricorn is considered a sign of WHAT?
- Down**
- Symbolically, the Winter Solstice represents the triumph of light over this.
  - Many ancient cultures including this group hold festivals and rituals to mark the Winter Solstice.
  - Another term used to describe the Winter Solstice, as it marks the middle of the winter season.
  - Areas within the Arctic Circle experience the polar night during the Winter Solstice.
  - What is at its lowest point in the sky during the Winter Solstice.
  - The Winter Solstice has the least amount of this than any other day in the year.
  - The Winter Solstice occurs in December in the Northern THIS and in June in the Southern THIS.
  - A prehistoric monument in England aligned with the Winter Solstice sunrise.
  - The month in which the Winter Solstice typically occurs.
  - In some cultures, the Winter Solstice symbolizes the rebirth of the Sun or the start of a new solar year.
  - This meteor shower often occurs in mid-December near the Winter Solstice.
  - In the Southern Hemisphere, the Sun is at its WHAT during the Winter Solstice.

solution on page 11

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:

Paulding County Hospital • 1035 West Wayne St. • Paulding, OH 45879  
Antwerp Regional Health Ctr • 608 Erie Street • Antwerp, OH, 45813  
Oakwood Medical Center • 109 N. First Street • Oakwood, OH 45873  
Payne Medical Center • 301 South Main Street • Payne, OH 45880

tion; Count B dismissed; Child restraint, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs  
**Ryan G. Stein**, Zionsville, IN; Left of center, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Distracted driving, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant  
**Kyle J. Capron**, Toledo, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

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**HICKSVILLE VILLAGE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE**

**ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE OF HICKSVILLE VILLAGE**  
An Ordinance to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Hicksville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024.  
**Section 1. BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Village of Hicksville, State of Ohio, That to provide for the current expenses and other expenditures of the said Village of Hicksville during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, the following sums be and they are hereby set aside and appropriated as follows, viz:  
**Section 2.** That there be appropriated from the GENERAL FUND for contingencies for the purposes not otherwise provided for, to be expended in accordance with the provisions of Section 7505.40 R.C. the sum of: \$2,480,695.48  
General Fund \$2,480,695.48  
Special Revenue Funds \$1,701,442.33  
Capital Projects Funds \$2,287,737.62  
Enterprise Funds \$4,653,430.00  
**\$11,123,305.43**  
Document may be seen in its entirety at the office of the Fiscal Officer at 111 South Main Street, Hicksville Ohio 43526.  
DATED: 12/4/23  
**CHERYL SMITH, FISCAL OFFICER**

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

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153  
**U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,**  
vs.  
**CYNTHIA J. MOULDER, ET AL., Defendants,**  
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](http://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://paulding.sheriffsaleauction.ohio.gov>  
Registration and deposits must be completed at least one week before the date of sale.  
In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on January 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.pauldingohsheriff.com](http://www.pauldingohsheriff.com)  
Chris Manolis, Attorney for Plaintiff

