

AFTER SEVEN DECADES "MICKELSON UPHOLSTERY" OF ANTWERP HAS CLOSED ITS DOORS



It all started in the basement of (Delphos) Dutch Mickelson on W. River Street in the 1950's. Dutch taught his son, David, the trade. Dave can still hear his Dad saying "If you don't do it right, then just don't do it at all!" Back then it wasn't just re-upholstering things ... they built the

frames of chairs from the ground up. Later they built the well-known cement block building between the Sunoco gas station and the Root Beer Stand in 1965. Sadly, in 1968, Dutch passed away at a much too early age.

Dave carried on his legacy and, true to his Dad's words,

he was renowned for doing things "right". Dave had such a good eye for colors and matching patterns and doing intricate work meticulously that interior decorators and designers from Ft. Wayne, Auburn, and many other places became his main

(Continued on Page 2)

LOCAL FILMMAKER MAKING A HEART WARMING FILM

Samantha Ryan, a small-town Ohio native, developed a



deep connection to film and visual arts early on. She honed her skills as a camera operator at BMUTV and a freelance assistant producer and camera Operator with Richer Productions. Samantha, who started in high school theater, now holds a Bachelor's degree in Film. She balances writing, directing, acting, modeling, and motherhood; alongside her photography pursuits with RAW Studios LLC. Notable roles include supporting actress in 'Last Chance' Her directorial focus includes projects like 'Love Undead (2014),' 'Goldfish (2014), and

(Continued on Page 3)

STAFF CHANGES AT PC BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Paulding County Board of Elections is currently going through some staff changes. While we make this transition, board members will provide bipartisan oversight and see that election preparation continues in a fair and orderly manner. Our board clerk has been promoted to deputy director and we are currently looking for a new director.

These changes will not negatively impact elections in Paulding County. We will continue to maintain the level of excellence our voters deserve, and we will be ready for early voting to being in late February.

We will not be commenting further.

KLOPFENSTEIN ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR LOCAL HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS

State Rep. Roy Klopfenstein (R-Haviland) an-

PAULDING FFA INVITES AREA FARMERS TO THEIR FARMER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST



By: Grace Goyings, Paulding FFA Reporter

The Paulding FFA is excited to hold a new Farmer Appreciation Breakfast to show our support and to thank our local farmers.

On Tuesday, February 20th Paulding FFA will be hosting their first ever Farmer Appreciation breakfast as part of their National FFA Week activities. We want to encourage and invite all area farmers to come enjoy breakfast served by the Paulding FFA officer team and members. Breakfast will be served between 7:00

and 9:00 a.m. in the Paulding HS Auditoria. We ask that all farmers who plan to attend RSVP to Mrs. Staci Miller by emailing s_miller@pauldingschools.org or calling 419-399-4656 Ext 1170 by February 16th so we can have an accurate count to prepare food items.

The breakfast will consist of pancakes, eggs, sausage and milk and coffee. The Paulding FFA wants to show how grateful we are for all of the farmers who allow our community to truly thrive.

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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
- January 22**
- March For Life @ Defiance Co. Courthouse, 12Noon
 - Cookbook Club @ PC Library, 5:30pm
 - Cookbook Club @ Antwerp Library, 5:45pm
 - Munchkin Club story-time @ GH Library, 10:30am
- January 23**
- Farm Outlook Meeting @ Jewell Comm Ctr, 5:30-9pm
 - Quilt Block - Saw Tooth Star Block @ Oakwood Library, 11a-1p
- January 25**
- Solar Eclipse Public Meeting @ OSU Ext bldg, 7pm
 - Meet the Candidates @ Hicksville HS, 6pm
 - Cake Decorating Class @ Oakwood Library, 5:30pm
 - Frozen story-time @ Antwerp library, 6pm
 - Mason Jar crafts @ GH Library, 5:30pm
 - Human Trafficking Discussion @ Defiance Library, 6pm

- January 26**
- Cookbook club @ Payne library, 6pm
- January 27**
- Kids' Winter Bingo @ Oakwood Library, 11am
- January 29**
- Backyard Maple Production Workshop @ Warren Co. Fairgrounds, 6:30-9pm

UJERA
PAULDING COUNTY'S OWN
Add your event to the calendar
info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES



LATTY, OH:
Melvane Ida Stoller, 90, passed away Saturday, January 13, 2024 at the Country Inn Enhanced Living, Latty, Ohio. Melvane was born November 3, 1933 in Fairbury, Illinois to the late Mike and Ida (Grueter) Zimmerman. On December 27, 1953 in Latty, Ohio she married Russell Stoller who preceded her in death. They were happily married for 68 years. She was a homemaker, a loving wife, mother and grandmother. Melvane was a member of the Latty Apostolic Christian Church where she enjoyed teaching Sunday school. Melvane and Russell wintered in Zapata, Texas for 23 years.

Joanne Ellen (Pohl) Warmuth born May 22, 1934 went to Heaven January 17, 2024 at age 89. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Victoria Pohl, her brother James Pohl, her granddaughter Ashley Libbey and grandson Joel Eger. She is survived by her loving husband and best friend of 73 years Robert, children Craig (Beth) Warmuth, Vickie (Tom) Libbey, Jeff (Angela) Warmuth, Dana (Brian) Eger, 9 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, and sisters in law Kay Pohl and Pat Barb.

Celebration of Life was held at 2:00 pm SUNDAY, January 21, 2024 at the Billow FALLS Chapel, 1907 23rd St. Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. To Read Complete Obituary, Share a Memory, Send a Condolence, Light a Candle or Send Flowers, visit the Tribute Wall at www.billowfuneralhomes.com (Billow, 330-867-4141)



ANTWERP CHAMBER STARTS 2024 WITH CALENDAR OF EVENTS; PLANS FOR TOWN PROMO BROCHURE

On January 17, 2024, the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce met for their first regular meeting of 2024 at Pin-A-Rama in Antwerp, OH. 2024 Chamber President, Christy DeLong began the meeting with the formalities of introducing a new Antwerp Chamber member, Bryan Post of Edward Jones in Hicksville.

A quick 2023 wrap of December events was reviewed by Sue F: Small Business Sat-

urday was a boon for the village of Antwerp with a new location for the Welcome Center - at the Antwerp Global Methodist Church. Next year, Chamber will look into getting more Shop Small tote bags as they ran out during the 2023 event, and people missed the scavenger hunt. To ring in the holiday season, the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony took place on December 4, 2023 with the Antwerp Choir and Band caroling in the festivities for the community. The lighting was different in 2023 as the large evergreen tree beside town hall has become too fragile to decorate and Chamber lighting committee had to improvise decoration for the 2023 season by using only the Arbor area behind the tennis courts and the new baby spruce tree that Chamber committee members planted in the summer of 2022. Plans are already being made for the 2024 lighting ceremony which will be bigger and better than ever. Santa's Secret Shop was a great success this past year. 203 gifts were purchased for loved ones and over \$1,000 was given back to the participating Chamber businesses. Santa's Mailbox continues to be a hit with the littles. This project is done each year by a Chamber member in cooperation with Antwerp Elementary teachers and students.

2024 Officers were officially introduced to the rest of the attendees of the meeting; Christy DeLong is the 2024 president, Pastor Michael Schneider is the Vice President, Angel Steiner will serve as secretary and Sue Fowler will be treasurer.

Events being planned by Antwerp Chamber for 2024 include the following (but may not be limited to): Garage Sale Days, Children's Patriotic Parade & Candy Bar Bingo, Dog Days of Summer Dog Show; and Chamber members decided to participate in A.C.D.C.'s Antwerp Days and Antwerp Rotary's Day in the Park, as well as assist the Antwerp Fire & EMS with the Halloween Costume judging. Chamber will also organize Small Business Saturday activities, Christmas lighting ceremony, and Santa's Secret Shop. Plans are being formed to do another Chocolate Walk in the downtown area of Antwerp as it was very well received in October 2023. Talks

of a Trivia Night may also form into formal plans in 2024.

Chamber Brochure committee presented a rough draft of a Promotional Brochure for the Village of Antwerp. Committee members, Sue Fowler and Angel Steiner, previously met with PCED director Tim Copsey and office manager Kristen Schilt about the development of promotional materials for the Village to be used in presentation to interest groups for the US 24 / SR 49 corridor development. The ideas for a brochure were presented to attendees of the meeting and Steiner and Fowler asked for feedback about how to promote this to non-Chamber members to involve all of the Antwerp business community in this future advancement of the village of Antwerp.

If you have ideas or want to volunteer in any of the activities mentioned in this article, please plan to attend an Antwerp Chamber meeting and present your ideas to the Chamber. Chamber meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:30 p.m at Pin-A-Rama.

Antwerp Chamber of Commerce exists to Preserve, Promote, and Protect the business community of the Village of Antwerp. Be sure to keep up to date on what the Chamber is doing by liking and following the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Facebook page and visiting their website, www.antwerpchamber.com

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



Cold Soup House

Do you have a dreaded home project? I just spent an

(Mickelson ... continued from Page 1)

clients. Notable names I can remember are Adams & Walda Furniture Co., Nugen's Interiors of Auburn, The Summit Club, Ft. Wayne Country Club, etc... then the huge Richard Freeland Mansion and all the Pizza Huts (52) he Freeland owned (their booths, chairs, etc...) ... besides all the individual sofas, divans, couches, chairs and ottomans Mickelson recovered to the delight of local residents.

At one time 3 McMichael boys worked for Dave ... Olen (Oley), Larry (Whitie) and Dennis. After a few years, Oley set off on his own entrepreneurship buying and selling real estate and a million other things. Whitie liked a more quiet life and worked with Dave for over 52 years (which helped fund his love of racing thoroughbred horses). Whitie continues to do uphol-

stery work from his shop at his home out on Rd 69, rural Antwerp (He will have the Mickelson Upholstery ph. # 419-258-7564 and 260-705-1358 to text).

Dave is in the process of selling his Mickelson Upholstery building and has been busy emptying out all the contents. He just might keep his old faithful sewing machine that has been his constant companion for so many years. Much appreciation to David Mickelson, for making Antwerp, Ohio a better place ...by managing a business known for true quality workmanship for the last 60-70 years!!

— Contributed by Tamyra Humes (Proud daughter of David Mickelson) — PS. Dave's wife, Sandy, ... and his other daughter, Christine Mickelson Hartman, and his son, Daniel Dutch Mickelson, are also very proud of Dave and his accomplishments!

Scripture of the Week

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

— Matthew 7:12



About halfway into the painting project, I had a new, "professional" paint brush split in half.

hour at our overseas, neighborhood paint store buying another paint brush and a new bucket of wall paint, and also shaking the ceiling paint that was left over and still good. I go to a professional painter store and buy their top-of-the-line stuff, which is only the quality of products you'd buy at a dollar store in America.

It has been up to a "comfortable, sweaty-hot" 84F degrees in our overseas apartment this last week. There is no basement to retreat to, as I did as a kid, when growing up in the era before air conditioning in Indiana. In the winter the apartment gets to a "comfortable, damp-cold" in the low 60Fs. Yes, we don't have heat, nor air conditioning in our overseas, city apartment and this contributes to the mold that quickly grows and smells on our walls and ceilings. I reluctantly try to repaint one part of the apartment each summer, after much urging and coaxing on my wife's part.

She has done her motivating job, and I will begin the painting job today with the indoor temps in the low 80Fs. I actually like painting - taking paint from a bucket, to the brush or roller, and then applying it to the wall. What gets me so grumpy is the moving and covering of the furniture and wall decorations, and then uncovering it and moving it all back when completed. I easily spend three times as much energy prepping and cleaning up, as I do actually just painting.

When I finish the job my shoulders and neck will ache for days from the reaching around and maneuvering in awkward positions. Our overseas apartment is around 1100ft square (very large for over here), and we have a long, skinny hallway snaking along that is 50 feet long, only 3 feet 3 inches wide, and is over 9 feet tall.

The friendly paint store man said we call long, skinny, city apartments, "cold soup houses," as your food is cold by the time it gets from the

kitchen to the dining room at the other end. Cold soup sounds pretty good on this hot day!

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

JESUS IS COMING

By: Doris Applegate (7/99)

Many today are scoffers They do not believe in the Word.

That Jesus is truly coming again.

In the clouds like He said He would.

The world and all its pleasures

Have taken up their time,

They have set their treasures here on earth

Instead of the heavenly clime.

They have forgotten the great commission

Of telling of Jesus' love;

That He will come in the clouds again

And gather us all above.

May our hearts be stirred to tell others

That this will happen soon.

Now is the time for us to prepare

And in our lives give Jesus room.

Jesus told us to watch and pray

For the hour that He would come;

Would be a time we least expect

When God would send again His Son.

I'm glad and I'm excited

About the coming of the Lord;

I want to share this truth with those

Who may not know the Word.

The end time signs are everywhere

They cannot be denied.

As it was in the days of Noah and Lot

So will it be in your time and mine.

We are the generation

That Jesus talked about.

Who would live to see Him come again

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PASSED ON DOWN

Penny For Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker

Our mothers and grandmothers have given us so much. They've passed down their recipes, china patterns, and their parenting tips, for starters, but, we've just realized—they've passed down their vocabularies too. We have inherited their styles, their heirlooms, and more than a few of their favorite sayings as well.

From adages and proverbs to their favorite Southern turns of phrase, these ladies sure do have a way with words. Have you heard any of these classic phrases?

