

# WEST BEND NEWS

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VOLUME 20 - ISSUE 12

Good News for Good Communities - Serving Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

## 2024 HOOPS FOR HEART EXCEEDS \$100,000 GOAL!



Wednesday, March 13 the Antwerp School hosted their 27th annual Hoops for Heart in honor of for the American Heart Association in memory of Jason Reeb who passed away unexpectedly in 1995 during a basketball game. His parents are Jon and Jan Reeb (mayor of Antwerp), and in 1996 they started this

fundraiser to raise awareness about heart health.

At the end of the 2023 fundraiser, the Antwerp School had raised a cumulative total of \$96,311.37 for the American Heart Association. This year's event was on track to break the \$100,000 and did so with no problem! Jan stated

(Continued on Page 2)

## JUDGE SUZANNE RISTER SPEAKS AT ZONING INSPECTORS MEETING



The Honorable Suzanne Rister was the scheduled speaker for the Zoning Inspectors meeting that took place on Thursday March 14 at the OSU Extension building with village and township officials from all over Paulding County. The meeting began with PCED director, Tim

Copsey opening with the pledge of allegiance and giving a brief synopsis of the previous meetings that began just last year before introducing PC Municipal Court Judge Suzanne Rister and bring her forth to speak.

Judge Rister presented the process that a locality would go through in order get a conviction of junk or trash ordinances to get areas cleaned up. She gave statistics on how many cases come in to the municipal court, how many return, and how many end up

getting jailable punishments.

There are not a huge amount of cases throughout the county - in 2020 8 zoning cases, 2 in 2021, 19 in 2022, 8 in 2023, and so far in 2024 - none. Rister stated that most zoning problems are taken care of with a letter from the governing agency. The numbers she presented are ones that were sent on to prosecution after the defendants failed to respond. If there is a conviction and the court costs

(Continued on Page 3)

## COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CLOSES CAFE SERVICES

Community Memorial Hospital, located in Hicksville, OH has announced that it has suspended Cafe Services indefinitely. Their ancillary, outpatient surgery and ER services will continue to be open at this time. This decision was made in order to reduce expenses. CMH is working on their restructuring plans, with the goal to provide many previous services again in the future.

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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 GMC, 9a-12p

**March 19**  
• PC Carnegie Library board meeting @ conf rm, 5:30pm

**March 20**  
• Lenten Lunch @ 1st Pres. Church, Paulding, 12p  
• WBESC board meeting @ conference rm, 5:30pm

**March 21**  
• Community Lenten Svc @ Auglaize Chapel, 7pm  
• Dot Art @ Antwerp Library, 1-5pm  
• Spring Party @ Paulding Library, 5:30pm

**March 22**  
• Paulding KofC Fish Fry, 11a-1p & 4-7p

**March 30**  
• Easter EGG-stravaganza @ Antwerp GMC, 1-2:30pm  
• NOW Senior Classic & Special Olympic Exhibition @ Hicksville HS, 5pm

**April 2**  
• Antwerp Zoning Board of Appeals meeting, 5pm

**April 5**  
• Peony Festival Queen Jubilee Pageant @ Lifehouse Church, 7pm

**April 6**  
• NWOH CASA Cookie Hop @ Paulding, 10a-1p

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Financial Partners Federal Credit Union, with headquarters in Woodburn, Indiana is seeking volunteers interested in helping with the financial well-being of their fellow citizens by serving on the Board of Directors or Supervisory Committee. The Board of Directors governs the day-to-day operations of the credit union while the Supervisory Committee serves an in-house audit function. Those interested in obtaining more information may contact either of the following:

Stan Jones, VP  
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Dave Shuey, CEO  
260-632-4245



**OBITUARIES**



FORMERLY ANTWERP, OH:

**Charles A. McCalla**, of Richardson Texas passed away, after a brief stay, at Methodist Hospital on March 1, 2024. Charles was born on March 10, 1954 in Antwerp Ohio and was a son of the late Eugene and Catharine (Heck) McCalla. Charles was preceded in death by his sister Delores and his brothers Edward and Robert. His sister Patricia passed away on March 9, 2024. Charles is survived by his siblings Mary, Michael, Alice, David and Anthony. He was a 1972 graduate of Antwerp High School in Antwerp, Ohio. Charles later trained as a Barber and had his Boat Captain's license. He was a Christian and a Patriot who generously gave his time, talents and his treasure to help others. Charles enjoyed family dinners, helping his neighbors, doing handy man work and he absolutely loved his "Pups". Charles will be greatly missed by all who knew him. There was a memorial service held on March 12, 2024 at Calvary Chapel in Plano TX.

**DAY OF SALVATION**

By: Doris Applegate

Now is the day of salvation  
Now is the time to choose  
Will you accept this offer of love  
Or keep on rebelling and lose.  
We can not be sure tomorrow will come  
Or when we will take our last breath  
Heaven or Hell awaits one and all  
God wants life for us, not death.  
The price has been paid  
By the blood Jesus gave  
Who so ever may come and receive  
Repent of your sins and let Him come in  
You will never be sorry my friend.

**EXCITED FOR THE EGG-STRAVAGANZA!**

The Antwerp Global Methodist Church is hosting

an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 30 from 1:00 until 2:30 in the afternoon the EGG-Stravaganza will take place at the church on East River Street.

Parents and grandparents are invited to bring their children; pre-school through age 12 to this special Easter event. You may enter the building through the east doors. We will be gathering in Fellowship Hall. Adults are encouraged to stay while the children participate in the activities.

Our time together will be spent doing various activities and hearing the true reason we celebrate Easter. There will also be a photo prop area so that parents may take pictures of their children, and there will be age-level door prizes, and of course search for the candy-stuffed eggs on the lawn. The children should bring their baskets or another suitable container in which to collect their eggs.

**WOODBURN EASTER EGG HUNT**

The Woodburn Lions will be holding their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 23 @10:00 a.m. In the Community Park. The East Central Fire Auxiliary & Woodburn Missionary Church will be assisting with this annual event. Four age groups will be searching over 2000 eggs for special prizes in each group. Also the Easter Bunny will be there for photos. Hope to see you there. In case of inclement weather the event will be in the shelter house.

**MERCY HEALTH LEADERS NAMED TO BECKER'S RURAL HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SYSTEM CEOs TO KNOW LIST**

Two Mercy Health leaders within the region have recently been named to Becker's Hospital Review 2024 edition of its "Rural hospital and health system CEOs to know" list, which honors executives who wear many hats and are deeply committed to improving their communities. These individuals were recognized for their leadership and contributions that are essential to the successes of the rural hospitals they helm.

Sonya Selhorst, president, Mercy Health - Defiance Hospital and Andrew Morgan, president, Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital and Mercy Health - Willard Hospital, were both among the 110 executives nationwide named to the list.

"I was born and raised in a



**Sonya Selhorst**

rural community and so feel deeply connected to the residents of the Defiance region and hold a comprehensive understanding of the needs of the communities we serve," Sonya said. "Leading a rural healthcare campus has allowed me to give back in a meaningful way and I continue to feel blessed to be of service. It truly is an honor to receive this recognition, which validates service to rural communities throughout the country."

Sonya serves as hospital president and chief nursing officer of the Mercy Health - Defiance campus. She has worked with the Mercy Health system for more than three decades, serving in a leadership role at Mercy Health - Defiance campus since 2012. Under Sonya's strong leadership, Mercy Health - Defiance has received numerous accolades and recognitions over the years and has forged strong relationships with community partners to extend wellness efforts throughout the region. She is charged with optimizing the utilization and availability of resources - including people, capital, and knowledge - to achieve the objectives of the organization while fostering a culture of trust, high reliability, safety and quality.