**HICKSVILLE VILLAGE ORDINANCE 2023-17**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PAY RANGES FOR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES**  
WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of Hicksville, Ohio, desires to establish pay ranges for its Village employees, to be effective January 1, 2024.  
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the Village of Hicksville, Ohio,  
**SECTION 1:** Effective January 1, 2024, the following named positions shall be paid at the following rates of pay:  
Police Chief \$66,312.82 per year  
Police Lieutenant \$25.78 per hour  
Police Sergeant \$24.53 per hour  
Patrolman I \$23.94 per hour  
Patrolman II \$21.53 per hour  
Part-time Patrolman \$21.53 per hour  
Police/Mayors Court Clerk \$20.00 per hour  
Water Superintendent contracted \$22.13 per hour  
WWTP Superintendent \$71,020.00 per year  
WWTP Foreman \$22.13 per hour  
Street Foreman \$22.13 per hour  
Grade I Laborer \$20.92 per hour  
Grade II Laborer \$19.62 per hour  
Grade III Laborer \$18.50 per hour  
Grade IV Laborer \$14.85 per hour  
Part-time Laborer \$13.36 per hour  
Part-time Custodian \$13.36 per hour  
Part-time Beautification Coordinator \$17.20 per hour  
Part-time Zoning Inspector \$20.00 per hour  
Full-time Zoning Inspector \$16.56 per hour  
Utility Clerk \$20.00 per hour  
Senior Utility Clerk \$16.56 per hour  
Income Tax Administrator \$20.00 per hour  
Senior Income Tax Administrator \$13,112.72 per year  
Administrative Asst. \$1.00 per hour plus certification rate  
Fireman \$14.19 per hour  
EMR \$16.38 per hour  
EMT-Basic \$18.56 per hour  
EMT-Intermediate \$19.65 per hour  
EMT-Paramedic \$20.74 per hour  
(Note: On Call pay for EMT's and Firefighter Drivers is \$1.00 per hour)  
Park / Pool Director \$16,377.00 per year  
Park Groundskeeper \$16.38 per hour  
Part-Time Park Laborers \$13.36 per hour  
Head Lifeguard \$14.00 per hour  
Lifeguard \$12.00 per hour  
Pool Desk Clerk \$10.00 per hour  
Clerk of Mayor Court \$19.44 per hour  
Assistant Fiscal Officer \$19.44 per hour  
Assistant Administrator \$19.07 per hour  
Assistant Clerk \$16.10 per hour  
HIX TV Station Manager \$999.60/mo Plus 50% of Underwriting fees  
HIXTV Youth Director \$305.66 per month  
**SECTION 2:** Effective January 1, 2024, the following elected and appointed officials shall be paid the stated amounts:  
(1) Administrator \$62,921.60 per year  
(2) Fiscal Officer \$51,940.00 per year  
(2) Mayor \$14,712.59 per year - presides over Mayor's Court \$9,656.44 per year - no Mayor's Court  
(3) Council Members \$4,856.83 per year  
**SECTION 3:** This Ordinance is declared to be an emergency measure for the peace, health, welfare and safety of the Village of Hicksville, Ohio and for the further purpose that this Ordinance is necessary to meet the required time deadlines involved and the economic needs of the Village and shall, therefore, take effect and be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval by the mayor.  
DATED: 12/04/23  
**RONALD JONES, MAYOR**  
**CHERYL SMITH, FISCAL OFFICER**

# KLOPFENSTEIN, KING CONDEMN CHINA'S ATTACK ON OHIOANS IN NEW RESOLUTION



State Reps. Klopfenstein and King introduce legislation condemning China's attack on Ohioans.

COLUMBUS—State Reps. Roy Klopfenstein (R-Haviland) and Angie King (R-Celina) today introduced a resolution that condemns the People's Republic of China for its role in the global drug trade.

"While we doubt that this resolution will result in Xi Jinping or the Los Zheng cartel losing sleep, it is crucial to shed light on the daily dangers faced by Ohioans," said Klopfenstein. "Our aim is for Ohio to serve as a model for

other states in addressing this pressing issue."

"Unfortunately, Ohio has consistently ranked among the top 10 states for fentanyl overdose fatalities with over four thousand reported in 2020 alone—a 32% increase from 2019," said King. "Regrettably, this number continues to rise each year with over 90 percent of illicit fentanyl originating from China."

The proposed legislation awaits a bill number and committee assignment.

## ARCHER WRESTLING @ HICKSVILLE INVITE



Great day of wrestling for the Archers at Hicksville recently. The wrestlers worked their tails off and had some great building blocks for the rest of the season!

Placed 5th out of 11 teams Individual records and placement include:

2nd Gage Clevinger 3-2

with 3 pins @126

2nd Kamren Johnson 4-1

with 4 pins @132

3rd Zac Salas 3-2 with 2

pins 1 Tech Fall @144

1st Skyler Octaviano 5-0

with 5 pins @150

2nd Miles Doster 3-1 with

3 pins @157

Griffin Kosch 1-3 with 1

pin @165

Maddilan Doster 0-4 @175

Landon Orozco (injured)

0-1 @190

4th Jarod Traxler 2-2 with

2 pins @HWT

Lone Junior High Wrestler

Braxtyn Bauer wrestled at

Wayne Trace with 2 pins and 1

tech fall earning a 1st place

finish.