Surely your grandma has told you to eat an apple a day to keep the doctor away. (yep)

Or perhaps she mentioned that "pretty is as pretty does." (Now that was one of her favorites.) Maybe you've heard that "still waters run deep."

She has almost certainly exclaimed "Goodness gracious!" (And, of course, we all have too.) We heard all of these adages growing up, and we couldn't help but pick up a few ourselves. However, we're starting to think that these words are passed down to us along with hair color and height. They feel so right—they must be in our DNA. Give your grandma a call, if you can, and I bet she will repeat an old saying before

hanging up.

A few others you have probably heard:

Many hands make light work.

A stitch in time saves nine.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder.

Never look a gift horse in the mouth.

People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones.

Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater (I have never heard of this one)

Early to bed and early to rise makes you healthy, wealthy, and wise.

Any job worth doing is



worth doing well.

The squeaky wheel gets the grease.

You'll catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.

The early bird catches the worm.

A rising tide lifts all boats. Make hay while the sun shines.

You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.

Fortune favors the brave. Strike while the iron is hot.

I am sure your mom passed on down other old sayings. Do you know any?

Let me know and I'll give you a Penny For Your Thoughts.

And hear the angels give a shout.

Let's trim our lamps to brightly burn

And with Holy Spirit oil be filled;

Like virgins wise and ready be

To meet our bridegroom, and Jesus see!

PARSON TO PERSON

By: Dr. James Bachman

Dear Parson,
Does the Bible ever permit divorce?

The Pharisees in Matthew 19:3 wanted Christ to list the permissible reasons for divorce. Jesus responded in verse six, "What therefore

God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." In other words, there should be no divorce. They asked why Moses permitted it in Deuteronomy 24. Christ said it was because of the hardness of their hearts.

The context of Deuteronomy 24 was if a man should take a wife who declared, or her father declared her to be a virgin and it was discovered she was not, he could divorce her for her fraud. Though that was permissible, it was better to forgive her and go on, but the hard, unforgiving hearts of men usually would remain bitter. That is the only permissible reason for seeking di-

vorce I have ever seen in the Bible and even that is not God's desire.

There is a place where a believing partner can grant a divorce to an unbelieving partner who is seeking one, but even that is discouraged. See I Corinthians 7:13-16.

In summary, God hates di-

vorce. Malachi 2:15b-16a - "...therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth. For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away."

Send questions and comments to: jamesbachman@juno.com

HOUSE FIRE IN EAST ALLEN COUNTY INDIANA



Seven fire departments including Antwerp and Payne Fire Departments in Paulding County to provide tankers and manpower with the Northeast Fire & EMS District. The fire broke out around 1:30 pm Thursday at 21000 block of Ward Road, north of Woodbury, Indiana. No one inside the home were injured.

(Local Filmmaker ... cont'd from Page 1)

'We'll Get By, (The Autism Song), by Johnny Orr,' showcasing her ability to connect with actors and evoke raw emotions. Eager to bring her numerous ideas to the big screen, Samantha continues to find joy in the art of storytelling, and personal growth filmmaking.

She is now Directing a film in Bryan, Ohio and wants to involve the community as well as open casting for her new film "Reunions in Heaven". A screening will also take place locally upon the films completion!

The mission of "Reunions in Heaven" is to provide solace and hope to those grappling with the grief of losing a loved one, showcasing that they are not alone in their journey. The ultimate goal is to have the film featured at the Christian International Film Festival, reaching a broader audience and potentially receiving recognition.

The story revolves around various characters' lives and final moments and, most importantly, envisions a reunion in Heaven with their departed family members. While inspired by real people, it is a fictional short film, exploring the unknown aspects of heaven that we all imagine.

How can you be a part of this Film?

1. Contribute to the Campaign: Your financial support will go towards purchasing props, building the set (aka Heaven), providing accommodation and travel assistance for cast and crew, and ensuring everyone is well-fed during the 12-hour working days. As a token of gratitude, there are some incentives available; including but not limited to a photoshoot with Samantha Ryan, tickets to a Friends & Family screening of the movie, tickets to a 2-day Art Show, access to the final film and behind-the-scenes content like hand-drawn storyboards. In addition, if you own a small business and wish to be recognized for your support, please reach out to dis-

cuss. 2. Take the Spotlight: If you're interested in playing a role, we're holding virtual auditions. Please email rawstudioscasting@gmail.com with your name, location, and a recent photo of yourself. More casting information can be found at the Facebook page of RAW Studios.

To learn more about "Reunions in Heaven" and to get involved, please visit <https://seedandspark.com/fund/reunions-in-heaven#story.en>

OH PATROL REMINDS DRIVERS TO PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER

The Ohio State Highway Patrol reminds drivers to follow safe driving tips and winterize their vehicles in preparation for inclement weather. Ever-changing weather patterns during the winter can catch drivers off guard. You can reduce the risks of being involved in a crash by ensuring your vehicle is ready for the season, adopting winter driving techniques and following general roadway safety.

Last winter, there were 10,256 crashes on snow, ice or slush-covered roads in Ohio. These crashes resulted in 20 fatal crashes, which killed 26 people. Unsafe speed by the at-fault driver was the reported cause of 22 percent of the crashes on snow, ice or slush-covered roads.

"Planning, patience, and preparation are key to driving in winter weather," said Governor Mike DeWine. "Before you start driving, we encourage you to check the weather forecast and plan accordingly so that you can safely get where you need to go."

Remember, Ohio law requires headlights to be on at any time when the windshield wipers of the vehicle are in use. If your vehicle becomes stuck in snow, clear the tailpipe free of all snow and debris to decrease the chance of carbon monoxide poisoning.

"Motorists need to use extra caution, slow down and drive appropriately for the

The deadline for the West Bend News is THURSDAYS at 5pm for the following issue.

Send your news, ads, and classifieds to info@westbendnews.net

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

MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY

By: Mark Holtsberry

Clare William Keck was born May 20, 1894 in Jackson Township. The son of George Thomas born June 18, 1870 in



Ohio and Eva Edith (Good) Keck born January 28, 1873 in Ohio. This couple was married October 7, 1891 in Paulding. By 1900, George and Eva had four children. Annie born in June 1892, Clare May 1894, Elva August 1896 and Effie May December 1898. Thomas was farming in Jackson Township. Annie and Clare were in school. On October 17, 1901, Eva Edith Keck passed away, she was buried in Bowholtz Cemetery.

By 1910, George Thomas was still farming and the four children were in school. Clare joined the National Guard out of Paulding, July 11, 1914. He was promoted to Corporal, September 23, 1916. On May 12, 1917, Clare married, Gladys Lara Straw in Paulding. Born in Brown Township, August 18, 1899, she is the daughter of Lowel and Mary M. Straw. On July 15, 1917, Clare was promoted to Sergeant. Clare served with Company B. 2nd Ohio National Guard until October 4, 1917. He was transferred to serve with the 11th Company 3rd Training Battalion, Camp Sheridan, Alabama October 27, 1917.

On June 5, 1918, Clare's brother, Elva M. Keck, joined the Ohio National Guard May 5, 1915. He served in France in Company I. 145th Infantry, 37th Division. Elva was honorably discharged, December 1, 1917 on Surgeons Certifi-

cate of Disability.

Clare was sent to France, on the ship, Leviathan, at Hoboken, New Jersey, June 15, 1918. Clare saw action with Company I. 145th Infantry, 37th Division in the Meuse-Argonne and Ypres-Lys defensive sector. Wounded in action not determined to what degree, November 4, 1918. Clare was awarded the French C de G Bronze Star, On March 23, 1919, Clare boarded the ship, Aquitania, from Brest, France and set sail for America. After returning home he and Gladys lived in Paulding County.

By 1920, Clare and Gladys moved to Defiance, Ohio, living on 1000 Ottawa Terrance Street in Defiance ward 4. Clare took a job as a day laborer in a factory. On September 15, 1926 at 2:30 in the afternoon, Clare was in a head on collision on the Paulding Van Wert County line. Clare's wife, Gladys and her mother were passengers.

According to records, another car, driver from Chicago, was passing a farmer with a wagon and team of horses and hit Clare head on. Gladys and her mother suffered bruises while Clare was crushed and suffered numerous broken bones. Taken to the Van Wert County Hospital, Clare passed away the next day at 7:00 a.m. Clare had just passed a test in telegraphy in a Government Training School. He was working as a relief telegraph operator for the Nickle Plate Railroad. Due to the injuries he suffered in World War 1, Clare was limited to what level of work he could perform. Clare was buried in Riverside Cemetery in Defiance.

Gladys never remarried and they had no children. She passed away in Los Angeles, California, April 19, 1994. She was brought back to Defiance and buried beside Clare. George, Clare's father, passed away January 8, 1945 and was buried with Eva in Bowholtz Cemetery. Clare's brother, Elva, passed away August 30, 1970 and was buried in Hedges Cemetery, lot 10, west section, grave 1.

... Until next time!

HAPPY Birthday

Vancrest of Payne would like to wish a Happy 101st Birthday to **Bonnie "Marie" Carr!**

We are so blessed to have you as a part of our Vancrest Family!

We love you!

Thank You...

The family of Ray Gross Sr. would like to thank each and every one of our family and friends for the brought in food, flowers, cards, calls and visits during the illness and passing of our husband, dad, Grandpa and Great-Grandpa. We also thank our Ministers, Dr. Schramm for her visits to dad whenever we needed her to check him, Hospice, Dooley's Funeral Home, the Masonic Service and Antwerp and Cecil's Presbyterian Churches for the delicious meal.

Our wonderful Dad is gone, but his spirit lives on in each of us. **Thank you again from the bottom of our hearts!**

Grace
Ray Jr. and family
Sharon and family
Gary and family
Ronnie's family
Marsha and family

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PCHD

PROVIDING COMMUNITY HEALTH DIRECTION

PAULDING COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PRESENTS THE COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT 2023

The results are in for the Paulding County Health Assessment that was conducted during 2023. Paulding County Health Department held a Public Meeting to present the findings of the assessment to the public on January 18, 2024 at the Paulding County Health Department in Paulding. Stakeholders from throughout the county were in attendance at this meeting. Brandi Schrader, PCHD director of Environmental Health and Deputy Health Commissioner welcomed attendees from Paulding County Hospital, nursing staffs of the area high schools, Paulding County Sheriff Jason Landers, as well as the nursing staff of PCHD among others from the Paulding County community.

A healthy community consists of many components and to access where Paulding County in these areas - physically, mentally, emotionally, psychologically

Surveys, and focus group surveys were conducted in 2023. The data was collected and analyzed by Mosley Public Health to summarize the 2023 Community Health Assessment (CHA) of Paulding County Ohio. Contributing partners of Paulding County Health Department for the completion of this assessment include community partners, local stakeholders, non-profit partners and community residents.

Schrader gave an overview of the CHA findings starting with identifying the top priorities according to survey interviews and focus groups. Major health issues impacting the community include mental health, substance use, alcoholism, diabetes, poor nutrition/lack of access to healthy foods, language barriers, poor communication/unsure where to get help, lack of information on accessing healthcare, and lack of resources on fun things to do and community involvement. **And one comment during the presentation about this was that the

only dentist in the county that accepts Medicaid patients is retiring. It is hard for low income families to find a dentist that will accept Medicaid without driving a great distance.**

The health needs of Paulding County were ranked according to the results of the community member survey and here they are in order of listing in the CHA: substance use, mental health and access to mental healthcare, income/poverty and employment, food insecurity (e.g. not being able to access and/or afford healthy food), access to healthcare (e.g. doctors, hospitals, specialist, medical appointments, etc.), access to childcare, adverse childhood experiences (e.g. child abuse, mental health, family issues, trauma), transportation (e.g. public transit, cars, cycling, walking), chronic diseases (e.g. heart disease, diabetes, cancer, asthma), nutrition and physical health/exercise, housing and homelessness, education (e.g. early childhood education, elementary school, post-secondary education), crime and violence, environmental conditions (e.g. air and water quality), Internet/Wi-Fi access, tobacco and nicotine use/smoking, preventative care and practices (e.g. mammograms, vaccinations), maternal, infant and child health (e.g. pre-term births, infant mortality, maternal mortality), HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

Each of these health needs were then reviewed more closely. One detail that stands out is that from the community surveys, 54% of Paulding County residents who responded to the 2023 community member survey selected "Mental Health and access to mental healthcare" as a health need in Paulding County, as well as 27% of Paulding County residents who responded to the 2023 community member survey rate their access to mental or behavioral health serves as low or very low with another 41% rating it as neutral.

The conversation moved on from the troubling findings of the survey to Ideas for

Change that came from community leaders and community members for how to support community health. This listing is very dynamic and aspiring for a better way of life for Paulding County. They included suggestions of Handle With Care program, trauma care for children, more awareness of young people vaping and bringing their products to school, expand insurance coverage and provide education about how to navigate the healthcare system, acquire more EMTs, increase drug prevention, education and safe drug storage programs, encourage childcare providers, intervention and detection of childhood chronic diseases, teach life skills and home economics in schools, use MyPlate aspects to teach people about food preparation, storage and safety, increase access to grocery stores, gyms for seniors, create more physical activity opportunities for the youth of the county to keep them active and healthy, which in turn will help create awareness about the risks of obesity.

Barriers to attaining these Ideas for Change was the next step in the discussion. These barriers are not unique, as everywhere faces the same ones. Resources to initiate these changes, funding to sustain these changes, equipping these changes with volunteers and trained individuals, and getting the community aware of what is available for them to utilize. A step in the right direction to correct these barriers is identifying them, but also making sure all stakeholders that can be of assistance with establishing these changes are involved in the decision making need to be present. The group at the meeting suggested that school guidance counselors and SROs should be involved in these meetings to give their input.