**Andrew Morgan**

"Mercy Health is blessed to have two dynamic leaders who each bring healthcare expertise to their hospitals and communities," said Bob Baxter, president, Mercy Health - Toledo. "Both Sonya and Andrew have been instrumental in growing Mercy Health's presence in our region's rural communities, while also building collaborative cultures that empowers their teams to best serve our pa-

tients. Being named on this national list is well-deserved for both these remarkable leaders."

Andrew joined Mercy Health in 2020 and served as the chief financial officer for the Willard, Tiffin and Defiance hospitals as well as Mercy Health Life Flight Network, the health system's air and ground transportation service. In the Fall of 2023, he was named president of the east rural market, which includes Mercy Health - Tiffin and Mercy Health - Willard Hospitals. In the year since assuming the role of president, Andrew has successfully achieved several significant accomplishments including the investment of \$3.1 million to expand OB space and services at Mercy Health - Tiffin Hospital.

"Rural hospitals have a vital role in our communities, bringing access to health care services for area residents and contributing to the overall economic, social, and physical health of the region. I feel incredibly grateful to lead our teams in Tiffin and Willard who provide exceptional care every day," Andrew said. "It is an honor to be included on this list of incredible rural hospital CEOs."

Rural hospitals and health systems bring healthcare services to remote areas that might otherwise lack access. The CEOs featured on this list are expanding service lines, hiring talented caregivers, improving facilities through renovations and new construction, and much more.

The Becker's Hospital Review team completed editorial research and accepted nominations to curate this list.

**MERCY HEALTH LIFE FLIGHT NETWORK UNVEILS NEW HELICOPTER**



Mercy Health is pleased to announce the addition of a new helicopter into the Mercy Health Life Flight Network fleet. This new helicopter is our first AgustaWestland AW119 Koala EMS helicopter - a lighter weight model that offers more options on landing sites to be closer to where EMS agencies are responding to emergencies. When Mercy Health - Life Flight launched in 1979, it became the first emergency air medical service in the region, and among the first to be established in the United States. In the past two decades alone, Life Flight has accomplished more than 30,000 life-saving patient transports in the region.

The new air ambulance

**Scripture of the Week**

"then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed."

— Acts 4:10,12

joins the Mercy Health - Life Flight Network fleet of three Leonardo 109Es, currently in service.

"We're excited to grow our fleet with the addition of this single-engine helicopter, which is specifically designed to support our local EMS agencies where they need it most. Its light weight and rock-solid dependability make it well suited to land in unimproved terrain, including fields, back roads, or anywhere its mission takes it," said Doug Wattoff, president and director of flight operations, Mercy Health - Life Flight Network.

The AgustaWestland AW119 Koala EMS helicopter is equipped with state-of-the-art Garmin cockpit flight display with full synthetic vision. Its medical interior is specifically designed using the newest superior weight saving material serving the needs of our highly trained critical care crews and our communities.

Each transport is staffed by a pilot, a skilled critical care nurse and either an emergency physician or highly trained critical care paramedic.

Mercy Health Life Flight Network has earned full accreditation from CAMTS (the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems) signifying excellence in transportation systems. CAMTS standards include patient care, medical personnel education, medical equipment, and the safety of our pilots, maintenance staff, communication centers and management.

"The Life Flight name has become synonymous with medical air transportation in our region due to the long history of excellent service and the tireless dedication and tremendous skill of the Life Flight teams," said Jim Weidner, chief operating officer, Mercy Health - Toledo. "We are pleased to be investing further in our air ambulance program and the region with this new addition."

Mercy Health operates two air and on ground-transport

Life Flight bases throughout northwest Ohio. The new helicopter will be housed in Wauseon at the Mercy Health Life Flight Network base located at the Fulton County Airport.

**CHRISTENSEN SPEAKS TO HERITAGE LIONS CLUB**



Rebecca Christensen, principal of Heritage Jr./Sr. High School, gave a very interesting talk to the Heritage Lions Club. She began by thanking the club for donating \$500 at Christmas for a family in need. She explained that Heritage has 745 students in grades 7 through 12. This number continues to grow as new neighborhoods are built and people move into our area. The student body is very diverse, a fact that Ms. Christensen felt was positive, giving students opportunity to interact with kids their own age from many different backgrounds, as they will in "the real world". Over 85% of the students graduate, which is in line with the rates for all Indiana schools.

Like all public schools, Heritage faces several challenges. Nearly 25% of Heritage students need to learn or improve their English language skills. The National Center for Education Statistics reports that 43% of US

(Continued on Page 3)

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(Hoops ... continued from Page 1)

that \$7830 was raised to now put the accumulated total at \$104,141.37!

This was a great achievement from this year's 300+ participants and all the previous students who made this incredible support for the American Heart Association possible. Prizes went to the High school and Middle School participants for various events including winning

team, best costume, top free throw shooter, top three point shooter, and more. There were four hoops going at once for half court matches. Each of the games go to 14 points for high school and 12 points for junior high. Great job to all those who make a difference!

The Hoops for Heart Committee is grateful to all to contributed in both prizes and cash donations, making this the biggest year ever!

**"Perhaps we should have advertised in the West Bend News?"**  
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101 N. Main Street, Antwerp, OH



**GET AWAY FROM MY CAR OR... ..**

**Penny For Your Thoughts**

By: Nancy Whitaker

One thing I love to do is read stories, jokes, news and recipes on the internet. Sometimes I run into a story that is too good not to share. So here goes:

An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and, upon returning to her car, found four males in the act of stealing her vehicle.

She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun out of her pocket and proceeded to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a gun, and I know how to use it! Get out of my car or I will show you my shooting expertise."

The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad. This lady meant business and was going to protect her vehicle.

The old lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition. She tried and tried, and then

she realized why. It was for the same reason she had wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12-packs of beer in the front seat. Oh my, she didn't drink.

A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down. She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake. She had pulled a gun on the 4 men and chased them away and had made herself at home in someone else's car.

She went into the police station and told her story to an officer. The sergeant to whom she told the story



couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter, where there was four scared men reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair, and carrying a large handgun. No charges were filed.

The moral of the story? If you're going to have a senior moment... make it memorable.

with the prosecutor.

There was then a question and answer time. A few of the questions are the following: Q: Can you bring in pictures on your phone? A: No. They must be printed. If pictures are entered into evidence on the phone, then the phone becomes evidence and must be turned over to the court. Pictures must be the most current as possible. Q: If the town has already given time and warning to offenders, why does the court need to give them more time rather than just judgement immediately? A: IF a person pleads guilty to a minor misdemeanor they can be charged immediately. That may not be the best scenario because the goal is to get them to clean up and if they are just convicted they may be back in the court the next month once again with more charges. The end goal is to get progress in clean up. Q: Are landlords also responsible for the tenant's mess? A: Yes. Landlord's are also responsible for the tenant and many times will start an eviction process so they don't have to put up with this. Q: What makes a jail-able offense? A: It depends on the statute charged under and if it's a repeat of the same offense and charge. Probation could be an alternative to jail to get them in compliance. Q: What about an owner that has multiple properties in multiple townships/villages and has the same problem. A: This would be separate charges from separate towns/townships. This could not be combined under a blanket case. There might be an exception if it was charged under Ohio law.

Paulding County Prosecutor, Joe Burkard, was invited to speak next. He filled in some more about what can help to clean these properties up. Collecting the proper data an evidence goes a long way to helping prosecutors build the

enthusiasm for helping her students learn was evident throughout her 40-minute presentation. Leading Heritage involves confronting many challenges, but she showed the Heritage Lions that she and her team are meeting those challenges with courage and resolve.

*(Heritage Lions... continued from Page 2)*

public school students attend schools where a majority of students are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches. Heritage has about 52% of their students in this program. As a side note, she proudly stated that Heritage has "the best cafeteria employees in Northern Indiana."