### ARCHERS BEAT WILDCATS



**Senior Aewyn McMichael drives in, attempting to score, but fouled and earns the points from the line in the second quarter! More pictures at westbendnews.net**

The Antwerp Lady Archers outscored Miller City 23-10 at the free throw line and used that advantage to post a 48-45 overtime victory over the Wildcats Monday night in non-league girls basketball action.

The blue and white recorded a 10-6 lead at the end of one quarter before Miller City rallied to take a 19-18 halftime advantage.

After the Wildcats expanded the margin to 30-27 at the end of three periods, Antwerp rallied by picking up a dozen markers compared to the Wildcats' nine in knotting the contest at 39-39 after regulation.

The Archers then won the game in the extra session with a nine-point session while holding Miller City to six, setting the final at 48-45.

Aewyn McMichael topped Antwerp with 21 points in the contest while Caroline Rohrs added 16 markers for the Lady Archers, including a dozen free throws. McMichael hit eight foul shots as well for the blue and white.

Faith Clem chipped in six points for Antwerp with Emma Townley adding four and Maddy Peters picking up one.

Maddie Erford topped Miller City with 14 points while Jordan Schnipke added a dozen and Isabel Reyna posted eight.

Other scorers for the Lady Wildcats were Lou Michel (four), Andrea Pfau (three), Elizabeth Erford (two) and Hailey Warnimont (two).

### LADY CADETS USE FAST START TO DEFEAT ACES

Visiting Hilltop made the trip from West Unity to Hicksville Monday night (12/11) in girls basketball action and the Lady Cadets used a 25-point first quarter to pull away for a 54-37 victory over the Aces.

Hilltop opened a 25-6 advantage at the end of one period and never looked back, posting a 30-19 margin at the midway point of the contest. The Lady Cadets put the game away in the third quarter, scoring 17 additional points compared to seven for Hicksville as Hilltop took a 47-26 lead into the final

stanza.

Libbie Baker led all scorers in the contest with 21 points for Hilltop with Brynn Rodriguez also reaching double figures with 11 points.

Kelsy Connolly chipped in six markers for the Lady Cadets followed by Molly Dickinson (five), Kennedy Bailey (four), Sophia Crossgrove (four), Halle Jones (two) and Kenley Routt (one).

Hicksville was led by 14 points from Kennedy Adams with McKenna Baird chipping in eight markers.

Other scorers for the Lady Aces were McKenna Rice (four), Evy McAlexander (four), Addison Sanders (three), Ashlyn Steury (two) and Hayden Neidhardt (two).

### WILDCATS ROLL PAST ARCHERS

Delphos Jefferson scored 23 first-quarter points and the Lady Wildcats rolled to a 63-32 victory over Antwerp in non-league girls basketball action Tuesday evening (12/12).

Delphos posted a commanding 23-5 lead at the end of eight minutes of action before the Wildcats widened the gap to 35-13 at the midway point of the contest.

The Lady Wildcats then expanded the lead to 44-16 entering the final stanza.

Lyv Lindeman topped the Lady Wildcats with 24 points in the contest while Madison Burris added a dozen markers and Lauren French chipped in ten points.

Kyah Kimmett (four), Claire Brinkman (four), Kyrstin Moore (three), Aubrey Dudgeon (two), Emma Kunz (two) and Carolyn Mueller (two) completed the scoring for Delphos Jefferson.

Aewyn McMichael paced the way for the blue and white with 16 markers and Caroline Rohrs chipped in eight for the Lady Archers.

Completing the scoring for Antwerp were Raeley Franklin (three), Lydia Johnson (two), Mara Philipot (two) and Emma Townley (one).

### TIGERS RALLY TO SLIP PAST ARCHERS

In a battle of former Green Meadows Conference rivals, it was host Holgate who rallied in the second half to come from behind and beat Antwerp 43-33 in a girls basketball non-conference contest Thursday evening.

The blue and white recorded a 9-6 advantage at the end of one quarter and still led 19-18 at the midway point of the contest.

However, the Lady Tigers limited Antwerp to four third quarter points while Holgate scored ten to record a 28-23 advantage entering the final stanza.