The group was also asked by Schrader to list the available resources available currently in Paulding County. Fitness Centers at PCH in Paulding and Antwerp, Growth Fitness in Paulding, Garrett Stoller's fitness program, Club House in Paulding, Telehealth availability (and possible expansion), Hands of Hope, PC Senior Center's Meals on Wheels, and the Mental Health First Aid program by OSU Extension office were all mentioned as services for the community's physical, mental, emotional and psychological help.

"Next steps are to discuss Ideas for Change and prioritize them for the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). That will be discussed at the February meeting," Schrader commented, "The CHA draft is open for public comment, review and edits until the end of January."

February 10, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Paulding County Health Department is the date set for the next public meeting. Priorities of the health needs will be set for the Community Health Improvement Plan. If you would like to review the 2023 Community Health Assessment is available as a PDF for viewing and downloading on the Paulding County Health Department website, www.pauldingcountyhealth.com

MARCH FOR LIFE TO BE HELD IN DEFIANCE COUNTY

The annual March For Life will be held January 22 at Noon at the Defiance County Courthouse. The march is sponsored by Mother Teresa Respect For Life. The purpose of the March For Life is for participants to walk and stand up for unborn children who cannot speak for themselves.

The march will start with prayer by Father David Cirata pastor of St. John, St. Mary's Catholic Churches, Defiance. The Star Spangled Banner will be sung by Susie Blank. A police escort will lead participants from the Defiance County Courthouse to the Monument of the Unborn at St. John's Catholic Church. Jamie Blank will host the march and lead a prayer for life at the monument. From there, the event moves to the church basement of St. John's, Colleen Hammons, whose parents are the late Dale and Madonna Hammons, will speak about a letter received from Planned Parenthood. Tim McDonough, who is married to Connie, with 3 children, and who has been a member of St. John Catholic church for 47 years and is a community relations coordinator at State Bank, will be speaking about how choosing life for his son was the hardest and best decision he ever made.

Holy Cross Catholic School will give a presentation. Elizabeth Hogan, a nurse and wife of Dr. Timothy Hogan, has home educated their children for 20 years will be speaking. Ray Strup from Williams County is retired and single where he will speak to encourage pro-life members to keep up and don't quit defending life. Ed Sitter, Executive Director for Foundations For Life will speak about since the November 7 election, where do we go in pro-life in Ohio after this?

"God Bless America" will be sung by Susie with Father Cirata ending with prayer, and hot chocolate will be offered. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary's Catholic Church Defiance at 8:00 a.m. After mass there will be exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament ending with Benediction at 10:45 a.m.

JANUARY BRINGS AWARENESS TO CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS

This year, nearly 14,000 new women in the US will be diagnosed with cervical cancer. About 3400 women are expected to lose their battle.

In observance of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month this January, Mercy Health asks our community of women to learn about risk factors, symptoms, and cancer screening opportunities available - including engaging the Breast and Cervical Cancer Project (BCCP) for those without insurance. Early detection is the key to successfully treating cervical and breast cancers and Mercy Health wants to ensure that all women have access to these lifesaving screenings.

"If found early, nearly all cervical and breast cancers can be treated successfully and for those women with insurance coverage, cancer screenings can be covered at no cost," said Cindy Pisano, supervisor, Healthy Connections Department. "Mercy Health is pleased to have a

HERITAGE LIONS COLLECT ITEMS FOR PEOPLE IN NEED



"Sock It To Me" - Please bring new socks, gloves, mittens, scarves, knit hats and blankets to be collected and divided among the district governors to be distributed to needy people within their districts". This was the request made by the Indiana Lions for their Mid-Winter Conference in Indianapolis on January 20th.

The Heritage Lions collected these new items for the project: 181 pairs of socks; 10 pairs of gloves; 19 scarves; 24 knitted hats; 52 blankets, and 6 panties.

Rick Boys of the Heritage

Lions and Susan Hoffman of the Monroeville Lions will bring their respective donations to Indianapolis when they attend this Conference. A big "Thank You" goes to Deb Heath of Project Linus, who donated most of the blankets. And a big thanks to Changing Footprints for their large donation of Bombas socks. Many poor and homeless people will be helped by this collection of winter wear.

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

continued partnership with the Ohio Department of Health Breast and Cervical Cancer Project so these tests are available to all women - no matter the ability to pay?"

The BCCP can also help women find providers and community resources as well as answer questions about scheduling appointments and using insurance. Eligibility for the no-cost breast and cervical cancer screenings include:

- Income: Gross household income must be at or below 300% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Insurance: Uninsured OR Underinsured/Cost Sharing
- This program is for Ohio residents however, participants don't have to be U.S. citizens to enroll

A pap test is the best method of detecting cervical cancer. Women aged 21 and over are eligible for assistance paying for a pap test every 3-5 years. Additionally, BCCP will help fund screening mammograms for women aged 40 and older every other year and annual screening mammograms for high-risk women aged 21 and older. BCCP also will help with diagnostic mammogram for women aged 21-40 that are

symptomatic.

To fill out an application contact Mercy Health's Community Health Worker at 419-251-2282

According to the American Cancer Society, risk factors for cervical cancer include smoking, a weakened immune system and long-term use of birth control pills. However, lasting HPV infections are the most common risk factor in contracting the cancer.

The initial warning symptoms are often subtle and seen with less serious conditions such as back pain and bloating but can develop into more aggressive symptoms. Because of this, it is recommended to screen for cervical cancer, with the addition of a HPV test, every five years for women aged 25 until age 65.

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The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:

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

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

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

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

Arrangements can be made for after
office hours appointments

Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

PAULDING COUNTY WMEA RECYCLING

New Schedule For Large Villages

1st Weekend- Paulding , Fair Grounds

2nd Weekend- Grover Hill , VFW

3rd Weekend- Payne ,

(Paved lot east of Homier's)

4th Weekend- Antwerp ,

(13744 CR 43, sewer treatment plant)

New Schedule For Smaller Villages

3rd Wednesday of each month

Cecil 11:30-12:00 (Fire Station)

Junction 12:30-1:00 (Catholic Church)

Haviland/Scott 1:30-2:00 (SR 114 at Haviland Park)

Latty/Briceton 2:30-3:00 (Latty Park)

For Questions Call : 419-399-3630

or Visit : www.pauldingcountywmea.com

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

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Godless, Anti-America Leaders

It's high time Democrat voters look extra close at the crooks and questionables they call party leaders. I realize Republicans are also guilty of destroying America but right now Democrats are the headlines.

Just look at misguided and inept Biden. I didn't think he was lucid enough in 2020 but we got stuck with him by what

I believe was a crooked election. Did you first ask why his co-workers called him "do nothing Biden"?

In over 40 years in Washington, Biden was never a doer, just a follower. Biden was never once correct on foreign policy. What made you pick him to be chief over foreign policy?

I feel Biden is mostly "window dressing", getting orders from anti-God, anti-free America individuals. I also believe this anti-God death march Biden and comrades have us on is just what that anti-God Obama meant when he talked about changing America. I also believe Obama figured Biden to be the perfect patsy to help him destroy America.

- If you feel I'm wrong, go ahead and look this up. Your top Democrat congressional leaders presented the Biden White House with a 28 page document "demanding" that President Biden use executive action and our corrupt (my opinion) Department of Justice to do the following.
- 1. Crack down on conservative Christians, especially churches and ministries.
- 2. Remove Christians from public office.
- 3. Deny free speech and religious liberty to Christians.
- 4. Remove "In God We Trust" from U.S. Currency.
- 5. Fully fund comprehensive sex education, which includes brain washing kids from kindergarten and up into radical LGBTQ ideology and to undergo gender transition.

Their request proves how sick and how low this Democrat administration will go to gain total control of America, It also proves how afraid of

God and those who believe in him like President Tump or me.

Do you remember when Obama said, "we all pray to the same God." That statement proved how ignorant he is. My Christian God is all about life and love, Obama's God has a long history of cutting off body parts or even death to make people follow them.

Biden cares nothing for us or National Security. Look at all those he got killed or left behind in Afghanistan and his extra stupid move in forcing our southern border open and inviting millions of foreigners in who are totally ignorant of America's ways, language, history, laws, education and everything in general.

I believe all of these stupid Democrat moves are designed to change us to communism or worse. I think he felt small being called "do nothing Biden" for those years and now is in position to get even. Ask yourself these questions of which I believe all had America's destruction as their goal.

- 1. Why has Biden and family gotten so close to Communist China?
- 2. Were they so dumb as to think we wouldn't find out that their multi-million dollar fortune came from Communist China?
- 3. Why did Democrats sensor military pastors speech?
- 4. Why do they sensor military Chaplins today?
- 5. Why do they make military life for Christians a living hell?
- 6. Why did Democrats remove Bibles and Ten Commandments from our schools and forbid God and prayer in school
- 7. Do you Biden followers hate us Christians as much as Biden and his goon squad does.
- 8. Why did President Biden's Department of Justice force Christian artists to do acts against their faith?
- 9. Why do you stand by Biden as he breaks federal laws daily - our border?
- 10. Why do your Democrat leaders pay more attention to playing dirty politics than enforcing our laws?
- 11. Does Biden really approve the Mexican cartel having control of our border rather than our own border agents?
- 12. Do you approve of how Biden and his communist loving comrades are destroying our nation?

I consider the Biden-Harris administration as the

worst, sickest and most dangerous in American history. This sick, weak and extremely dangerous administration might be encouraging Russia and China to join, thinking they could successfully invade our shores.

The only thing that can save America is for us to return to God like we were before Democrats realized God and prayer were what held us together as a unified people. Please heed this warning. Be prepared for the very worst.

—Richard Mastin
Hicksville, OH

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

75% of women that have had an abortion regret having gotten one. These women lacked support, were coerced, were frightened, etc. and did not know the help & choices that are available to them. We need to pray for them, but we also need to help them be aware of their choices, and to spread the knowledge to others. CPC provides free ultrasounds, supplies, etc. and support.

Women's Health Resources, Bryan, Defiance, Napoleon & Wauseon (CPC) 24 HOUR HOTLINE 1-800-633-3339
Respect for Life,
—Judy McCalla
Hicksville, OH

ANTWERP SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES 1/9/24

The Antwerp Board of Education met Tuesday, January 9, 2024. The meeting began with Sara Schuette chosen to be the Board President, Jamie Landers as Vice-President, Bob Herber as Legislative Liaison to OSBA, and Anita Bok as Student Achievement Liaison to OSBA, for the 2024 calendar year

Superintendent Dr. Miller provided the Board with an update on the construction of the wellness and recreation center. Completion date is currently mid-March. Dr. Miller also shared January is School Board Recognition Month and a chance for all of us to say thanks to our school board members for the important work that they do for our school. The positive leadership of the board members and their concern for the well-being of the students in our district continue to make

Antwerp a great place to work, a wonderful place to go to school, and a source of community pride. Our current Board of Education has 66+ years of experience leading our school district. Board member Bob Herber is completing his 22nd year, Board member Anita Bok is completing her 18th year, Board member Dennis Recker is completing his 12th year, Board President Sara Schuette is completing her 8th year, and Board Vice-President Jayme Landers has served on the Board for the past 6 1/2 yrs.

Dr. Miller shared that he will present at the AASA National Conference on Education in San Diego, California February 15th on the topic: Alpha Generation: Game On!

Consent Items:
Approve the Western Buckeye Educational Service Center Substitute list for the current month and provide reasonable assurance that all active members on the list have a position as a Substitute Teacher on an as-needed basis with the Antwerp Local School District.

Approve the following supplemental contracts for the 2023-2024 school year.

- 1. Andrew Reyes - Assistant Track Coach
- 2. Sam Williamson - Assistant Track Coach
- 3. Susan Jewell - JH Track Coach

Approve out-of-state trip for Martin Miller and Kristine Stuart to the AASA Conference in San Diego, California on February 14-17, 2024.

Approve out-of-state professional development for Andrew Messmann to attend the 2024 Indiana Green Expo in

(Klopfenstein ... cont'd from Page 1)

housing component. The county will partner with Allen County and the city of Delphos for this project.

"Improving our housing market by making repairs and increasing inventory will allow the community to grow and will bring new families to the area," said Klopfenstein. "As our economy grows, it is

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.

PCAF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION BEING ACCEPTED

The Paulding County Area Foundation exists to enrich the quality of life for our community, and one facet of enrichment is through scholarships. The Paulding County Area Foundation annual scholarship application period for the 2023-24 school year opened on January 1, 2024 and will close April 1, 2024. Please note, late applications will not be accepted or taken into consideration. All applications must be submitted online. Please visit the PCAF website at: www.pauldingcountyareafoundation.com and click on "Scholarships" to view all scholarship opportunities. Certain scholarships are only available for specified school districts, so we encourage applicants to find their school's page on the Foundation's website to ensure they are only applying for scholarships applicable to them.

These scholarships would not be possible without the support of generous donors/families. We know that these opportunities serve to not only enrich these student's educational careers but also the community of which they are a part of. The Paulding County Area Foundation wishes the Class of 2024 the best of luck in their future educational endeavors.

Indianapolis, Indiana, on January 17-19, 2024.

The February Board of Education meeting will take place Tuesday, February 13th at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Room.

important to have the housing needed to support Ohioans."