Meeting the many requirements set out by the state of Indiana, while working hard to help each student reach their highest potential, is the challenge each teacher at Heritage welcomes with enthusiasm. The story of Heritage is one of ever-higher achievements in sports, academics, and a widening range of opportunities in different fields. Two students recently went to the State Speech and Debate competition. A new boys volleyball team is being developed. The boys' and girls' soccer teams, as well as the football and track squads, have been improving every year. Developing employability skills so that students are "work-based ready", offering a "graduate a semester early" program, OSI (out of school internship), and introducing auto mechanics and computer skills are just a few of the many opportunities Heritage students are being given to prepare for their future.

Heritage High School is fortunate to have such a committed and capable leader. Her

case. He said there were three different methods they go to attack the problem: 1. Health Department, 2. zoning, 3. Opening dumping and open burning.

It was asked about processing several properties in different locals and consolidating them all. It could be on one complaint, maybe, but under one charge, probably not. Burkard mentioned the goal is not to prosecute, but to get the place cleaned up.

Scott Straley asked if there was any events making things available to help residents clean up including old tires? Q: What is the difference between junk and trash? Joe stated that the definitions should be in each of the zoning books as different locals will have different definitions of terminology.

Nearing the end of the meeting, Tim Copey came back up and spoke a bit on answering Scott's questions. In the last couple years Paulding received \$500,000 for blight and residential clean up. Many clean ups projects have taken place already and have done a lot for their communities including the CIC being able to purchase land for cleanup and repurposing.

Q: What properties do we have that are still in blight. A: Identify in your communities what empty lots do you have that could be built on? Not for landlords but young people - we are helping them build in our communities.

Tim also stated that Koharts now have a new car shredder for recycling vehicles. Once the fluids are removed the vehicles can be put through quickly. It was also brought up that a GIS system of layers for the county for water and sewer lines for each village are now an option. The towns need to do their due diligence to get their systems updated and identified to be included in the GIS.

enthusiasm for helping her students learn was evident throughout her 40-minute presentation. Leading Heritage involves confronting many challenges, but she showed the Heritage Lions that she and her team are meeting those challenges with courage and resolve.

**HICKSVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 2/20/24**

Dennis Miller of Maumee Valley Planning Commission addressed Hicksville Council members to open the February 20 regular session. He presented an update on the Village's Revolving Loan program services along with a review of previous program action as the Council and Commission plan to enter a new contract.

Mayor Mike Barth was in charge of the meeting with all Council members present. Minutes and bills were approved.

Reports from recent Personnel and Street/Light/Property/Sidewalk committee meetings were reviewed by Council members. Members discussed personnel vacation time and the limits now stipulated. The consensus was that a review of personnel policies might be in order. A report from Administrator Cory Wann was reviewed in his absence.

Village Solicitor Rachel Hammersmith presented first readings on Ordinance 2024-05, Ordinance 2024-06 and Resolution 2024-05. All measures were declared emergencies, rules were suspended, passed, final readings were given and all measures passed by Council.

Police Chief Mark Denning shared a photo of the Department's newest member, the K-9 unit which begins a 14 week training program in the coming weeks. Chief Denning thanked the Village businesses and individuals who supported the K-9 program.

Fire Chief Bruce Hart reported on several equipment repair issues. He also reported the ladder truck passed inspection. Representing the EMS service, Bruce Silcott reported on recent issues which are being dealt with for the department. He noted that calls are being diverted from the local hospital to other area hospitals. Committee chair Toni Egly proposed the hiring of two part time paramedics. The measure was passed by members. On March 16 all EMTs will attend a training session. He also asked

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

**MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY**



**By: Mark Holtsberry**

Chester Earl "Smokey" Kite was born in Payne, Ohio May 23, 1894. The son of Andrew McClelland born May 5, 1862 in Champaign County, Ohio and Rose Ann (Bodey) Kite born June 26, 1872 in Shelby County, Ohio.

This couple was married December 19, 1889 in Paulding, Ohio. By 1900, this couple along with sons, Chester and William Wesley, born April 11, 1899, were living in Payne, Ohio. By 1910, the Kite family was living in Payne, on Maple Street. Andrew was the mayor of Payne, the boys were in school. Also living with the Kite family was Isabelle Kite, Andrew's mother.

On June 4, 1917, Chester joined the National Guard out of Hicksville. He served with Company E. 2nd Ohio National Guard, which later was Company F. 145th Infantry National Army. On June 10, 1917, William W. Kite joined the National Guard out of Paulding.

He served in the Headquarters of the whole army of the 2nd Ohio National Guard. On September 1, 1917, William was assigned to the machine gun company until October 2, 1917. William was promoted to Bugler September 4, 1917, then promoted to private October 4, 1917.

He then was sent to Camp Sheridan, Alabama, October 26, 1917, transferred to Company E. 146th Infantry 37th Division. Something happened to Chester while serving in the National Guard. He was Honorably Discharged January 26, 1918. He was

listed as 2% disabled, with a Surgeon's Certificate of Disability. On May 24, 1918, William was promoted to Bugler then sent overseas to serve in France.

He served in the Muese-Argonne Defensive sector. On September 12, 1918, Chester registered for the draft. Chester was listed as medium height and stout build, brown eyes, black hair, working as a truck driver for the National Safe and Lock Company in Cleveland, Ohio. He was not selected because of his disability.

As for William, he was wounded September 30, 1918. He boarded the ship, U.S.S. Maui at Brest, France, March 18, 1919, and set sail for Hoboken, New Jersey. On March 31, 1919, William lands on American soil. He was Honorably Discharged April 13, 1919. On November 27, 1921 in Paulding, Chester and William's mother passed away. She was buried in Lehman Cemetery. On June 20, 1923, Chester married a gal named, Florence Marie Spriggs in Champaign, Ohio. She is the daughter of Alex and Rosie (Shadley) Spriggs. On June 30, 1923, Andrew remarried a gal named Adella May Hall.

On January 20, 1930, Chester and Florence, were welcomed with the birth of a daughter, Ruth Eileen Kite. A daughter Betty Rosalee, was born in 1924, a son, Chester Earl Kite Jr. was born October 23, 1925, and Norma Mae October 26, 1927. By 1930, the Kite family was living in Saint Paris, Champaign County, Ohio. Chester was working as a painter. On November 14, 1934, Chester passed away from heart failure. He was buried in Lehman Cemetery, lot 210, block A., grave 5. On December 13, 1934, Chester's military tombstone was shipped January 28, 1935. His father handled the shipping arrangements. Chester's wife remarried and passed away in 1984 and is buried with her second husband in Champaign County, Ohio.

Chester's son, Chester Jr., served three years in World War Two. He passed away in 1984.

... Until Next Time!

about the status of hiring the billing company which presented at the February 12 Council meeting. Council reported they are waiting for approval of the contracts. A vote to move ahead with the billing company, pending final approval, was given by Council.

Park Director Val Shull reported they will begin Spring work sometime in March, depending on the weather.

Fiscal Officer Cheryl Smith presented

regular monthly reports. Mayor Barth reminded citizens of the February 22 blood operation. He also announced the March 8 Paint Defiance County Purple event to support MRDD Developmental department to recognize diversion and inclusion for all citizens.

The next regular Council session will be Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6 pm in Council chambers.

*(Zoning ... continued from Page 1)*

and fines are not paid, the court works with the BMV and the person will not be able to renew their vehicle tags until the court fines are paid. Only three of the cases broke the level for a jail-able offense where someone has broken the same code multiple times. The townships can charge under their own code or the Ohio Basic Code.