# HICKSVILLE ACES TOP PIRATES IN FRIDAY NIGHT BASKETBALL



Aces Jr. Garrett Turnbull goes up for a shot. Photo by Lions Eye Photography

Continental Pirates traveled to Aces country to a match up at Hicksville High School gym for Friday Night basketball on December 8th. The Aces were on fire and blazed across the course for the evening as the Pirates tried to keep with the Varsity boys. Aces' Garrett Turnbull

led the team with 17 markers for the game followed by Heisler with 11, Langham 6, Sanders 5, Stuckey 4, Slattery 4, and Graber 2. Score by the Quarter: Continental - 11 9 3 1 = 24; Hicksville - 17 3 15 14 = 49. Final score posted a big win for the Aces: 49-24.

The Henry County squad then added 15 more points in the fourth quarter to pull away for the 43-33 victory.

Caroline Rohrs topped the Lady Archers with 11 points while Emma Townley chipped in ten markers and Aewyn McMichael posted nine points for Antwerp. Maddy Peters recorded the final three Antwerp points.

The Lady Tigers were paced by Mya Tijerina with a dozen markers while Isabelle Blaker added ten points for Holgate.

Jilian Eis contributed eight points for the Henry County squad followed by Anna Bower (seven), Miriam Bower (two), Hannah Fritz (two) and Markee Wilhelm (two).

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# LADY WARRIORS FALL SHORT TO BLUFFTON



Friday night High School basketball is in full swing and competition was high in Woodburn where Bluffton met up with Woodlan in girls basketball on December 8th. Lady Warriors worked the home court but it just wasn't enough to pull out the W. Final score saw a Lady Tiger victory: Bluffton 47, Woodlan 44. Pictured here: Woodlan senior Taylor Kneubuhler shoots and scores 3 points for the Warriors in the second quarter and tying the game against the Tigers. More pictures at westbendnews.net

# SOLID WIN FOR RAIDERS



WT Senior Brooks Laukhuf takes a jump shot for the Raiders. Photo by Harlee Moore

Wayne Trace hosted the Bryan Golden Bears at the Palace for Friday night varsity boys basketball on December 8th. Raiders dominated their home court in this match up, leading the scoreboard at the end of each quarter. Final buzzer chalked up a win for Wayne Trace, 54-42. Raiders dominated their

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### HICKSVILLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY CHANGING HOURS

The Hicksville Historical Society, guardians of the historic Land Office and St. Paul's Episcopal Church, is making some changes. Beginning January 3rd, "Open Hours", scheduled for the first Wednesday of each month at the Land Office on West High Street, will be from 3 to 5 pm. Built in 1840, the building is one of the oldest in the area and houses a large collection of local memorabilia. Visitors may view the items and review documents and photos during these hours - or at other times by appointment.

Once warmer weather returns, St. Paul's Church will be open for visiting as well. The church, which was built in 1875 by town founder A.P. Edgerton, is on the registry of historic places. The unique architecture, working pump organ, and amazingly well-preserved condition makes St. Paul's one-of-a-kind. Available for weddings, memorial and other special services, the church also may be viewed by appointment.

The historical society welcomes guests and invites interested people to join as members and volunteers. Check out the website at hicksvillehistoricalsociety.com; direct questions to hicksvillehistoricalsociety@gmail.com.

### PANTHERS NIP WARRIORS IN GIRLS ACTION

Lakewood Park held off visiting Woodlan for a 55-54 victory in non-league girls basketball action last Thursday near Auburn.

Junior Ava McGrade led the way for the Lady Panthers, bucketing a game high 34 points while adding three rebounds and a pair of assists.

Senior Jade Carnahan chipped in nine points for Lakewood Park to go along

with ten rebounds, eight assists and two steals with senior Grace Kamleiter chipping in six points, five rebounds, one assist and one steal.

Sophomore Riah Johnson contributed four points, five rebounds and a steal for Lakewood Park with senior Sully Nolot posting two points, two rebounds and one steal. Senior Grace Merkel added five rebounds, two assists and one steal while junior Lilia West hauled down two rebounds.

Senior Taylor Kneubuhler paced Woodlan with 15 points, three rebounds, four assists and four steals and junior Brooke Kneubuhler finished with 13 markers, four rebounds, five assists and two steals. Sophomore Alyssa Anderson also reached double figures with 11 points while adding 11 points, nine rebounds, one assist and one steal.