Funding for the grant is made possible through the Community Housing Impact and Preservation (CHIP) program, which partners with communities to preserve and improve Ohio's housing stock through various housing-related initiatives such as home renovation and repair, rental assistance, and more.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: Antwerp Corner Cafe, Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Ties & Bows

Bryan: Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General

Cecil: 127 Maramart

Charloe: Charloe Store

Continental: Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware

Defiance: Newman's Marathon Carry Out, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General, Senior Center, Walmart, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Main Stop Marathon, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library

Edgerton: Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept., H & W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)

Grover Hill: N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library

Hicksville: Sailors, Hickory Creek Nursing Home, Shell Station, Lassus Handy Dandy, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library

Ney: Marathon

Oakwood: Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Library, Landing Strip

Paulding: Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros., Albert Automotive, Paulding Courthouse, Paulding VFW Post 587, Paulding Co. Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, Paulding County

Hospital, Kwik Mart, PC Carnegie Library

Payne: Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichty's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library

Sherwood: Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library

Scott: Scott Post Office

Van Wert: CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Family Video, Orchard Tree

INDIANA LOCATIONS

Fort Wayne: Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Great Clips & Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living

Grabill: Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales

Harlan: Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank

Hoagland: Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub

Milan Center: Milan Center Feed & Grain

Monroeville: Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, The Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General

New Haven: ACP Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, McDonalds, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Old City Hall, Richard's

Woodburn: Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACP Library, Willies Cafe II

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A DECADE OF SUCCESS: HICKSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT CELEBRATES MILESTONES



All third grade students and new students to Hicksville get sorted in the Annual House Sorting Ceremony, held at the end of the first week of school. Students are randomly sorted

On January 8, 2024 Hicksville School District marked the 15th anniversary of moving into our state-of-the-art building and the 10th anniversary of launching the groundbreaking Hicksville Initiative. Over the years, the district has become a leader in northwest Ohio for educational practices, fostering a positive environment, setting

high expectations, and engaging both teachers and students in an effective and successful learning community.

Hicksville School District ranks within the top 10% of school districts in the state of Ohio for the past several years. The Ohio Department of Education awarded Hicksville School District with 5 stars, the highest rank-

ing possible for Ohio school districts. In 2022, Hicksville Elementary was recognized as a United States Department of Education National Blue Ribbon School with an Exemplary High Performing School distinction.

The Hicksville Initiative, which was launched a decade ago, has been the driving force behind the district's success. This innovative program aims to empower students with essential skills, ensuring they not only excel academically but also develop into well-rounded individuals ready to face the challenges of the future. Hicksville students, guided by this initiative are expected to demonstrate 24 Hicksville Essentials on a daily basis. Students are also provided opportunities for competitions throughout their school experience to help practice and relate these qualities to experiences beyond the classroom.

Some of the most popular essentials include maintaining eye contact when speaking to others, having good sportsmanship win or lose, actively participate in class every day, and show pride in your school.

"The Hicksville Initiative has been a game-changer for

us. It's not just about academic excellence; it's about nurturing the whole student. We want our students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and contributors to their communities," says Keith Countryman, Superintendent of Hicksville School District.

Central to the success of the district is the unwavering commitment of its teachers, students, and staff. Hicksville educators are dedicated to instilling a love for learning, while students are encouraged to explore their passions and contribute positively to their community. The staff, equally committed, plays a pivotal role in creating a supportive and enriching environment for all.

One distinctive feature of the Hicksville School District is its unique house system, comprising of four houses: Amitie, Coragem, Espemplare, and Setia. Each student, third grade and above, belongs to one of these houses, creating a sense of belonging and camaraderie. Despite the divisions, the district proudly emphasizes that all students make up one ACES family.

"The house system is not just about competition; it's about fostering collaboration and building a sense of community within the school. Our students and staff belong to different houses, but they are all part of the larger ACES family, working together towards common goals," explained Countryman.

The school's commitment to excellence is not confined to academics alone. The Hicksville School District ensures that students are well-prepared for life beyond the classroom, instilling in them a sense of responsibility, leadership, and empathy. Seniors are required to complete a senior project of their choice. This year some of the projects include upgrading the shot and disc area of the school's athletic facilities, raising money for a local scholarship fund, becoming a basketball official, and many students are using the opportunity to create their own small businesses.

As Hicksville looks back on its remarkable journey, it stands as a testament to what can be achieved with a strong vision, dedicated educators, and enthusiastic students. The next chapter promises to be even more exciting as the district continues its mission to provide a holistic education for all.

STUDENTS MAKE DEAN'S LIST AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Miami University students who are ranked in the top twenty percent of undergraduate students within each division for the Fall semester 2023 have been named to the Dean's list recognizing academic excellence.

Lane Morehead of Payne, OH; Malia Wittwer of Payne, OH

Nationally recognized as one of the most outstanding undergraduate institutions, Miami University is a public university located in Oxford, Ohio. With a student body of nearly 19,000, Miami effectively combines a wide range of strong academic programs with faculty who love to teach and the personal attention ordinarily found only at much smaller institutions.

RAIDERS GET UNUSUAL MONDAY WIN



Wayne Trace Senior Hudson Myers shoots from the cheap seats to fill three more points on the Raiders scoreboard! More pictures at westbendnews.net



Hicksville's Owen Stuckey is open, shoots and scores for three points! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Monday night basketball games can be tricky sometimes as they are out of the normal routine and non-school days can be even more of an issue with the entire day outside of the normal realm.

At the 'Palace' Monday evening, the Wayne Trace boys basketball team got off to that slow start but the Raiders pulled away from visiting Hicksville for a 70-46 win in Green Meadows Conference action.

The red, white and blue held a slim 15-11 advantage after eight minutes, thanks to eight Kyle Stoller points in the stanza.

Wayne Trace then broke the game open in the second stanza, finishing the half on a 16-3 run in widening the lead to 35-18 at the midway point.

The senior duo of Brooks Laukhuf and Kyle Stoller led

the way for the Raiders.

Laukhuf bucketed 16 points alone in the second quarter and finished the first with 18 markers while Stoller added eight points for the red, white and blue.

Wayne Trace then continued to widen the gap in the third quarter, expanding the advantage to as much as 43-22 midway through the period before holding a 50-30 lead entering the fourth quarter.

The Raiders then wrapped up the contest with a 20-point fourth quarter to seal the 70-46 victory.

Brooks Laukhuf paced Wayne Trace with 24 points and a pair of assists while Stoller added 17 markers, six rebounds, five assists and two steals.

Hudson Myers chipped in nine points and two boards for the red, white and blue

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while Carter Clemens recorded six points, six rebounds, three assists and two steals. Caden Sinn recorded five points and two rebounds while Tyson Gerber, Zach Stoller, Cale Winans and Caleb Mosier all had a bucket apiece. Brady Miller picked up the remaining Wayne Trace free throw in the contest.

Winans also recorded four rebounds with Zach Stoller hauling down three boards. Tanner Laukhuf, Miller and Winans finished with two as-

sists each and Miller finished with two steals.

Hicksville was paced by Braxtyn Heisler with 11 points, two rebounds and two steals while Garrett Turnbull and Brayden Slattery each chipped in eight markers and three boards.

Austin Sanders (six), Owen Stuckey (six), Luke Eicher (three), Brant Langham (two) and Bronson Graber (two) also scored for the Aces.

LADY RAIDERS GIVE SENIORS WIN AGAINST LCC



Sophomore Lexi Moore jumps to the challenge as she picks the rebound and puts the ball back up for two points. More pictures at westbendenws.net

It was Senior Night Monday night at the 'Palace' as the Wayne Trace Lady Raiders honored the senior duo of Ava Zartman and Lynsey Pease with a 60-23 victory over visiting Lima Central Catholic.

Wayne Trace led from start to finish, posting a 10-8 advantage after eight minutes of action before widening the gap to 29-13 at the intermission.

The Lady Raiders then expanded the margin to 48-17 entering the final stanza.

Lexi Moore topped the red, white and blue effort with 17 points while grabbing eight rebounds and Harper Myers chipped in 14 points, five steals and three assists. Careen Winans finished with a double-double in posting 11 markers and a dozen boards for Wayne Trace, which improves to 9-4 on the season.

Caroline Winans totaled eight points for the Lady Raiders with Zartman (four), Pease (three) and Tianna Sinn (three) completing the scoring for the red, white and blue. Zartman also recorded four steals for Wayne Trace.

Lima Central Catholic was

paced by Emily Morissey with eight points and Alonnah Bagley added seven.

Aubrey Frankhouser (five), Alice Reif (two) and Carolina Kill (one) completed the scoring for the Lady Thunderbirds.

LADY PANTHERS PULL AWAY FOR WIN OVER PIRATES

The Paulding Lady Panthers outscored visiting Bluffton in all four quarters as the maroon and white posted a 46-33 non-league girls basketball victory Saturday at the 'Jungle.'

The maroon and white led 11-6 at the end of one period and expanded the margin to 21-15 at the midway point of the contest.

Paulding then widened the margin to 29-21 entering the final stanza before outscoring the Pirates 17-12 in the fourth quarter.

Addi Pease topped the Lady Panthers with 17 points in the contest, including hitting seven of eight free throws in the fourth quarter while making 11 of 13 foul shots

WARRIORS ADVANCE TO ACAC TITLE GAME



In the ACAC semi-finals we have senior Chloe Gaff free to shoot from the key and score! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Woodlan moved on to the ACAC tournament championship game on Friday with a 47-37 win over Bluffton in girls basketball action.

Sisters Taylor Kneubuhler and Brooke Kneubuhler led the way for the Lady Warriors, posting 15 and 14 points, respectively.

Alyssa Anderson chipped in eight markers for Woodlan with Reagan Widenhoefer totaling six and Chloe Gaff finished with four.

Anderson and Alix Jacquay topped Woodlan with seven rebounds and six rebounds, in that order, while Widenhoefer picked up five boards. McKenna Goble and Taylor Kneubuhler also hauled down three rebounds

overall.

Brooklyn Schlatter added 11 points and Kayleigh Dunham chipped in six markers.

Other scorers for Paulding were Brooklyn Bakle (four), Elli Barton (three), Estie Pease (two), Lucy Breier (two) and Kate Manz (one).

Bluffton was paced by Ayla Grandey, who scored a game high 19 points, while Blair Utendorf bucketed seven markers. Macy Schaadt (three), Lauren Dearth (two) and Jordan Schweingruber (two) completed the Lady Pirates scoring.

TIGERS RALLY LATE FOR WIN OVER PANTHERS

In what could be a preview of an upcoming tournament matchup, host Liberty Center outscored Paulding in the fourth quarter to record a 43-39 win over the Panthers Saturday night in non-league boys basketball action.

The orange and black picked up a 9-6 lead at the end of eight minutes of action but it was the visiting Panther who answered in the second quarter.

Paulding bucketed 13 points in the period while limiting the Tigers to nine as the maroon and white recorded a 19-18 halftime advantage.

apiece for the Lady Warriors.

Brooke Kneubuhler dished out five assists for Woodlan and Anderson had three. Taylor Kneubuhler, Jacquay, Anderson and Brooke Kneubuhler picked up two steals apiece as well.

Isabella Stout topped Bluffton with 14 points and eight rebounds while Maryn Schreiber recorded nine points and eight boards. Haley Gibson chipped in six points for the Lady Tigers while Konley Ault and Tressa Renner had four markers apiece.

Madyson Sonnigsen and Ault totaled four steals each for Bluffton with Marly Drayer and Renner dishing out a pair of assists each.

In the third period, Liberty Center scored 14 points compared to 13 for Paulding as the two teams entered the final period tied at 32-32.

The Tigers then won the final eight minutes by scoring 11 and giving up just seven to the Panthers to record a 43-39 victory.

Casey Agler and Blake Rhonehouse both scored 13 points to top the Panther efforts with Kane Jones adding seven markers.

Grady Barton and Greyson Harder both chipped in three points for Paulding, which falls to 5-4 on the season.

Liberty Center was paced by Gavin Geahlen with 14 points and Landen Kruse chipped in a dozen markers for the Tigers, who improve to 4-4 overall.

Max Walker recorded seven markers for Liberty Center followed by Grady Miller (five), Colton Kruse (two), Camden Robinson (two) and Mason Like (one).

ANTWERP WRESTLING CLUB OPENS SEASON AT WT DUALS

The Antwerp Wrestling Club recently opened their wrestling in the annual Wayne Trace Duals on Sunday, January 14, 2024. The young archer wrestlers showed great

LADY ARCHERS TAKE LOSS FROM LANCERS



Senior Emma Townley keeps the Archers in the game with three more points! More pictures at westbendnews.net

The Lady Archers dropped a non league game tonight with Lincolnview 42-28.

Leading the Archers were Emma Townley 12, Aewyn McMichael 10, Caroline Rhors 2, Faith Clem 2, Mara Phlipot 1, and Briley Bagley 1.

Score by Quarters:
Lincolnview - 11 11 9 11 = 42

Antwerp - 7 6 2 13 = 28
Lincolnview Scoring:
Ashlyn Price 1-0-1-3; Kasidy Hammons 1-0-0-2; Keira Breese 4-1-6-17; Emerson

Walker 3-0-2-8; Addysen Stevens 2-2-0-10; Ella Elling 1-0-0-2

Rebounds - Lincolnview 19 (Breese 4, Walker 4), Antwerp 21 (Rohrs 7, Clem 5)

Turnovers - Lincolnview 15, Antwerp 25

Assists - Lincolnview 7, Antwerp 7 (Rohrs 3)

Steals - Lincolnview 17 (Breese 6), Antwerp 6 (McMichael 3)

Junior Varsity - Lincolnview 31, Antwerp 18

grit and teamwork on their way to a very hard fought 4th place finish as a team. 21 of the 31 wrestlers competing were able to win at least one match and 6 wrestlers finished undefeated on the day as well. Bryson Perry, Sawyer Parisot, Blade Ruffing, Rylee Slattman, Cooper Nestleroad, and Emma White all were perfect on the day to start their respective seasons. Congratulations to all of the young archers for their hard work and dedication this past weekend. We look forward to the start of the GMC tournament series starting next week at Edgerton. Good luck and GO ARCHERS!!