Suzanne stated that one of

the problems between the agencies and the residents is communication. She said many times the people don't understand why they've been charged. Zoning violations must be clear to the alleged offender and presented in an itemized listing in reference to what is in violation. Pictures of the evidence must be clear and current - they cannot be six months old.

The fines that are paid go back to the entity that charged them. She also talked about reimbursement - including attorney fees - average of \$700-800 per case each town/trustee are supposed to pay for that; however, the judge has stated she does what she can so the localities do not have to foot the bill.

For the agencies that want a favorable ruling from the judge, the entities are highly encouraged to have an official from the village stand in court

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# FAIRVIEW FFA ATTENDS DISTRICT 1 INVITATIONAL



**General Livestock Team:** Tashya Chauber, Addalyn Zeedyk, Samantha Mavis, Riley Schindler, Tasha Crites, Brooklyn Zeedyk, Cheyenne Zeedyk, Emma Zeedyk, Madisyn Michael, Elizabeth Bok, Kortney Grinnell

**By: Elizabeth Bok**

On Tuesday, March 5th, the Fairview FFA chapter traveled to Fulton County Fairgrounds to compete in the Spring Contests.

The contests that were participated in were Agronomy, General Livestock, Meat Judging, Nature Interpretations, and Wildlife. In Agronomy, contest participants looked at crop production and management.

The members that com-

peted in agronomy did very well and placed 3rd overall as a team and Summer Hiler placed 7th. The general livestock participants judged and answered questions on Market Lambs, Market Hogs, Breeding Gilts, Market Steers, Breeding Ewes, Market Goats, and Breeding Heifers.

Out of 414 individuals and 48 teams, Emma Zeedyk was 10th, and the team placed 12th overall. The Nature Interpretations and Wildlife

contests identified species native to Ohio. In Nature Interpretations, Althea Spnagler placed 19th overall. The Wildlife team placed 13th in their contest. Meat Judging consisted of evaluating various cuts of meat.

The Meat Judging team placed 6th overall and Kyle Rabe placed 14th. These contests are great ways for members to show off the skills they have learned in the classroom or their SEA projects.

## WT PAYNE ELEMENTARY 3<sup>rd</sup> NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

No honor roll for grades K-2

### THIRD GRADE:

**All A's:** Rilee Girardot, Luna Schmidt, Allie Wilcox, Mary Gerardot, Elise Steffen, Maylee Stoller, Norah Mawer

**All A's & B's:** Peyton Hollar, Jack Myers, Nellie McMillan, Megan McKinney, Jerica Gonzales

### FOURTH GRADE:

**All A's:** Lydia Shepherd, Brynlee Stoller

**All A's and B's:** Raylynn Gerardot, Pieper Mansfield, Hannah Mawer, Adalyn Litzenberg, Boston McGarvey, Piper Mills, Beckett Taylor, Bryleigh Wieland

### FIFTH GRADE:

**All A's & B's:** Londyn Dargenson, Aubrey Fairley, Zander Lelonek, Kaylee Miller, Carter O'Dell, Luke Shepherd, Nuria Valdez, June Wenninger, Emma Wilcox, Sam Schabbing

**All B's:** Adley Morehead

### SIXTH GRADE:

**All A's:** Scarlett Neff, Megan Parker, Mailey Stoller, Avery Welch

**All A's & B's:** Hudsyn Burkley, Krandon Crites, Aubree Lamb, Audrey Reuille, Lienna Stoller, Olivander McCague, Ryleigh McGarvey

**All B's:** Chaz Moore, Antonia Negrete Pawoli

## WT GROVER HILL ELEM 3<sup>rd</sup> NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR

### THIRD GRADE:

**All A's:** Aleyah Stoller, Shannel Wright, Addilyn Noffsinger, Emery LaBounty, Gabe Schlatter, Damien Selzer, Landyn Miller

**A's & B's:** Allison Rohas Palma, Bode Roth, Kollin Reichert, Lane Noffsinger, Jeremy Lowe, Amethyst Hittle, Jacoby Hurd, Jordan Jackson, Aden Stoller, Sophia Rhodes-Varner, Katelyn Plummer, Emma Lavigne, Tyler Baksa, Marlie-Jane Clutter

### FOURTH GRADE:

**All A's:** Jase Miller, Brianna McClure, Mia Kamphaus, Carson DeVenney, Lyla Stoller, Austin Stoller, Jayde Sinn, Chandler Sinn, Alirah Ricker, Evan Heier

**A's & B's:** Gentry Tucker, Gaberial Spangler, Allison Donaldson, Ellie Wilt, Jaxon Porter

**All B's:** Kyndra Grimes

### FIFTH GRADE:

**All A's:** Aylan Stoller, Sawyer Schlatter, Shawna Stoller

**A's & B's:** Emberlee Sinn, Jaxson Shelton, Jennifer Lopez-Castillo, Beckett Jay, Abrie Hurd, Emma Hartwig, Brynlee Maenle, Grayson LaBounty

**All B's:** Wyatt Farris

### SIXTH GRADE:

**All A's:** C.S., Griffin Miller, Connie Landwehr, Katelynn

Hurd, Brenna Beining, Kenzie Manz

**A's & B's:** Carter Noffsinger, Carter Ludwig, Jocelyn Adkins, Kolson Stoller, Tylan Sinn, Jocelyn Mabis, Avah Farris

**All B's:** Zoey Schnipke, Gracelyn Miller, Drew McClure, Piper Densmore, Calvin Coffman, Mia Adkins, Wyatt Dickerson

## YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES PRESIDENT'S LIST

Youngstown State University students earning a perfect 4.0 grade point average have been named to the President's List for Fall Semester 2023.

**Ilse Zijlstra of Antwerp is majoring in Theatre - Musical Theatre track.**

**Mallory Ehrhart of Antwerp is majoring in Theatre - Musical Theatre track.**

Youngstown State University is a comprehensive urban research university that offers nearly 11,000 students more than 100 undergraduate and graduate programs backed by a strong tradition of teaching, scholarship and public service. As a major educational and economic development resource in the region, YSU is known for its focus on academic research and creative programs that transform its students into successful professionals, scholars and leaders. Located in the heart of the Tech Belt between Cleveland and Pittsburgh, YSU provides opportunities for students to actively participate with accomplished faculty, often in one-on-one settings, on advanced research and creative collaborations. The beautiful 145-acre campus includes high-tech classrooms, state-of-the-art labs and performance facilities, a variety of on-campus housing options and recreational facilities among the best in the nation. For more information, visit [www.ysu.edu](http://www.ysu.edu).

### AG SENSORS

The world of agriculture is changing quickly with all the new technology. Artificial intelligence (AI); automated planting, spraying, and harvesting; and nutrient management are all being incorporated into farming op-

erations to increase efficiency and yields. This article will focus on changes in nutrient management.

Plant nutrition impacts yield and the quality of our food supply and impacts pests (weeds, insects, disease). Most farmers have insufficient data for the immediate nutrient needs of a plant, leading to fertilizer misapplication and significant challenges in fruit and grain quality. Good plant nutrition at the right time improves plant health, soil health and also reduces issues with pests. Extensive research has established the link between disease susceptibility and specific nutritional imbalances associated with each disease. By managing a crop's nutritional needs, it is possible to significantly reduce or even eliminate pest susceptibility, however, farmers need to measure plant nutrient balance with real-time data.

The standard for plant nutrition was to monitor dry matter leaf tissue analysis in a laboratory. Typically, leaf samples would be collected and ship to a laboratory when a problem occurs or with sporadic sampling. Laboratory results may take a week or longer, causing delays in decision-making. The costs associated with sample collection, shipping, and turnaround time further restrict the frequency and accessibility of sampling.