Junior Reagan Widenhoefer posted nine points, three rebounds, four assists and two steals for the Lady Warriors with junior Makenna Smith finishing with six points, four rebounds, one assist and one steal.

### LIONS POST WIN OVER WARRIORS

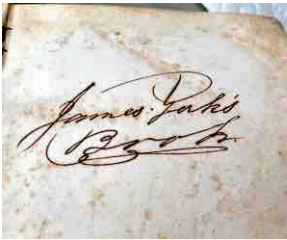
The Leo Lions won a battle of East Allen County Schools' squads Saturday evening as the Lions defeated Woodlan 60-46 in non-league boys basketball action at Leo.

The Lions recorded an 11-7 advantage after one quarter and never looked back from there, outscoring the Warriors 15-10 in the second quarter for a 26-17 halftime margin.

Leo then put the game away in the third quarter, posting 22 points in the stanza while limiting the Warriors to eight in expanding the lead to 48-25 entering the final period.

Trey Hiteshew paced Leo with 19 points while Solomon

# BUILDING CASTLES IN THE SKY



A story I remember from a reader when I was young. All those stories seemed to have a moral to them, which I'll let you interpret for yourself.

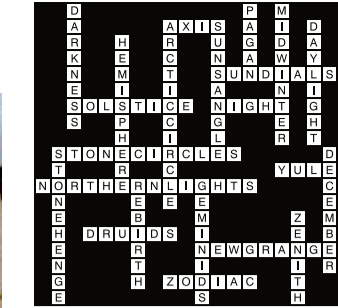
Andre' was the lazy type. It seemed he could never set his mind to anything.

When his father passed, he left Andre' the value of 100 drachmas in Persian money. Andre' got an idea how he might increase this so he came up with the following plan. He spent the entire amount in earthenware, beautiful glassware, and a large basket to keep them in.

Then he rented himself a tiny shop and sat back to wait for customers. He said to himself, "This basket cost me all the money that I have when I bought it at wholesale. After I sell it at retail I will have 200 drachmas.

Then I will spend the 200 drachmas on more merchandise and I will sell it for 400 drachmas. Then I will make 800 drachmas, and when I have acquired 1,000 drachmas I will put aside the glass business and become a jeweler. Then I will deal in diamonds, pearls, and precious stones. When I have as much wealth as I desire I will purchase the finest house, with lands, and servants and horses.

I will begin to make a noise in the world, and continue to sell until I have 10,000 drachmas. Then I will set about being a prince and demand the



Crossword solution from page 9



kings daughter in marriage. When I have brought the princess to my house I will train her to have due respect for me. I will confine her to her room, and be unrelenting in my treatment of her.

Then she shall come to me as I am seated on my sofa. The daughter with tears in her eyes, will beg me to receive her into my favor. Then shall I raise up my foot and push her away, so that she will have due respect for me. As Andre' was caught up in this vision, he could not keep his foot from swinging out and striking his basket of glassware.

Kicking them a great distance out into the street, where they broke into a thousand pieces. Thus ended Andres' excursion into the business world before he had sold his first piece of merchandise.

—James Neuhouser

Richard and Jackson McGee also reached double digits with 16 and 11 markers, respectively.

Landon Ruoff bucketed eight points as well for Leo followed by Colton Wallace (four) and Nolan Hiteshew (two).

Trey Yoder topped the Woodlan effort with 20 points in the contest while Braden Smith added 14 markers for the Warriors.

Luke Meyer chipped in seven points for Woodlan and Drew Fleek picked up the remaining five Warrior points.



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# NOTICE OF SALE

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

- 1) 1997 16' Utility Trailer - Minimum bid \$1,200
- 2) 2000 14' Tracker Topper boat - Minimum bid \$350
- 3) 300-gal Water Tank - Minimum bid \$75
- 4) 1981 JD 4440 Tractor w/rims and hardware for duals-Minimum bid \$27,500
- 5) Hardee Boom Mower-Minimum bid \$1,500

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

Bids will be received by Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District at their office located at 451C McDonald Pike, Paulding, Ohio 45879 until 4:30 Tuesday, January 16, 2024. Bids will be opened at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at their regular monthly board meeting. Bids must include your name, address, phone number, item you are bidding on and the amount you wish to bid.