LADY RAIDERS WATCH LEAD SLIP AWAY IN LOSS TO RAMS

For most of the first two quarters, Wayne Trace seemed to be in control of Thursday's Green Meadows Conference girls basketball game against Tinora.

However, the visiting Rams finished the game on a 27-5 run as Tinora rallied to post a 37-26 victory over the Raiders at the 'Palace.'

Wayne Trace led 10-7 at the end of one period before Tinora tied the game at 10-10 early in the second stanza on an Eowyn Blanchard three-pointer.

The red, white and blue, though, dominated the next four minutes of the contest with an 11-0 run that put Wayne Trace on top 21-10 after a Harper Myers basket with 2:56 left in the first half.

Tinora would add the only other first half points, another three-pointer by Blanchard

that got the Rams within 21-13 at the intermission, but the three-minute stretch would set the tone for the second half.

Wayne Trace would not score in the third quarter until 28 seconds remained as a running shot by Tianna Sinn fell for the Lady Raiders. However, the green and white put together a nine-point quarter to get within 23-22 entering the final stanza.

And the fourth quarter continued to be dominated by the visitors from Defiance County.

Tinora scored the first dozen points of the period, a streak that was broke on a Careen Winans basket for Wayne Trace as the Raiders scored just three fourth quarter points. Tinora wrapped up the contest with a 15-point quarter in recording the 37-26 victory.

Blanchard led the way for the Lady Rams with 19 markers in the contest and Karli Okuley chipped in eight points.

Julia Durfey, Nova Okuley and Emma Bailey all had three points for Tinora, which improved to 8-5 overall and 2-1 in the Green Meadows Conference. Addison Lee chipped in a free throw to aid the Ram cause.

Harper Myers and Careen Winans both totaled six points to pace Wayne Trace with Ava Zartman recording five markers.

Lexi Moore posted three points for the Lady Raiders while Kathleen Stoller, Caroline Winans and Tianna Sinn bucketed two points apiece.

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10726 Thimlar Rd
Harlan, IN 46743

THE LEFT TURN



TJ beside the Mini Sprint he raced in Tulsa. Shaffer Racing Photo



TJ in his Quarter Midget. Shaffer Racing Photo

By: Ron Burt
The Quarter Midget

Several families introduced me to this fun class. Just like the Mini Wedge, these parents and young drivers are willing to help new people to their racing class. If you live in N.W. Ohio or N.E. Indiana, the closest track is in Maumee at the Lucas County Fairgrounds. Northwest Ohio Quarter Midgets have a Facebook page where you can look at pictures and contact them for questions. There's a National governing body that has the rules in an easy PDF download file. Before you get too far ahead of yourself, I suggest you go on Youtube.com and check out Quarter Midget racing and see if your son or daughter has an interest. Currently the area

racers are competing indoors in Columbus at the Ohio State Fairgrounds during the Winter Nationals that run several weekends until Mid-February.

Parents and drivers talked with me at the Rumble in Fort Wayne and followed up online. Quarter Midgets can race locally and not travel. If you have a good skill set and are a steady top finisher in your heats and features then you might look at State, Regional and National events. The driver is required to have safety gear but before you buy anything check the rules! And talk with parents at the track. You don't have to buy a Quarter Midget to start racing. Many tracks across the country have scholarship cars you can rent for the season. There are requirements! They will direct you in the process. At the end of the racing season the car must be returned to the condition you received it. If you don't want to mess with a loaner car, you can buy a used race car sometimes from \$2,000.00-\$5,000.00 or a brand-new car for \$10,000.00. Keep in mind these are race cars running single cylinder

stock motors and produce 2.5 & 4 horsepower. Upper classes allow motor modifications. Most tracks are 1/20 of a mile and car speeds max out around 45 mph. Classes are divided into age groups and most drivers are 5-16.

I'm featuring TJ in the article. He recently competed in the Tulsa Shootout and had over 100 racers in his class. Normally he races a Quarter Midget but in Tulsa he raced a Winged Mini Sprint for the first time. In his heat race he finished 4th. He then started on the pole in the C Main. Only the top two drivers got to advance and unfortunately TJ missed the cut. His parents provided him with a great opportunity and I'm sure they're looking forward to next year's Tulsa Shootout.

RSR Seminar

Veteran DIRTcar Late Model driver Rusty Schlenk is hosting the RSR Seminar Friday, February 9th at the Fulton Co. Fairgrounds with dinner provided. This is for Late Model, Modified and Street Stock drivers. Rusty will be going over car set-ups, driving tips, weekly maintenance and he'll be taking your questions. Contact Rusty directly on his Facebook page, Rusty Schlenk. You must register to attend.

Swap Meet Coming To Lima

The 39th Annual Lima Swap Meet will take place at the Allen County Fairgrounds January 28th, with over 200 vendors. The Swap Meet will run from 8:30AM-3PM and admission is \$7.00. It's the largest and oldest swap meet in N.W. Ohio. Dozens of dirt and asphalt racers will be set up in the 4 heated buildings to sell new and used items. There will also be vendors catering to drag racing, muscle cars, truck enthusiasts and even man cave items. Ultimate Racing Promotions LLC runs the event presented by Sunoco. Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out!

STUDENTS NAMED TO TRINE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S LIST

Trine University students were named to the President's List for Fall 2023 semester. To earn President's List honors, students must complete a minimum of 12 hours and have a GPA of 3.750-4.000.

Area students named:

Ethan Foltz, Paulding, major: Actuarial Science
Madison Ruen, Antwerp, major: Chemical Engineering

ANTWERP JH/HS 2nd NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

*Denotes 4.0

Gold Card 4.0-3.67 (with no grade less than a B-)

SENIORS: Carson Altimus, Landon Brewer, Camden Fuller, Cohen Hitzeman, *Addyson Hormann, Reid Lichty, Falynn McAlexander, Aewyn McMichael, *Brooke Molitor, *Hannah Molitor, *Emma Saul, Benjamin Savina, Kahlea Shook, *Leila Spyker, *Emma Townley
JUNIORS: *Allison Carnes, Lillian Friend, Derek Hines, Jonah Keys, *Braylen Moreno, Madisyn Peters, *Eden Shuherk, *Gracelyn Stoller
SOPHOMORES: Krystal Bradbury, Nikalas Brandenburg, Marcelo Cruz, Leigha Doster, Sara Farr, Miley Jewell, Landon Orozco,

Hampton Rogge, Colten Sargent, Corbin Sargent, Raelynne Zuber

FRESHMEN:

*Briley Bagley, Lucy Conley, Roman DeLong, Maclaren Ehrhart, Maddox Friend, Keegan Gray-Wyckoff, Eliana Hormann, Alyssa Lawson, Tyler Overman, Nathan Sanders, Gabriella Snyder, Keira Spyker

EIGHTH GRADE:

Hudsyn Bagley, Bryceton Barker, Gage Barker, Alia Clem, *Wyatt Cline, Tucker Doster, Camden Herber, Kaira Jones, Elise Meyer, *Corey Moore, *Braxton Peters, Franco Rivera, Clara Rohrs, Annelise Zijlstra, Kora Zuber

SEVENTH GRADE:

Brennan Barker, *Braxtyn Bauer, *Simon Conley, Pearce Cottrell, Teagen Eaton, Charlotte Hook, Brooklyn Lawson, *Annabelle Mowery, Evan Overman, *Alaina Reinhart, Garrett Robbins

SIXTH GRADE:

*Layla Bermejo, Parker Bermejo, Eliza Cline, Conner Fidler, Isaac Friend, Hayden Grant, Anderson Honigford, Luke Jones, Alivia Kiracofe, *Isaac Meyer, Benton Rogge, Jordan Steel, Kolton Stuckey, *Briggs Zartman

Blue Card 3.66-3.33 (with no grade less than a C+)

SENIOR: Myranda Brooks, Connor Shiple

JUNIORS:

Elle Clem, Drew Eaken, Teeghun Marlin, Brynn Reinhart, Caroline Rohrs, Keira Sargent, Dayne Sholl

SOPHOMORES:

Kalli Billman, Amelia Graham, Dylan Hahn, Griffin Kosch, Haydyn Lengacher, Estee Lichty, Zaine McMichael, Harlee Moore, Mara Philpot, Taylor Shull, Lauren Walters

FRESHMEN:

Aliyah Friend, Blake Gribler, Josie Hahn, Aiden Hook, Emery Jones, Danica Lehman, Lincoln Lucas, Kara Pierce

EIGHTH GRADE:

Reese Franklin, Aaden Friend, Brayden Fuller, Avery Honigford, Taylor Lockhart, Noah Lucas, Kati Phares, Allison Rice, Anabelle Saylor, Izaiah Thompson

SEVENTH GRADE:

Aleta Sorrell

SIXTH GRADE:

Brooklyn Baum, Kyler Johnson, Heidi Rice, Marshall Rice, Bentley Taylor, Emma White, Rylan Winslow, Christopher Yanez

Honor Roll 3.32-3.0 (with no grade less than a C)

SENIORS:

Jill Magoulas, Lucy Wales

JUNIORS:

Aiden Lichty, Jaxon Jones, Tavin Sholl

SOPHOMORES:

Corbin Eaton, Raelay Franklin, Kane Hines, Andrew Johnson, Addison Lehman, Lillyanna McKay

FRESHMEN:

Jonnothan Coker, Avalon Coney, Madeline Coressel, Payleigh Dickess, Maddilan Doster, Kole Elston, Lexy Hicks, Emily Laker, Madison Schmidt, Kage Slattery

Honor Roll 3.49-3.0 (with no grade less than a C)

EIGHTH GRADE:

Arriyanna Dunderman, Lilly Halsey, Jason McKay, Jazmine Yanez

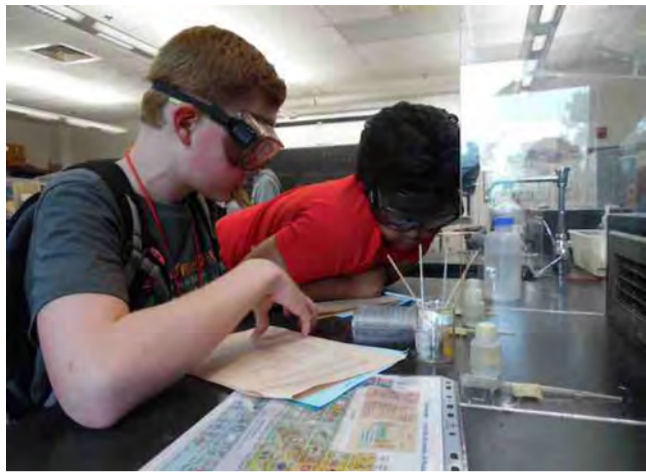
SEVENTH GRADE:

Tyler Bradbury, Elliana Burtnett, Addison Friend, Devin Hicks, Caleb Keeler, Gianna Laker, Allison Miller, Robert Montgomery, Emerson Morrow, Cate Rohrs, Sophia Stairhime

SIXTH GRADE:

Stephanie Chafin, Bradyn Coleman, Krayston Eicher, Jameson Graham, Carson Hughes, Cooper Nestleroad, Braelyn Putnam, Kaydence Saylor

OHIO WESLEYAN EXPANDS SUMMER OWJL PROGRAMMING



Ohio Wesleyan is adding a new OWJL day camp this summer to complement its longstanding residential camp. Collectively, the camps serve talented and gifted pupils in grades four through eight throughout Ohio. Here, 2023 campers use science to solve a 'Murder in the Chem Lab' whodunit. (Photo courtesy of OWJL)

For the first time in its 43-year history, Ohio Wesleyan University's OWJL program is adding a summer day camp to serve talented and gifted pupils in grades four through six throughout the state.

The new day camp, to be held in July, joins OWJL's popular residential camp, which annually invites talented and gifted sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-graders to spend a week in June living and learning on the Ohio Wesleyan campus.

"More than 85 percent of Ohio's identified gifted students did not receive special services during the 2022-2023 school year," said Josie Bair, director of the Ohio Wesleyan/Junior League of Columbus (OWJL) program. "For many campers, the OWJL experience is the first to confirm that being bright is rewarding, fun, and a gift worth developing."

OWJL campers typically choose from up to 50 classes to expand their knowledge of science, mathematics, computing, creative development, humanities, and the arts. The classes are designed to be fun and engaging, with recent examples including "3D Printing: How to Engineer for the Future," "A Taste of Hogwarts," and "Hunger Games: Can You Survive?"

The campers are taught by Ohio Wesleyan faculty, staff, and alumni, as well as national board-certified secondary school teachers, teachers of gifted and talented students, and other experts in their fields. They also are mentored by camp counselors including students from Ohio Wesleyan and other colleges and universities.

OWJL camp also is expanding its service area and currently is accepting applications from qualified students throughout the state. To apply, students must meet Ohio's definition of giftedness and use the online form at www.owu.edu/owjl to submit an essay, two teacher recommendations, and a copy of their academic record completed by a gifted coordinator, guidance counselor, or principal.