An additional challenge with tissue analysis is the data doesn't always accurately reflect what is occurring in the field. A rapidly growing crop may not be obtaining enough calcium to maintain healthy cell structure for newly formed cells, while all the previously formed cells contain adequate calcium. A tissue analysis will continue to show adequate calcium levels for 3-4 weeks, until the new growth becomes deficient enough for the shortfall to show up. Because of these challenges, routine tissue testing is not a standard practice for most growers.

For high value crops, leaf sap analysis is now being used because it is more sensitive and accurate than tissue analysis and nutrient imbalances can be detected 3-4 weeks earlier than with a standard tissue analysis. The data tracked with the field observations is more accurate than using tissue analysis. Tested every 14 days through the crop growing season reveals numerous crop quality and pest susceptibility problems stemming from fertilizer misapplication. Excessive fertilizer usage and improper timing are common errors, accounting for more than 80% of crop quality issues. While sap analysis helps improve data accuracy, it is time consuming and the results still have to be sent to labs.

Now farmers can use sensor technology to allow for the real-time measurement of plant nutritional balance and the presence of pathogens, enabling nutrition management as a powerful disease prevention tool. Now monitoring a crop's nutritional status every week and adjusting nutrient applications accordingly becomes more accessible and affordable. This new technology has undergone successful greenhouse and field tests on

# FAIRVIEW NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION CEREMONY



**Levi Panico receiving his certificate and pin from older brother Ethan Panico**

On Monday, March 11th, Fairview High School held the induction of this year's new members of the National Honors Society. Each of the 31 new inductees were inducted into the NHS for the four qualities they possess—scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Due to their academic achievements, service to their com-

munity and school, willingness to step up when it is right, and expression of good character, these new members were awarded a position in Fairview High School's NHS. The current members are excited to welcome this year's new chapter and congratulate them on their induction into the National Honors Society.

various crops, including citrus, apples, soybeans, and potatoes; with plans to test additional crops.

This advancement has the promise to reduce fertilizer usage, particularly for nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P), and potassium (K), resulting in decreased water pollution caused by nitrates. It can also effectively mitigate disease and insect pressure, stemming from excessive fertilizer applications, and thus reduce the reliance on pesticides. By addressing the core issues of nutrient imbalances and disease susceptibility, this new methodology holds tremendous promise for the future of agriculture. Adapted from an article by John Kemp, Advancing Ecological Agriculture (AEA)

Here is an example how this technology might increase crop yields. Alex Harell, a young Georgia farmer has set the world record on soybeans at 206.7 bushel per acre. Alex will be a speaker at the Conservation Tillage & Technology Conference at Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio on March 13, 2024. Alex has been using

Brandt nutrient foliar feed products to achieve these high yields, but he is definitely not holding back on fertilizer applications. He starts at planting with a seed fertilizer package in furrow, then applies three products at V2 (two leaf stage), three more products at V6 (six leaf stage), and another four products at reproductive stages R1, R2, R3, R4, R5. Needless to say, it would be extremely difficult to be profitable with that many applications and it would be impossible to do this on large acreage.

Alex achieved this record yield on 2.5 acres just to prove that it is possible to get exceptionally high soybean yields. He used standard tissue testing. However, now with plant sensors and almost immediate data, farmers may soon be able to fine-tune their applications and only put on immediately the crop nutrients that are needed to maximize crop yields. Future of farming is becoming reality quickly.

—James J. Hoorman  
Hoorman Soil Health Services

## 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](http://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.*

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

*email: info@westbendnews.net  
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USPS: West Bend News  
PO Box 1008  
Antwerp, OH 45813*

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

The upcoming Republican primary for the Senate seat in Washington, D.C. is a crucial vote for Ohioans this month. There are two career politicians and one businessman vying for the right to challenge the Democrat, Sherrod Brown, for the chance to represent us in Washington, D.C. The last thing Ohioans need is another career politician serving their own needs instead

of ours. I firmly believe that Bernie Moreno is our best chance to serve the constituents of Ohio. Frank LaRose and Matt Dolan have spent the majority of their careers in politics, and rather than finishing the jobs they were elected to do, they are both asking that we promote them, regardless of the fact that they said they were the only ones to do the jobs we voted them to do. I believe that Bernie is running because Ohioans need real representation in Washington.

President Trump, Vivek Ramaswamy, and J.D. Vance have endorsed Bernie, along with Jim Jordan, Senator Marco Rubio, Kari Lake, Senator Mike Lee, Gov. Kristi Noem, Senator Cynthia Lummis, Senator Marsha Blackburn, Senator Rand Paul, Senator Ted Cruz, Warren Davidson, and Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General, all of whom works with an American-First agenda. This country needs people who will put Americans first instead of illegals and terrorists. We need people who understand the importance of fiscal responsibility.

Bernie stands with Ohioans who believe in the working class, the 2nd Amendment and the Right to Life, being endorsed the Ohio Right to Life, Ohio Value Voters, Associated Builders and Contractors of Ohio, Turning Point Action, and a 100% rating with Ohio gun owners and an A rating with Buckeye Firearms.

All these conservatives believe like I do, that Bernie Moreno is the best candidate for the job. We need to take our country back and you can believe that Bernie

Moreno will do what needs to be done to get America back on track. Let's send a genuine conservative to challenge and win against the very Liberal Sherrod Brown in November.

—Laurie Lucas,  
Rural Paulding

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Turn Back To God**

America has had it too good for too long. We've lost the meaning of hardship, work and faith. We do know how to plan a worthless video game, we don't know where we're going because liberals have erased our past with all the trials we've been through. We've lost all sense of reasoning, commitment and responsibility.

We are like a ship that's lost its rudder. We're just going in circles and getting nowhere. To follow our present ultra liberal path is to guarantee death for America and we can't stop it.

We just live day to day thinking all is ok. We keep sending the same crap back to Washington thinking we're doing right. We may attend Church but often confuse calming with holiness. We don't get involved or speak against evil. We just sit on the sideline.

We've forgotten God and permitted Satan's evil to saturate our lives. Our failure started in 1947 when our Democrat seated liberal Supreme Court, at the request of the communist ACLU declared separation of church and state. Their evil declaration was meant to remove God and destroy our liberty. It was approved by our Democrat president and both Democrat controlled houses of congress.

I see nothing but total failure connected with our present communist loving Democrat party. Why do you think they purposely leave our border open and spend our money and future on illegal crap and lie constantly saying "it is the Republicans fault"? The real reason it is open is only because Biden invited them in and won't sign his name to close it.

Democrats in Washington and their liberal federal judges have raped our laws and future. They have turned evil into a good and made good evil. We shoot a criminal who invades our home safety and liberal courts reward the crook. Liberal Democrats have almost destroyed our America. Even a Russian leader said they wouldn't have

to fight us because we will already have turned to communism.

Look at world history. You will find that other nations that act like our ultra liberal Democrats do today got Stalin and Hitler. What will our fate be if we follow these ruthless Democrats?

Our America was born Christian. Our branches of government and laws came from the Bible. Many government structures and Arlington Cemetery are memorials to our Christian faith

In my past letters in other papers, I have had uneducated idiots say, "Don't mix religion and politics" That is an example of how liberals have changed our education system. Facts show that today's students are not as smart as in the past. They just don't understand that our government and laws would never have existed if it wasn't for our Christian faith.

If we don't smarten up by our 2024 November election and eliminate this evil communist Democrat party, America will never recover. Forever is a long time. Should they win the election, America will probably feel their full evil force. They have waited over 100 years for this coming day.

The America that we love and live in can only survive if we pray and return to God. Many have tried other ways and all have lost. Of all the nations on earth, only two have been unique. Israel was God's chosen people and I believe God chose and grew America in hopes of saving humanity and Israel.

Do you want America to be moral and still a good place for your off-spring to live in and not be under a dictator? It won't happen unless you turn to God now, later could be too late.