If you have questions, please call the office at 419-438-7149.

# SIDEWALK EXTENSION ON ERIE ST IN ANTWERP COMPLETED



Pictured above are Antwerp Village Councilpersons Bryan Smith, Ken Reinhart, Mayor Jan Reeb, Councilpersons Dean Rister (back), Steve Jordan, and Jason Franks. Councilperson Bryce Steiner is the photographer.

It has been many years that residents have voiced concerns to the village of Antwerp about having the sidewalk extended on Erie St. going out to the Dollar General store on the south side of the village. The existing sidewalk ended just after the Antwerp Regional Medical building forcing pedestrians to either walk in residents' yards or walk on the high traffic route of Erie St. Thank-

fully, there weren't ever any reports of accidents due to this lack of vital infrastructure. For the past year, council had several discussions about how to fund this project for the village residents. A couple options were on the table — have residents pay for their portion as residents on North Main St. did about a decade ago or find money to pay the bill for the residents. Village Administrator, Brian Davis used ODOT

funds allocated to the Village of Antwerp for road and sidewalk repairs within the village of Antwerp for this project. Total came to \$40,000 and work was completed by local business owner, Nick Longardner of Flat Rock Concrete. On Saturday, December 9th, the elected village officials gathered for a ribbon cutting to celebrate the sidewalk's official opening.

## PARKVIEW HEALTH'S JEANNÉ WICKENS NAMED CFO OF THE YEAR

Jeanné Wickens, senior vice president and chief financial officer (CFO) for Parkview Health, has been

named Top Honoree in the Indianapolis Business Journal's annual CFO of the Year awards.

Wickens was one of three honorees in the large not-for-profit category. She was named Top Honoree for the

category and featured in a special edition of the Indianapolis Business Journal on Friday, Dec. 8.

Wickens has been with Parkview Health since 2016, bringing her financial leadership to Parkview's network

of hospitals and physician offices in 22 counties in north-east Indiana and northwest Ohio.

"Through times of great growth and times of great turmoil during the pandemic, Jeanné has been a steady force guiding Parkview these past seven years," said Rick Henvey, chief executive officer, Parkview Health. "I've worked closely with Jeanné since she arrived at Parkview and her financial leadership has allowed our system to continue to accomplish its strategic goals of expanding high-quality care to our region, increasing value for our both providers and patients, and building and maintaining a world-class workforce. This recognition is well-de-



Jeanné Wickens

served and a testament to her leadership and dedication."

In her role as CFO, Wickens is responsible for financial decision support, fiscal services, health plan services, managed care contracting, strategic financial planning and budget, benchmarking, reimbursement, revenue cycle, tax and treasury services. She also co-leads Parkview's population

# THIS WEEK ON PCBW: ANGIE FREESE MAIN STREET BUSINESS CENTER



Join us Tuesday and Thursday at 8 AM and 5 PM on 102.7 FM for a new PCBW episode with Angie Freese, representing Antwerp Main Street Business Center, Hormann's Heating & Cooling, and Geenex Solar. Missed it on air? No problem, catch the episode anytime on your favorite podcast app. Angie talks us through a new affordable office and meeting space at Antwerp Main Street Busi-

ness Center, which is perfect for small, new, or existing businesses looking for offices or meeting spaces. Plus, hear details about Hormann's and Geenex Solar. It's a conversation you won't want to miss! Thanks to our sponsor, OhioMeansJobs of Paulding County for allowing us to share more about our businesses with the community through this program!

health, employer and transformation-to-value strategies. Furthermore, as a member of Parkview's executive leadership, she serves as a strategic financial advisor to the executive team and the board.

During her tenure as CFO, Wickens created multidisciplinary "diamond teams" to focus on Parkview's goals of safety and quality, service excellence, financial and human resources, and growth. She guided Parkview through the economic impacts of the

COVID-19 pandemic and helped keep the system resilient in 2022, one of the nation's worst financial years for healthcare.

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## SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

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