The 2024 OWJL schedule includes three, one-week residential camp sessions that run from June 9-14, June 16-21, and June 23-28, and one weeklong day camp session that runs from July 22-26.

The Ohio Wesleyan/Junior League of Columbus camp was founded in 1981 after a two-year study that determined the region's gifted

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Real Estate Taxes Are Due Wednesday, February 7, 2024
Mobile Home Tax are Due Friday, March 1, 2024
Failure To Receive A Tax Bill Will Not Avoid Penalty or Interest Charges.
For your convenience, there is a new burgundy colored drop box along the sidewalk on the East side of the courthouse.
• Please bring your tax bill with you when coming into the office to make a payment.
• If you mail your tax payment into the office it must be postmarked by February 7 to avoid any penalty or interest. If you require a receipt, please include the top part of your bill as well as a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If this is not included, we will not mail you a receipt.
• We have partnered with a new credit card company, Invoice Cloud, which offers multiple ways to pay your Real Estate and/or Mobile Home taxes.
If you would like to make a payment on line, please visit our website at www.pauldingcountytreasurer.com under Tax Information, then Real Estate Taxes and look for the green button that states Make a Payment.
Paulding County Treasurer • Lou Ann Wannemacher
Phone: 419-399-8280
Office Hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

SOLAR ECLIPSE PUBLIC MEETING



SAVE THE DATE!

In 2024, a total eclipse will go through Ohio. Start planning for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!"

Eclipse.Ohio.Gov

There will be a Solar Eclipse THURSDAY, JANUARY 25TH, 7:00PM at the Ohio State University Extension Hall. A power-point presentation and Question and Answer Session will take place.

and talented middle school students were underserved during the school year and would benefit from programs to promote discovery and foster skills in problem-solving, critical thinking, creativity, research, leadership, and communication.

Financial support for the OWJL program includes a newly awarded \$7,000 grant from the David and Catherine Erickson Fund, Amos Family Donor Advised Fund, and Robert Weiler Family Fund, administered by the Delaware County Foundation.

Learn more about OWJL and access the 2024 application form at www.owu.edu/owjl.

Founded in 1842, Ohio Wesleyan University is one of

the nation's premier liberal arts universities. Located in Delaware, Ohio, the private university offers more than 70 undergraduate majors and competes in 24 NCAA Division III varsity sports. Through its signature program, the OWU Connection, Ohio Wesleyan teaches students to integrate knowledge across disciplines, build a diverse and global perspective, and apply knowledge in real-world settings. Ohio Wesleyan is featured in the book "Colleges That Change Lives" and included on the U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review "Best Colleges" lists. Connect with OWU expert interview sources at www.owu.edu/experts or learn more at www.owu.edu.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Geoffrey D. Drehobl Jr., Cecil, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Guilty; 30 days jail suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Placed on standard probation; Make restitution in the amount of \$3492.42; Complete 20hrs of community service

Yash N. Patel, Chesterfield, MO; Possession of marijuana, Case dismissed per state, Costs to be taken from bond; Paraphernalia, Case dismissed per state, Cost to be paid out of bond posted; OVI/under influence, Guilty, 30 days jail, 27 days suspended,

May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, Operated license suspended from 02/01/24 to 02/04/25, Fines to be taken from bond

Subbarao Bathina, Coraopolis, PA; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Chance I. Johns, Paulding, OH; Assault; Guilty; 90 days jail, 83 days suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Placed on standard probation; No contact with victim; 20hrs of community service; Probation to determine online classes

Brian L. Saylor, Grover Hill, OH; Possession of marijuana, Case dismissed per state, Costs to defendant all contraband shall be forfeited and destroyed or put to lawful use by the arresting agency; OVI/under influence, Count A dismissed; OVI/refusal, Guilty, 90 days jail, 84 days suspended, Proof of insurance not provided, ALS vacated; Failure to control, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Possession of marijuana, Count D dismissed

Brandon A. Moser, Defiance, OH; Driving under suspension - operator license forfeiture, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Driving under FRA suspension, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Failure to control, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Mindy L. Contreras, Payne, OH; Confine of dog (2 counts), Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Pay restitution in the amount of \$1086.43; Maintain general good behavior

Donald R. Hinkle Jr., Wapakoneta, OH; Improper turn; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Caroline R. Christo, Oakwood, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Melvin J. Barrera Rosa, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving/texting, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

NORTHWEST STATE SEEKS 2024 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI NOMINATIONS

Northwest State Community College is accepting nominations for the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is the most notable recognition presented by the NSCC Alumni Association. Developed in 1998, the Distinguished Alumni Award honors alumni who have achieved recognized prominence in their careers and made significant contributions to their communities and the lives of others.

"Northwest State has more than 12,000 alumni, and eighty-six percent continue to live and work in our six-county service area," said Robbin Wilcox, Executive Director of Development and the NSCC Foundation. "These graduates are making a positive impact throughout northwest Ohio, and we want to hear those stories."

To be eligible, at least three years must have elapsed since the nominee graduated from NSCC with an associate degree. All who are nominated will receive a letter announcing their nomination and a form requesting additional information. After all documen-

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

tation has been received, the NSCC Alumni Association will form a committee that will select the winners for 2024.

"The Distinguished Alumni Award goes beyond recognizing the accomplishments of NSCC alumni. These award winners demonstrate, to both current and potential students, what can be achieved through education and hard work," said Wilcox.

Nomination forms are available online at NorthwestState.edu/distinguished-alumni-award. To submit a nomination, contact Robbin

Wilcox at 419.267.1460 or rwilcox@NorthwestState.edu. Nominations are due by February 29.

The Brown Township 2023 Annual Financial Report

is complete and available for inspection at the Brown Township Office. Please contact Fiscal Officer Kevin A Hornish at 419-594-2028 to schedule an appointment. The Brown Township Trustees will hold their regular meetings on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.. Anyone wishing to be notified of any regular meeting changes or special meetings must contact the fiscal officer.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

IN THE MATTER OF AVA WEHBY ALLEGED DEPENDENT CHILD

Case No. 2023 3016
To: Carly A. Mienzenger, mother of Ava Wehby
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:
339 Chestnut Street, Pottstown, PA 19464-5509

Please take notice that a Complaint, Summons, Judgment Entry regarding Emergency Ex Parte/Shelter care hearing and the Adjudicatory hearing have been filed in the above-captioned matter. You may attend the hearing scheduled for: **Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 2:30 p.m.** This hearing will be held at the Paulding County Juvenile Court located at 115 N. Williams St., Suite 202, Paulding, Ohio 45879.

Please be advised that You have the right to be represented by legal counsel, and if you are unable to retain legal counsel due to indigency, you have the right to have legal counsel appointed to you. If you are indigent and would like to have legal counsel appointed, please contact Jessica Schultz, Deputy Clerk, at 419-399-8255.

Jessica Schultz, Clerk
Juvenile Court
Paulding County, Ohio

By: *Jessica Schultz*
Deputy

Respectfully submitted,
JRB
Joseph R. Burkard (0059106)
Paulding County, Ohio
Prosecuting Attorney
120 S. Walnut Street
Paulding, Ohio 45879
419-399-8270

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 5126.027, the Defiance County Commissioners, under authority of Ohio Revised Code Section 5126.022, are seeking an individual interested in an appointment to an unexpired term on the Defiance County Board of Developmental Disabilities. The volunteer, unpaid position is currently open, and the term expires December 31, 2024. There is an opportunity to have this term renewed up to a total of three four-year terms. Interested individuals must be Defiance County residents and, to the maximum extent possible, have professional training and experience in business management, finance, law, health care practice, personnel administration, or government service, with experience and expertise in finance preferred. In addition, the individual filling this position must be an immediate family member of an individual eligible for Early Intervention or Children's Services of the Board of DD.

Application forms available at the Commissioners' Office, 500 Court Street, Suite A, Defiance, OH from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday and at www.defiance-county.com. Applications accepted until 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 26, 2024. Submit completed application to:

Liz Stuart, Clerk
c/o Defiance County Commissioners
500 Court Street, Suite A
Defiance, OH 43512

Defiance County Board of Commissioners

David S. Kern, Dana Phipps, and Mick Pocratsky

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USER FURTHER CONSENTS AND AGREES WITH ALL OF THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL TERMS OF SELF-EXECUTING CONTRACT/SECURITY AGREEMENT IN EVENT OF UNAUTHORIZED USE: Payment Terms: IN accordance with fees for unauthorized use of CLARENCE TONEY III© as set forth above, User hereby consents and agrees that User shall pay Secured Party all unauthorized-use fees in full within ten (10) days of the date User is sent Secured Party's invoice, hereinafter "invoice", itemizing said fees. DEFAULT TERMS: In event of non-payment in full of all unauthorized-use fees by User within ten(10) days of date invoice is sent, User shall be deemed in default and: (a) all of User's property and property pledged as collateral by User, as set forth in above paragraph"(2)", immediately becomes, i.e.... is, property of Secured Party; (b) Secured Party is appointed User's Authorized Representative as set forth above in paragraph "(8)", and (c) User consents and agrees that Secured Party may take possession of, as well as otherwise dispose of in any manner that Secured Party, in Secured Party's sole discretion, deems appropriate, including, but not limited by, sale at auction, at any time following User's default, and without further notice, any and all collateral by User, now property of Secured Party, in respect of this "Self-executing Contract/Security Agreement in Event of Unauthorized Use", that Secured Party, again in Secured Party's sole discretion, deems appropriate. TERMS OF CURING DEFAULT: Upon event of default, as set forth above under "Default Terms", irrespective of any and all of User's former property and interest in property, as described above in paragraph "(2)", in the possession of, as well as disposed of by, Secured Party, as described above under "Default Terms", User may cure User's default only re the remainder of User's said former property and interest property, formerly pledged as collateral that is neither in the possession of, nor otherwise disposed of by, Secured Party within twenty (20) days of date of User's default only by payment in full. 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WT GROVER HILL ELEMENTARY JANUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Grover Hill January Student of the Month Front L-R: Kolby Reichert, William Peters, Gunnar Young, Zander Zickefoose, Amelia Kline and Emily McClure. Back: Griffin Miller, Gentry Tucker, Kenzie Manz, Raylynn Golliver, Emery LaBounty, Chandler Sinn, Landyn Miller and Kendyl Hurd.

VANTAGE CAREER CENTER 2nd NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

WAYNE TRACE AB Honor Roll

* Denotes a 4.0 GPA

JUNIORS: Alana Beebe, Elana Bidlack, Haylee Bland, Cheyenne Goings, Tyler Head, Riley Hildebrand, Keegan Hohman, Corbin Kimmel, Kal-El Lands, Mason Lee, Braden Miller, Brady Miller, * Brooklyn Miller, * Cole Morehead, Gage Ogle, Blake Osborn, Noah Parady, Maya Reynolds, Kayson Ross, * Kamryn Sutton, Trenton Thomas, Trent Thornell

SENIORS: Kason Carlisle, Mary Lands, Jasmine Mattson, * Trenton McClain, Parker Schisler, Kamrun Smith, Jude Stoller, * Maddox Treece, Luke Wenninger, Harley Youtsey

PAULDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 2nd NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

* Denotes all 'A's'

THIRD GRADE:

Mrs. Doster - Caydius Dobbelaere,,Miracle Eutsler,, Landyn Harshman, Abby Leal, Aylen Schlegel, Emma Steingass

Mrs. Buss: Kolby Ringler, Harmony Mullins, Ella Hale,

Elizabeth Cortes-Becerra

Mrs. Rohlf: *Jesse Hull, Braxton Dasher, Lilly Miller, Ellie Niemasz, Owen Omlor, Damian Pena, Merrick Wolfle

Mrs. Agler: *Nora Gochenour, *Jacob Shaffer, Mallory Coressel, Evelyn Dangler, Boston Foltz, Harlow Kipfer, Noah Miller, Brayden Ramirez Cortes

FORURTH GRADE:

Mrs. Bostelman: *Isabella Wesley, *Phoenix Whiting, Georgie Arend, Kiersten Arend, Bayla Bortel, Nolan Doctor, Violeta Gutierrez-Santillan, Graeson Heller, Cooper Laney, Elizabeth Miller, Mackenzie Reilly, Booklynn Richards, Zoey Watson

Mr. Harder: *Leigha Hahn, *Kendra Manz, *Sage Papatzakis-Mead, *Nolan Rosalez, Ava Brownell, Hadie Hunt, Alexis Kennedy, Carson May, Rebeka Mericle, Ella Spangler

Miss Tressler: *Caroline Miller, *Jeremiah Sajuan, *Rya Wirts, Carter Crossland, Jase Frederick, Isabella Gonzales, Sienna Harris, Reese Lero, Bentley Munoz, Avery Parrett, Bristyl Stoller,

FIFTH GRADE:

Miss Arellano: *Blaze Basser, *Alexandria Manz, *Zoey Manz, *Devin Scott, *Kinley Sunday, Carolyn Dulaney, Chandler Fitch, Jaxon Lindsey, Dasha Lopez Santi-

ago, Ximena Martinez, Rae- gen Nicelley, P e r l a Reyes, Jack Roddy

Mrs. Stoller: *Julia Hull, *Daryus Mitchell, *Kinsley Pease, *Lexi Sunderman, *Trenit Valle, Alanna Basser, Liam Batt, Mia Cammer, Landyn Clark, Joey Griffith, Kole Jones, Averie Kline, Carlos Lechuga, N o a h Martinez, Melissa Ramirez-Cortes, Hunter Walz

Mrs. Richards: *Kyra Aldred, *Teagan Bland, *Hunter Bullinger, Logan Apkarian, Eva Densmore, Margaux Luty, Cierra Smith, Landyn-Michael Watson, R e a g a n Wilson

FOUR REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES COMING TO HICKSVILLE

Rylen Bassett and Jack Bourgeois are the founders of the Roosevelt Reagan Society in Defiance County. They are working on developing a young Republican club for Defiance county.