—Richard Mastin  
Hicksville, OH



**TIME FOR FINANCIAL SPRING CLEANING?**

Spring is almost here, which means it's time for some spring cleaning. This year, in addition to tidying your home and surroundings, you might want to consider sprucing up your financial environment, as well.

Here are some suggestions for doing just that:

- **Improve your vision.** Once the days are warmer and longer, you may want to get outside and clean all the winter grime and smudges from your windows, allowing you to see the world more clearly. And you may want to bring more focus to your financial vision by asking some key questions: Is my investment strategy still appropriate for my needs, goals and family situation? If not, what changes should I make? And am I prepared for changes in my life, such as health challenges or a need to retire earlier than planned? The answers to these and other questions can help you clarify where you are, in terms of your financial picture, and where you want to go.

- **De-clutter.** As you look around your home, you may find things such as expired health care products, old prescriptions, ancient cleaning solutions, and so on, in addition to duplicate household items (how many blenders do you really need?) and non-working equipment — printers, laptops, etc. Most people find that eliminating this clutter gives them a good feeling — and more livable space. As an investor, you can also find clutter in the form of redundant investments — for example, you might own several nearly identical mutual funds. You might be better off selling some of these funds and using the proceeds to find new investments that can help you further diversify your portfolio. As you may know, diversification is a key to investment success, but keep in mind that it can't prevent all losses.

- **Plant seeds of opportunity.** Whether they're planting camellias and crocuses or carrots and cilantro, gardeners are

busy in the spring, hoping their efforts result in lovely flowers and tasty foods. And when you invest, you, too, need to plant seeds of opportunity in the form of investments that you hope will grow enough to enable you to make progress toward your goals. So, you may want to review your portfolio to ensure it's providing this growth potential, given your individual risk tolerance.

- **Reduce dangers.** You may not think about it that much, but your home and surroundings can contain potential hazards. You might have ill-fitting caps on cleaning products with toxic chemicals, or sharp cutting instruments protruding from shelves in your garage, or heavy, cracked tree branches hovering close to your roof. Spending some time on a spring-cleaning sweep can get rid of these dangers — and devoting time to consider the possible threats to your financial security, and those of your family, can pay off, too. For starters, review your life insurance to determine if you've got enough. Your employer may offer some coverage as an employee benefit, but it might not be sufficient, so you may need private coverage. And the same is true for disability insurance, because if something were to happen to you, and you couldn't work for a while, you'd still want to protect your family's lifestyle.

Spring is a great time for brightening your physical space — and your financial one, too.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

**READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

**OHIO LOCATIONS**

**Antwerp:** 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 Marathion 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, Citgo, 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, Bargain Bin, 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

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

Subscription information for the West Bend News follows: If you would like to have the West Bend News newspaper delivered to your home, subscriptions are \$58.00 per year. The newspapers are available for free at pickup locations throughout Northeast Indiana and Northwest Ohio.

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# PAULDING COUNTY BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL HOLDS FIRST QUARTER MEETING



The Paulding County Business Advisory Council (BAC) met at Antwerp Manor Assisted Living facility on Wednesday March 6th, headed by Tim Copey, Paulding County Economic Development Director to discuss initiatives focused on collaboration between local businesses and schools for the betterment of Paulding County. The meeting kicked off with a welcome and introduction of 22 attendees, including Lu Cooke, Northwest Regional Liaison Lt. Governor's Office, and Mike Weible, Paulding County Commissioner.

Key agenda highlights included:

Mission Statement Update: Tom Taylor of Western Buckeye ESC and Tim Copey, PCED Director, spearheaded efforts to refine the BAC Mission Statement for submission to the state. The goal is to ensure collaboration with the steering committee in shaping the business advisory council's future direction.

Spring SuccessBound event: Rhonda Hogrefe of Northwest Ohio College TechPrep invited BAC members to the upcoming Spring SuccessBound event at Terra State on April 26th. The event will facilitate discussions and strategies for education and workforce.

Paulding County Career Expo: Kristen Schilt shared

details about the upcoming Paulding County Career Expo, highlighting opportunities for businesses to engage with students. Interested businesses are encouraged to reach out for participation.

Teacher Bootcamp: Lu Cooke announced Teacher Bootcamp funding was available again from the state. They recognize the importance of this program and advocated for it. Paulding County Teacher Bootcamp is scheduled for June 3-6 & 13th. The event, in collaboration with Ashland University, offers educators and businesses a way to connect and learn from each other all while earning continuing education credit.

Education Updates:

- Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School received a \$2.4 million grant from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce to enhance STEAM programs and facilities.

- Paulding High School is organizing a community clean-up day on April 29th, providing students with opportunities for community service and engagement. In addition to an update on the Panthers for Careers program.

- Antwerp High School is launching an Archer Career Advantage Program this fall to expose seniors to career exploration opportunities.

- Vantage Career Center

is experiencing record-high applications. There is also a need for adult education instructors.

- Northwest State Community College shared an update on the new Van Wert campus.

The meeting also addressed topics such as Ohio TechCred sign-ups, the need for residential housing, and discussions around other career development initiatives.

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for June 8th at Mercer Landmark Latty. For more information about the Paulding County Business Advisory Council please reach out to the economic development office at 419-399-8295 or office@pced.net.

## FLYING JET TRIO LEADS ALL-ACAC SQUAD

ACAC champion Adams Central led the way on the 2024 all-league boys basketball team with a trio of players joined by a pair from Woodlan and one from Bluffton.

The Adams Central trio of Isaac Schultz, Micah McClure and Trace Maller all garnered first team honors as did the Warrior duo of Trey Yoder and Braden Smith. Tucker Jenkins of Bluffton rounded out the first team all-league squad.

Taking second team honors were Heritage's Kobe Meyer, South Adams' Tytus

Lehman, Heritage's D'vontaye Washington, Adams Central's Ryan Tester, Southern Wells' Chandler Oswalt and Jay County's Gradin Swoveland.

Earning honorable mention were Southern Wells' Evan Pennington, Bluffton's Axton Beste, Heritage's Noah Redmon, South Adams' Owen Wanner, Adams Central's Braylen Reber and Heritage's Braden Walter.

## HAWKS RALLY TO POST WIN OVER ARCHERS

Maumee Valley Country Day tied the game late in regulation and then pulled away in overtime for a 70-63 win over Antwerp in the Division IV district semifinals at Defiance High School Tuesday evening.

The Hawks led 12-11 at the end of one quarter but Antwerp answered to take a 23-21 advantage at the midway point of the contest.

After the Archers posted a 42-41 lead entering the fourth quarter, Maumee Valley Country Day got a late three-pointer from Amani Dickerson to tie the game at 57-57 at the end of regulation.

In the extra session, the Hawks outscored the Archers 13-6 to pull away for the 70-63 victory.

C.J. Majors led the way for Maumee Valley Country Day with 26 points while Amani Dickerson added 24 markers for the Hawks.

Drew Knorek also reached double figures, scoring 11 points for Maumee Valley Country Day.

Joge Soriano (four), Asa Karns (three) and Izek Royer (two) completed the scoring for the Hawks.

Carson Altimus and Landon Brewer both bucketed 16 points for the Archers and Reid Lichty chipped in 14. Zaine McMichael also reached twin digits with 13 markers for Antwerp.

Camden Fuller picked up four points to aid the Archer cause as well for Antwerp, which concludes its season with a record of 21-3.

## BEARCATS END WT'S SEASON

Spencerville jumped in front early and the Bearcats pulled away from there for a 62-45 win over Wayne Trace in the Division III district semifinals at Lima Senior High School Wednesday.

Spencerville posted a 15-8 lead at the end of one period and widened the margin to 34-20 at the intermission. The Bearcats took a 51-37 lead into the final period.

Owen Sensabaugh paced Spencerville with 18 points with Carter Sudhoff adding 16 and Evan Osting recorded ten.

Will Sensabaugh (eight), Carder Orr (seven) and Grady Smith (three) completed the scoring for the Bearcats.

Wayne Trace was paced by Kyle Stoller, who recorded a game high 34 points to go along with 11 rebounds.

Tanner Laukhuf finished with five markers for the Raiders while Carter Clemens, Cale Winans and Brady Miller all chipped in two markers.

Wayne Trace closes its season with an overall record of 18-6.

# KIMMEL, ETTER, AND OSBORN REPRESENT AT THE STATE LEVEL



Freshman Stroker Etter finished his state run just one win away from the podium. Great job! Photo by Carrie Kimmel



Junior Corbin Kimmel grapples on the mat with his opponent. Photo by Carrie Kimmel



Senior Nate Osborn Kimmel tussles in his run at a State placement. Photo by Carrie Kimmel

Paulding County was fortunate to be represented by three wrestlers at the State Wrestling Tournament hosted at The Schottenstein Center of The Ohio State University. From Wayne Trace, junior Corbin Kimmel made his second appearance on the state floor alongside senior Nathan Osborn. Thor (Stroker) Etter, a freshman from Paulding also competed. On Thursday, March 7th, the three wrestlers and coaches were provided the opportunity to practice in the wrestling facility at The Ohio State University. On Friday, March 8th, the three wrestlers prepared for the first day of wrestling.

Kimmel, the 120-pound Raider, was the first to wrestle in a close match against Trevor Wilcox of Otsego. Wilcox defeated Kimmel by one point, with a final score of 3-2. Kimmel then defeated Isak Skelly of Waynedale with a final score of 14-8, which advanced him to day two of the tournament. On

the second day of competition, Kimmel faced Tristen Rossiter of Shenandoah. Rossiter caught Kimmel in the second period and defeated him, knocking him out of placement rounds. Kimmel was just one match away from a two-time placement.

Etter, the 132-pound freshman was the next in the lineup. For the first match of the tournament, Etter was defeated by Zane Pickerrell, a senior from Zane Trace, with a score of 10-0. In the consolation round, Etter was able to advance with a big pin over Gavin Cornell of Port Clinton. In the first round of the second day, Etter was defeated by Caden Schmeltzer of Waynedale with a score of 17-2. This ended the road to the podium for Etter, just one match away from the podium.

Osborn wrestled in the 190-pound weight class for the Raiders. In the first round on Friday, Osborn was defeated by Grant Richardson of Evergreen with a score of 14-

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1. In the consolation round, Osborn faced Landon O'Donnell of Pleasant and was defeated with a score of 5-1, knocking him out of the competition.

Paulding Schools, and Paulding County were proudly represented by the young men who qualified for the State Tournament. Congratulations on the season and best of luck in the future!

wrestling state tournament.

Biographical information for all three inductees is below. The OPSWA inducted its first Hall of Fame class in 1983. The complete list is posted at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news/OPSWA/HOF>

The OPSWA was created in 1972 to support, promote and recognize the coverage of high school sports across Ohio. More information is available at: <https://www.ohsaa.org/news/OPSWA>

Rick Cassano started covering sports for his local newspaper when he was a high school senior more than 40 years ago. He was part of the Southwest District football and basketball all-district panel for many years and served as district chairman. Cassano has won numerous OPSWA writing awards and has been named Writer of the Year three times. He graduated from Badin High School in Hamilton in 1982 and played football and baseball for the Rams, kicking a field goal in the 1980 Division III state championship football game.

Cassano earned a journalism degree from Ohio University in 1986, then worked for 14 months at the Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times, covering high schools, colleges and a Mike Tyson boxing match. He returned home to work for the Hamilton JournalNews in 1987, focusing on high school sports while also contributing to Miami University coverage, including NCAA Tournament events in basketball and hockey. He stayed with the JournalNews, which was purchased by Cox Media, until June of 2019, when he founded the Southwest Ohio Sports Daily website that covers high school sports in Butler and Warren counties. Cassano was inducted into the Badin High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2016.

Chuck Ridenour was a 40-year veteran of the Shelby Daily Globe and was loved by the Shelby community for his tireless dedication to local sports coverage, from t-ball and YMCA sports to Shelby High School competing for state championships. Chuck devoted his life to promoting kids and telling their stories through sports.

Chuck was a newspaper delivery boy for the Daily Globe when he was growing up. He then worked in the composing room during the summers for five years before becoming sports editor at the newspaper in April of 1981.

He was honored with the OHSAA Media Service Award in 2020 and the Charles C.W. Williams Sixth Man Award by the Shelby basketball team 2017.

Chuck passed away on Dec. 23, 2022, after a battle with various health issues. He was 61. His family, including wife, Pam, and children, Charlie and Brooke, will accept Chuck's Hall of Fame plaque during the ceremony.

This is the 30th year that Gary Baumgartner has worked at the head table for the OHSAA State Wrestling Tournament and his 50th year being involved with wrestling tournaments in Ohio. In 1983, Gary wrote one of the first computer programs for managing wrestling tournaments, and in 1999, BaumsPage.com was created to facilitate online entries and provide quick and accurate results for coaches, athletes, media and fans of wrestling.

In 2014, Gary's son Toby adapted the original computer program to the current BaumsPage Wrestling App that is used in over 450 tournaments each year. In one way or another, Gary has since provided computer support for over 7,000 wrestling tournaments. Gary and his staff coordinate the online entry and seeding for the OHSAA Sectional and Pre-Regional Tournaments and handle the movement of qualifiers all the way to the state tournament, including the brackets that you see printed in the official state tournament program. He provides similar services for the OHSAA Sectional, District, and State Golf Tournaments.

Gary began his teaching career at Middletown High School and in 1971 started the Middletown Invitational Wrestling Tournament. Gary also coached football, wrestling, track and golf and retired as technology coordinator for the Edgewood City School District in Trenton, Ohio. Although retired and living with his wife Pauline in Sarasota, Florida, Gary still assists the OHSAA and district athletic boards with data and seeding for track, soccer, volleyball, baseball, softball, and gymnastics.

## PAULDING FFA IS 2024 AG BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS!



Pictured here are the 2024 Ag Basketball Champions: Left to Right: Tyler Schlatter, Jesse Shaffer, Jalen Manz, Colten Hunt, front left to right: Jordan Manz and Hunter Coutts.

By: Grace Goings, Paulding FFA Reporter

On Saturday, March 9th the Paulding FFA Chapter traveled to Kalida High School for the 2024 Annual Ag Ball tournament. This year's tournament had 4 different chapters participating. The teams participating were Paulding, Wayne Trace, Kalida, and Miller City. Ag ball is for all FFA students that do not play basketball, but still want to stay active and have some fun playing basketball. It

also allows members to mingle with other chapters in the nearby area. Paulding FFA Ag ball team was victorious in the tournament playing Kalida for the championship. The Paulding FFA team received a plaque to commemorate the 2024 tournament. Everyone had a lot of fun playing basketball along with the students who were there cheering on our team. We are looking forward to next year's tournament and want to thank Kalida FFA for hosting.

## BRODY ROSSWURM FORT WAYNE VIPERS



The Fort Wayne Vipers Hockey Team captured the Indiana State Hockey School Hockey Association Class 2A State Championship with a 4-3 double overtime victory over Columbus (IN). Brody Rosswurm, a resident of Wayne Trace High School, was the winning goaltender for the Vipers in the state championship victory. The

Vipers also posted victories of 5-0, 6-1 and 6-1 in earlier rounds before capturing the state championship. The Raider freshman and standout goaltender was named First Team All-City in the Fort Wayne League as well as the conclusion of the season. Rosswurm is shown in the picture making a save in the state tournament.