They are planning a kick-off event in which they plan to bring in all four primary candidates that are running for the Congressional Republican ticket in District 9. These candidates include Steve Lanke- nau, J.R. Majewski, Derek Merrin and Craig Riedel. This race is on track to be one of the top watched races in the

country and is a key seat for the Republicans to hold pos- session of the House.

The Republican Party has been given a notorious bad reputation about reaching out to the youth for their vote so instead of waiting until the eleventh hour, they decided to take the action to them.

This event will take place on January 25th at the Hicksville High School in the commons (enter through the main- event entrance). The doors will open at 5:15 P.M. and the event will commence at 6 P.M. with the opening statements.

The event is focused on Gen Z and will consist of questions from students all around District 9. Each candi- date will be brought on stage one by one and asked a set selection of questions. Follow- ing this segment, the mic will be briefly opened up to the audience to ask any questions.

This event may be focused on the youth, but it presents a great opportunity for every- one to come out and listen to what these great candidates have to offer and will help answer the questions of many of our future politicians, leaders and community members. Please share with your friends, family and anyone you may know to help make history. If there are any ques- tions, feel free to reach out: Phone number 419-518-0323 Email: rooseveltregansoci- ety@gmail.com

ADAMS HITS FT'S FOR HICKSVILLE WIN

Kennedy Adams con- nected on a pair of free throws with 4.5 seconds remaining in the fourth quarter to lift the Hicksville Lady Aces to a 51-48 win over visiting Fayette Tuesday night.

The Eagles actually led late in the contest, holding a 48-46 advantage before McKenna Baird found Hayden Neid- hardt for a bucket to tie the game at 48-48.

After Fayette missed two free throws, Adams was fouled and put the Aces on top with the two foul shots.

Ashlyn Steury was then fouled with three-tenths of a second remaining and pro- ceeded to hit one of two free throws to wrap up the 51-48 victory.

Adams led the way for the Defiance County squad with 25 points, connecting on a

quartet of three-point field goals.

Neidhardt added a dozen markers for Hicksville with McKenna Rice, Steury and Evy McAlexander chipping in four points apiece. Baird added a basket for the Lady Aces as well as Hicksville im- proved to 2-10 overall on the season.

The Lady Aces led 9-5 at the end of one quarter and still was on top 24-20 at the mid- way point of the contest. Fayette rallied to take a 37-35 advantage at the end of three periods before Hicksville ral- lied late in the contest for the victory.

Addison Shang paced Fayette with 21 points and Nevaeh Powers chipped in ten markers for the Eagles, who fall to 2-9 on the year.

Kelsie Storrs (seven), Zoie Brown (five), Kenadie Ramay (three) and Demi Storrs (two) finished out the scorers for Fayette.

CHELSI GIESIGE NAMED TO TRINE UNIVERSITY'S VICE PRESIDENT'S LIST

Chelsi Giesige of Paulding, a Trine University student, was named to the Vice Presi- dent's List for the Fall 2023 se- mester. Giesige is majoring in Finance.

To earn Vice President's List honors, an undergraduate student must be registered for 12 or more total semester credit hours, including gradu- ate courses, with fewer than 12 credit hours at the undergrad- uate level. The student must have a semester combined undergraduate/graduate grade point average between 3.750 and 4.000, with the under- graduate semester grade point average not lower than 3.500.

VIRGINIA PAULUS-ILER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION BEING ACCEPTED

Virginia Paulus-Iler Schol- arship is now accepting appli- cations. Virginia is a long- time supporter and a former board member of Paulding County Area Foundation who has had a lifelong passion for investing in her community. Virginia created this scholar- ship in 2019 to help students who are graduates of Paulding High School. This specific scholarship is to be used for furthering the education of students entering into their ju- nior year, or third year of stud- ies at a university or college. To read more about the eligi- bility criteria or to apply for the Virginia Paulus - Iler scholarship please visit paul- dingcountyareafoundation. com then click on "Scholar- ships". All scholarships must be submitted online and are due by April 1st, 2024. Late applications will not be ac- cepted. This Scholarship would not be possible without the generous donation of Vir- ginia Paulus-Iler.

ROAD CLOSURE NOTICE FROM ODOT

VAN WERT COUNTY: State Route 49 in Wren to close until May; Reconstruc- tion work begins Jan. 29

State Route 49 between South Street and Jackson Street (Wren-Landeck Road) in the village of Wren will close Monday, Jan. 29, for ap- proximately 105 days for road reconstruction including storm, sewer, and water line installation.

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Detour: SR 81 to U.S. 127, to U.S. 30 to U.S. 224, back to SR 49.

Other continuing traffic impacts:

U.S. 30 PROJECTS

U.S. 30 rest areas between the Indiana state line and the city of Van Wert in Van Wert County closed Jan. 11, for ap- proximately one year for com- plete reconstruction of the buildings.

News release: transporta- tion.ohio.gov/about-us/news/ district-1/rest-areas-in-van- wert-wyandot-counties-to- close

Ohio rest areas web- page: transportation.ohio.gov/ traveling/rest-areas/rest-areas

Know Before You Go!

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

DPLS CELEBRATING 'TAKE YOUR CHILD TO THE LIBRARY DAY'

On Saturday, Feb. 3, Defi- ance Public Library System is celebrating National Take Your Child to the Library Day.

On this day, thousands of libraries across the world take part by offering free, fun activi- ties for families, inviting them to visit the buildings, meet staff, and learn about every- thing the libraries have to offer.

During open hours (10 a.m.-1 p.m.), visit the branches (Johnson Memorial and Sherwood Branch li- braries) to spin the prize wheel. Drop by Defiance Pub- lic Library, 320 Fort St., for special activities, plus prize drawings at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. (must be present to win).

Activities and prize draw- ings are geared to kids from preschool to grade 6. For more information, call 419-782- 1456.

PATROL INVESTIGATING INJURY CRASH INVOLVING SNOW PLOW

The Defiance Post of the Ohio State Highway patrol is investigating an injury crash that occurred on January 14, 2024 at approximately 1:29 PM. The crash occurred on County Road 0.50 at County Road 1.50 in Williams County and in- volved a snow plow and all- terrain vehicle.

Mason Douglas, age 55, was operating a red 2009 Sterling snow plow west- bound on County Road 0.50 and was actively clearing snow from the roadway. Chase Prince, age 23, was operating silver 2021 CAN- AM Defender southbound on County Road 1.50. Dou- glas failed to yield the right of way from a posted stop sign and struck Prince's vehi- cle. Prince was transported to Parkview Montpelier with non-life threatening injuries. His passenger, Jamie Prince, age 48, was transported to Parkview Bryan with non- life threatening injuries.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol was assisted on scene by Northwest Township Fire Department and Williams County Emergency Medical Services.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol reminds motorists to always wear safety belts and to never drive impaired or distracted.

LIVE VIRTUAL EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Tuesday, Jan. 30th @ 6:30 pm ET

TRACTORS/LOADERS: 2006 Case IH MX 305 MFWD, 2008 Case IH Magnum 335 MFWD , 1997 Case IH 9330, IH 1566 Black stripe, IH 826 Gold Demonstrator, JD 646 wheel loader, 2003 JD 110, JD 110 backhoe loader, AC D17.

TRUCKS: 2010 Ford F-150 XL 4x4, Chevrolet Kodiak C-7 grain truck, International S2600 grain truck, 1994 GMC TopKick, 2015 Navistar Int. day cab, 2014 Mack, 2005 Volvo day cab, 1999 Volvo day cab. **TRAILERS/CAMPER:** 2003 Cabana 22-ft camper, City tri-axle dump, Raven frameless dump, HEIL tanker.

COMBINES/HEADS: Case IH 1660, (2)Case IH 1020 grain heads, IH 1460 Axial Flow, IH 863 corn head, IH 1460, 25-ft. header cart, Int 815, IH 963 corn head. **TILLAGE EQUIPMENT:** JD 400 rotary hoe, M&W 4000 Dyna-Drive, AC 20-ft field cultivator, IH 475 disk, Vicon FC 3500T Danish-tine. **AIR SEEDERS:** JD N540C, JD 1990 40-ft, JD 1990S 40ft. **OTHER EQUIPMENT:** 2015 Kongskilde VM45-3B TMR mixer, NH 357 feed grinder, JD 68 auger wagon, ChemFarm 40ft. sprayer, NH 310 hayliner baler, (2) IH 720 forage harvesters & more

Bid LIVE or ONLINE

Light meal provided

Bid LIVE at: Miller Park Bldg. 300 Miller Park Dr. Edgerton, OH 43517

Full catalog, terms & online bidding at: www.BidUnitedEdge.com

WHAT A WASTE

This morning, (early January, '24) my daughter called from her home in Newnan, Georgia. "Can you hear the



helicopters overhead?" We could hear the helicopters quite clearly over the phone. Might have been a half dozen just circling. She said it was part of the funeral procession for a Coweta County sheriff killed in the line of duty. My daughter moved to Georgia, I suppose 10 years ago, to work for Essex Wire at that time. Since that time I have paid more attention to the southern states. Most of the south was settled before our area. Mrs. Google says that in 1820 the Creek Indians, signed over their territory along the Chattahoochee River to the Scotch Irish settlers.

If you're not familiar with Newnan, it's off of Interstate 85 headed southwest for Birmingham. About 30 miles southeast of Atlanta. The Alabama line is perhaps only 30 miles past Newnan. It is the county seat of Coweta County. It's claim to fame is the popular old time movies, "Fried Green Tomatoes," and "Driving Miss Daisy." Newnan is the home of Alan Jackson, and the series, "The Walking Dead" was filmed there. Last Sunday night, in a traffic stop, the driver took off heading west, and was pursued by a County Sheriff. The chase went through La-Grange, and into Alabama where it was joined by a County Sheriff in Alabama. The Alabama Sheriff set out stop sticks, which eventually stopped the car. As the Georgia Sheriff stepped out of his car to arrest the suspect, he

was hit and killed by the Alabama Sheriff. My daughter goes to Crossroads Church, a church of probably 4,000, in a town of 10,000 souls. The sheriff was a member of her church. He left his wife and 3 young daughters. The funeral procession was from the fairgrounds to Crossroads Church, which went near my daughter's house.

It just seems like such a waste. Ever since the controversy in Milwaukee and the events that followed, the police seem to be fighting a losing battle. As you drive around there doesn't seem to be as many police on the road, as there used to be. I don't know when I've seen the last traffic stop. Maybe this is good as I've had my share of tickets when I was young.

I have a grandson that graduated from medical school 2 years ago, he plans to be an eye surgeon and is interning at the County Hospital in Milwaukee. He has gotten lots of experience as it seems like people are getting shot every night. There are so many bums on the street, that it is difficult to drive through town. There is a Target store near the hospital, but it is difficult to go there because of the bums hanging out in that area.

We have heard about the major chain stores leaving Portland, but for some reason we haven't heard much news lately. As I wake up this morning they're talking about the decaying state of the cities in California. A commentator says the New York Times has come out against Trump. I am not advocating any political party, but when a biased group is running our media we cannot be a free country.

I do not wish to be a doom and gloom person, but at the same time, I am concerned about what kind of country our grandkids will have. Our generation had it quite good so I would hope the same for them. Again, I don't wish to advocate any political party, but I do support those who do.

—James Neuhausser

PC LAND BANK MAKES FULL USE OF ALLOCATED FUNDS

The Paulding County Land Reutilization (Land Bank)

Classified Ads

Sell it in the Classifieds!

Classified ads are \$8.50 for 20 words or less and \$.15 for each additional word.

Bold is \$1.00 additional.

Ph: (419) 258-2000 • Email: info@westbendnews.net
P.O. Box 1008, Antwerp, OH 45813

Classifieds MUST be paid up front!!

WANTED: Old toys, postcards, jewelry, coins, railroad items, watches, military collectibles, antiques, pens, stamps, comics, magazines, records. Paulding by the jail. (419)399-3353 or txt 419-786-9514. tf

NEED SIGNS NOW? Get plastic, metal, posters and more! Call West Bend Printing, 419-258-2000

TIMBER WANTED: Specializing in walnut trees and hardwood trees. Buyer of standing timber. Call Gary Keegan 517-296-4601 51-50p

FOR SALE: 1979 John Deere 2040. Beautiful green tractor from 1979 WITH front end loader, runs well. Instant start up. Independent PTO. Weighs 6500lb w/wheel weights, Rear Hydraulic remotes, & quick hitch! Rear R1 Tires like new! only \$12000. Skid Steer Quick attach & bucket bracket for \$1000. Call 419-258-0127.

CLASSIFIED ADS: CHEAP AND EASY. EMAIL TO INFO@WESTBENDNEWS.NET

RAIN TECH SEAMLESS GUTTERS, 419-258-1818 2-4

DESIGN - PRINT - ADVERTISE: West Bend Printing can get you what you need FAST! 419-258-2000.

FORT DEFIANCE Antiques: 402 Clinton St. Downtown Defiance, OH. Hours M-Sat 10-5. 419-782-6003 tf

FOR SALE: Coffee Grinder. \$30obo. 419-258-0656. tf

CHARTER BUS TOUR: April 20-25. Virginia Military Extravaganza, Norfolk & Virginia Beach, VA. One of our most popular tours, much included. Call for detailed flier. Evelyn's Excursions, 419-737-2055, 419-367-1471. Also on Web. 4-6

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

Committee recently met in regular session to open the new year recently. In a first order of business, it was announced that through an evaluation process the committee chose Tetra Tech as the environmental consultant for 2024. Having been informed, Tetra Tech representative Matt Wagner was invited to share updates on the identified brownfield projects around the county. The first project update was in regard to the former Grizzley Brake facility. All testing has been completed on the site. There is now an up-to-date map showing where all the buried asbestos remains and that the cap on the material is of suitable depth. Remediation of the surface ground on the property would tentatively

need to be nearly \$500,000 in funding required to drain and level ponds and additional clean-up to make the property useful again. About the only suitable use will be solar development. The hope is that solar development here would be beneficial to the manufacturing businesses in close proximity to the site.

The next project is the Stokely ponds property. It too, looks to need about \$400,000 in funding for the ponds to be drained and leveled to make the site usable for future use. This property also had testing completed and it is confirmed that there are not hazardous materials on this site. This property is owned by the Village of Paulding and would have many more potential end uses.

The funding for these remediation projects would come out of the \$1 million dollar grant from the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) funds that the state allocated to each county. Paulding County has been very active in using the full amount of state funds from both 2023 and 2024 allocations.

The discussion from the committee was in regard to other potential brownfield projects located around the county that have been identified, but are not yet confirmed. The committee would like to have funds available to start testing on these sites as well. Further discussion will take place to understand if remediation of the Stokely ponds could take place in phases.

The meeting was then turned over to Estee Miller with Maumee Valley Planning. Miller is the contact for the additional \$500,000 ODOD funds designated to the county for commercial and residential blight remedi-

ation. The Land Bank committee is currently accepting applications for 2024 projects. Based on the incoming rate of applications from all around the county, there will be some interesting business meetings for the committee as they try to determine if all projects are applicable and can be funded. Miller stated.

The final discussion of the meeting was for committee discussion in regard to developing a list of parcels owned by the committee and potential future plans of the parcels. The committee will verify the properties and think through best potential end uses. If you have possession of a blighted property that you would like to no longer be responsible for donate to the Paulding County Land Reutilization committee, please contact the Paulding County Economic Development office at 419-399-8282.

STUDENTS MAKE DEAN'S LIST AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Miami University students who are ranked in the top twenty percent of undergraduate students within each division for the Fall semester 2023 have been named to the Dean's list recognizing academic excellence.

Lane Morehead of Payne, OH
Malia Wittwer of Payne, OH

Nationally recognized as one of the most outstanding undergraduate institutions, Miami University is a public university located in Oxford, Ohio. With a student body of over 22,600 undergraduates and 2,200 graduate students Miami effectively combines a wide range of strong academic programs with faculty who love to teach and the personal attention ordinarily found only at much smaller institutions.

MCMICHAEL LEADS ANTWERP OVER BULLDOGS

Zaine McMichael hit a pair of three-point field goals and totaled 20 points overall to lead the Antwerp Archers to a 59-35 victory over Edgerton in Green Meadows Conference boys basketball action Monday night in Williams County.

The blue and white took a 17-6 lead at the end of eight minutes and never looked back, recording a 25-20 half-time advantage. Antwerp then widened the gap to 40-26 at the end of three periods before cruising to the victory.

Landon Brewer added 17 markers for the blue and white with Reid Lichty chipping in 14 points for Antwerp as the Archers improved to 11-1 overall and 2-0 in the league.

Carson Altimus totaled six points to aid the Archer cause

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

Sudoku solution from page 9

with Syris Gale connecting on one basket.

Scottie Krontz paced the Bulldogs with 14 points and Joel Walkup added seven markers for Edgerton, which fell to 2-9 in all games and 0-2 in the conference.

Cory Herman aided the Bulldog cause with six points followed by Kellen Sanchez (three), Noah Weaver (three) and Maddox Baker (two).

HAMMER LEADS APACHES OVER ARCHERS

Aubrey Hammer scored 15 points to lead a trio of Fairview players in double figures as the Lady Apaches recorded a 60-49 victory over Antwerp in Green Meadows Conference girls basketball action Thursday evening.

Kelly Crites and Haley Hammer chipped in 14 and 12 markers, respectively, for Fairview, which improves to 9-5 in all games and 3-0 in the GMC.

Kayla Mavis recorded eight for the Lady Apaches followed by Alexis Taylor (four), Bethany Singer (four) and Madisen Sharp (three).

The host Lady Apaches posted a 20-15 advantage at the end of one quarter before expanding the margin to 35-24 at the intermission. Antwerp did cut the deficit to 47-39 at the end of three periods before Fairview put the game away in the final stanza.

Caroline Rohrs and Aewyn McMichael were the top two scorers for the Lady Archers with 18 and 16 points, respectively.

Briley Bagley finished with seven points for the blue and white while Emma Townley scored four for Antwerp as the Lady Archers drop to 8-6 in all games and 2-1 in the conference. Maylynn Carnahan and Faith Clem both picked up two points apiece as well for Antwerp.

GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT IN THE WEST BEND NEWS.

NEWS ITEMS ARE ALWAYS FREE!!!

NW Ohio Williams County - Superior Township Farmland Auction

Monday, February 5 @ 6:30 pm

ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

101+ acres offered in 4 Tracts

Land Location:
12150 Co Rd I
Bryan, OH 43506

Auction Location:
Veterans Memorial Bldg.
875 E Main St.
Montpelier, OH 43543

Farmland - Building Sites - Woods

TRACT 1: 7.256± acres. Approx. 630-ft of road frontage along Co. Rd. I. Excellent potential as a building site on its own or combine with adjoining tracts to create your future homestead.

TRACT 2: 7.256± acres. Approx. 360-ft of road frontage along Co. Rd. I. This parcel makes a great building site on its own or in combination with neighboring tract(s).

TRACT 3: 31.688± acres. 8.5± acres of woods and approx. 23± acres of mostly tillable farmland with approx. 435-ft of road frontage on Co. Rd. I. Excellent building site or recreational tract on its own or add to adjacent tracts for a strong farmland portfolio.

TRACT 4: 56.315± acres of mostly tillable farmland with approx. 1340-ft of road frontage along Co Rd 12. Great potential for the new or established farmer.

Recently retired from 20 years in the CRP program!

Additional info & full terms available at:
BidUnitedEdge.com

Multi-par bidding:
offered individually, in combinations & as a whole.

Owners: James & Carol Schroeder, Gary & Bonnie Meyer, Terry & Christine Rupp
Broker & Auctioneer: Darren Bok, CAI, CAS

419-298-1100

PAULDING SWCD IS HIRING

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN & NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN

Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District is hiring a full-time **DISTRICT TECHNICIAN** and a full-time **NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT TECHNICIAN**.

Full Job descriptions are available in our office located at 451 McDonald Pike, Paulding, Ohio or on our website: www.pauldingswcd.org

Any interested applicant should submit resume, cover letter and references prior to 4:00 p.m., Friday February 2, 2024, to:

Paulding SWCD • Attn: Stacy Clemens
451 McDonald Pike Suite C • Paulding, Ohio 45879
Or email to: admin.assistant@pauldingswcd.org

Any questions, please contact the office at 419-399-4771

Paulding County Soil & Water Conservation is an Equal Opportunity Employer

HUBER OPERA HOUSE RECEIVES GRANT



Congratulations to the Huber Opera House on their recent grant of \$2,000 from the Moose Lodge Family Center #2094. This is for a sponsorship to support and promote

upcoming performances. Pictured above are (l-r) Stacy McCartney - Moose Lodge Administrator, and Chris Feichter - Director of Operations at Huber Opera House.

HUGE USPS INCREASE REQUIRING WBN SUBSCRIPTION RATES TO RISE

Beginning this week, without any advanced warning, USPS changed the classification requirements for the paper has increased the rates for mailings by so much that rates for customers will increase. Now to have the West Bend News to be mailed to your house, it will cost \$70 per year - this is a 21% increase. USPS has increased rates by 34% in the last three years. The unfor-

tunate change made by USPS without any notice is in addition to the price increase that is happening across the board of USPS prices this week. West Bend News has numerous FREE pick up locations for residents to receive news about their communities each week - all supported by local advertisers (please tell them thank you by utilizing their services). For most of you this is not a problem to go pick up your newspaper each week as you are out and about, but for those who are homebound or living far

away and wanted to receive West Bend News in print at their homes, this increase may hinder them receiving the newspaper. Remember the entire newspaper is always available online for free to read and you can pick up for free at any of our locations listed on page 5.

LEADERSHIP IN ACTION TEAM DRIVING LOCAL ENGAGEMENT & COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

By: Owen Manz
Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce proudly introduces the "Leadership in Action Team". Comprising a dedicated group of individuals, this dynamic team is on a mission to advance their leadership skills and contribute to the betterment of our local community.

As an integral part of the Chamber's leadership program, the team is actively immersing itself in local businesses, gaining valuable insights and fostering collaboration. The team aims to create a positive impact on the economic landscape of Paulding County through their community service project at Reservoir Park. Recognizing the importance of community spaces, the Leadership in Action Team is dedicated to enhancing the park's facilities for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. The project includes renovations for fully functional restrooms and the creation of a welcoming pavilion, providing families and friends with a comfortable and welcoming gathering spot.

"This group's commitment goes beyond any boardroom

VETERANS NATIONAL MEMORIAL SHRINE & MUSEUM ANNOUNCE NEW MONUMENTS TO PAY TRIBUTE TO MIDDLE EAST WARS



The Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum located at 2122 O'Day Road in Fort Wayne have announced that there will be a Global War on Terrorism monuments constructed on the memorial grounds to honor all those that served in the Middle East conflicts.

Tim Schild, Board Member at the Veterans Memorial is heading up the project that will feature Desert Storm / Desert Shield monument along with an Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. "The combined OIF/OEF includes a tribute to the Global War on Terrorism and those that served in multiple countries, which are routinely forgotten in the shadow of Iraq and

Afghanistan including countries like Yemen, Djibouti, UEA, Qatar, Kuwait and dozens of other countries." Schild continued "we must not forget those who served to support the war effort in the United States, veterans served away from their families across the globe who despite not being on direct combat, still played essential roles in the War on Terrorism."

The monuments will be constructed out of Indiana limestone and will displayed predominately on the 40 acre property. Greg Bedford, Commander of the Veterans Memorial is very excited about the new project and says " these monuments are in keeping with our mission

that no veteran will ever be forgotten."

Plans are already in place to install a Gold Star Families monument in the spring of 2024 and a new World War II monument next year. The new Korean War Monument was dedicated on Veterans Day last year.

The Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum is currently fund raising to finance the construction of these Middle East monuments. Those who would like to donate to these monuments can make donations at the War History Museum or by mailing your donation to our P.O.Box 26 Arcola, In 46704 or online at honoringforever.org

- they believe in taking leadership to the streets, parks, and businesses that shape our community," said Erica Noggle, Executive Director, Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce. The Leadership in Action Team exemplifies our dedication to fostering collaboration, making a lasting impact, and creating a sense of pride among Paulding County businesses and residents."

The Reservoir Park project is designed not only to improve amenities but also to prioritize safety measures and enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of the surroundings. By beautifying the park, the team aims to create a more inviting environment that reflects the vibrancy and warmth of Paulding County.

The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce invites community members, busi-

nesses, and stakeholders to join hands with the "Leadership in Action Team" in making a positive difference. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected, and thriving community. For more information on the Leadership in Action Team and their community service project please visit www.pauldingchamber.com or email Erica Noggle at pauldingchamber@gmail.com.

THE CHOP SHOP

MEAT MARKET

4422 Bull Rapids Road
Woodburn, IN 46797

HOURS:
TUES-FRI, 9-7
SAT-SUN, 10-6

EBT PAYMENTS ACCEPTED HERE!

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PRICES GOOD 1/23-1/28
SALE PRICES WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

Frozen TURKEYS 20% OFF	10lb Bag RUSSET POTATOES \$4.29	GOLD MEDAL FLOUR 5 LB BAG \$3.49
STOUFFER'S LASAGNA PARTY SIZE \$12.99	RED BARON PIZZA MELTS \$1.79	CARANDO SPICY MEATBALLS 16 OZ \$2.59
PICK 5 \$5.75 OR 5/\$25	DOUBLE ROLL BOUNTY PAPER TOWELS 12 PK \$17.99	CENSEA COOKED SHRIMP PEELED & DEVEINED 32 OZ \$14.95
ASSORTED FRENCH FRIES 2.5 LB BAG \$4.49	NUTELLA SPREAD 13 OZ \$2.99	DEAN'S COUNTRY FRESH STRAWBERRIES & CREAM ICE CREAM 1.75 QT \$3.99
LOUIS KEMP IMITATION CRAB MEAT \$3.99 PER LB	KING CRAB LEGS \$19.99 PER LB	OREO CAKESTERS 5-2PACKS \$2.95

SPECIALS OF THE WEEK

FROZEN NY STRIPS \$8.99 PER LB	JENNI-O MESQUITE TURKEY BREAST OR KRETSCHMAR PEPPERED TURKEY BREAST \$5.99 PER LB
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