## PHS STUDENTS RECEIVE GRANT FROM UNITED WAY



Pictured below (left to right) are the students who started Lunch Chats: Camron Wolford, Layla Logan, Bryce Manz, and Adam Stahl.

Students in Paulding High School's Personal Growth and Positive Mindset class recently applied for and were awarded a \$100 grant from United Way of Paulding County to help fund a leadership project they started. The students created a program called Lunch Chats which meets during middle school

and high school lunches, and encourages students to connect with one another through conversation, games, and snacks. The hope is that the program helps improve the mental health of the students in the school. The grant will be used to purchase snacks for those who attend the Lunch Chats.

## CASSANO, RIDENOUR ELECTED TO OPSWA HALL OF FAME; BAUMGARTNER HONORED

The Ohio Prep Sports-writers Association has announced the 2024 induction class into the OPSWA Hall of Fame, which includes Rick Cassano from Southwest Ohio Sports Daily, and the late Chuck Ridenour from the Shelby Daily Globe. In addition, the OPSWA will present a Media Service Award to

Gary Baumgartner, who has coordinated statewide tournament data for several sports at BaumsPage.com since 1999.

The OPSWA Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place during the OHSAA boys basketball state tournament at the University of Dayton Arena on Sunday, March 24, during the 5:15 p.m. game. They will join 73 sports writing greats previously enshrined in the OPSWA Hall of Fame. Baumgartner will be honored at the OHSAA

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# THE LEFT TURN



410 Sprints Are Ready to Go Friday at Attica. Action Photos Ohio



Oakshade Raceway opens April 27th. Charlie Orns photo.



Young driver honors his Papa.

By: Ron Burt

For the second year in a row, heavy rains forced Attica Raceway Park to cancel their opening night, Friday, March 15th. The track was ready to go Wednesday but rains throughout Thursday with a forecast of more rain and temperatures dropping to the upper 30s for Friday. "We just would not have any significant drying time," said Justin Liskai, Director of Operations at Attica Raceway Park.

Attica Raceway Park will try again this Friday, March 22 on Advanced Drainage Systems Night featuring the

Callies Performance Products 410 Sprints, Dirt Powered by Propane UMP Late Models and the Fremont Fence 305 Sprints in action.

South Bend Motor Speedway announced they will be holding their final race Friday, May 24th. The track will be honoring several of the legends who turned laps around the quarter mile track and those who still do. They invite fans to join in the celebration of the History of the World's Fastest Quarter Mile. The final race night will feature Outlaw Late Models, Street Stocks, Front Wheel Drives, Hornets, Factory Fords, and MCR Dwarf Cars. The rest of the season, Nights of Destructions will continue as planned.

Saturday, April 27th Oakshade Raceway will open for 2024. The schedule is now posted on the tracks Facebook page and on myra-

cepass.com/. Gates and pits will open at 4PM this season, hot laps at 6PM and racing starts at 7PM. May 25th will be the 35th Barney Oldfield Valvoline American Late Model Iron-Man Series. July 6th, the Vintage American Race Cars will be at the track. Mark your calendar now for the Birthday Race/DIRTcar Summer Nationals scheduled for Saturday, July 13th. The UMP Modifieds will also be in action along with the Dominator Super Stocks that night. Oakshade will have 4 Attica/Oakshade Late Model nights May 11th, June 22nd, July 27th, and August 24th.

This week I would like to recognize Quarter Midget driver Jacob Bonafield. He races an Army car designed after a Mutt Jeep as a tribute/memorial to his grandfather, Specialist 4th Class Gregory Bonafield. He served in the 3rd Army 1st Logistics Group towards the end of the Vietnam conflict. He was a driver for various officers throughout his time overseas. He was an avid member of the American Legion and the other Veterans' organizations. Jacob requested to run this car again this year as a memorial for his papa. The car won the NWOQMRA Lt160 championship in 2023 and finished 2nd in overall points in the Quad Cities series in 2023 in Lt.160.

Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out! ohiosportsblitz@yahoo.com/

## SCIENCE CENTRAL ECLIPSE AFTER PARTY



Celebrate the finale of the solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, with pizza, liquid-nitrogen ice cream, and more at Science Central's Eclipse Day Afterparty from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The afterparty gets underway mere minutes following the official conclusion of the eclipse at 4:24 p.m. The pizza and liquid-nitrogen ice cream will be served in the center's Discovery Lab on the Entry Level. Celebratory sparkling grape juice, along with other beverages, will be offered with the pizza.

In addition to refreshments, there will be a lineup of unique programs for attendees to enjoy. There will be a meet-and-greet opportunity with the animals from Science Central's Nature Nook area. This activity will be accompanied by a presentation on how eclipses impact animals' perceptions of day and night. Sarah Vise, NASA solar system ambassador, will give a presentation on ultraviolet light, featuring special beads that visitors can use to make bracelets. Additionally, tours will be conducted on Science Central's west side, which is typically closed to the public. This side of the center contains infrastructure from the building's time as a power plant. These tours will offer historic insights into the building's previous life.

All Eclipse Day Afterparty attendees will receive a swag bag containing a commemo-

## VANTAGE CAREER CENTER HOSTS NW OHIO REGIONAL SKILLSUSA COMPETITION, SHOWCASING STUDENT EXCELLENCE



Local leaders, college representatives, and employers generously volunteered their time as judges and scorers for the regional Northwest Region SkillsUSA Ohio competition held at Vantage Career Center last month. These individuals played a pivotal role in shaping the event's success and for that, Vantage says "Thank You." Students who made the top three spots in each competition will move on to the Ohio State SkillsUSA competition held in April.

Vantage Career Center recently hosted the Northwest Ohio Regional SkillsUSA Competition, an impressive event that brought together hundreds of skilled students from 20 participating school districts. The competition provided a platform for students to showcase their career and technical skills in various fields, promoting excellence in career and technical education.

The highlight of the event was the hands-on competitions, where students demonstrated their proficiency in areas such as welding, machining, automotive technology, construction and criminal justice. These competitions not only allowed participants to display their technical aptitude but also provided them with a real-world experience, aligning with the mission of SkillsUSA to prepare students for the workforce.

In addition to the technical events, students engaged in competitions that tested their abilities in interviews, job demonstrations, crime scene investigation, customer service, and more. This comprehensive approach ensured that the competitions encompassed various aspects of career readiness and professionalism.

Welding and machining competitions were particularly intense, with students meticulously crafting metal pieces to exact specifications. The precision and skill demonstrated in these events highlighted the dedication and training that these students received through their

respective career and technical education programs. The competitions not only showcased the students' abilities but also emphasized the importance of these trades in various industries.

The criminal justice and automotive technology competitions were a showcase of innovation and problem-solving. Students were presented various tasks which challenged them to apply their knowledge in practical scenarios. The event encouraged critical thinking and creativity, essential qualities for success in these fields.

In the construction events, students demonstrated their prowess in building and design. From blueprint interpretation to hands-on construction tasks, participants showcased their ability to work collaboratively and efficiently. The Team Works Competition highlighted the importance of skilled trades in the construction industry and the need for a workforce well-versed in these essential skills.

Beyond the technical competitions, students participated in events that tested their soft skills, such as interviews and customer service scenarios. These components of the competition focused on developing students' communication, teamwork, and professionalism - crucial attributes for success in any career path.

The SkillsUSA competition is not just about showcasing skills; it's about fostering leadership and innovation among the next generation of professionals. Through challenging competitions and col-

laborative endeavors, students were able to develop essential traits that will serve them well in their future careers. The event also served as a platform for students to gain valuable networking opportunities, as they had the chance to interact with industry professionals, potential employers, and fellow competitors. These connections can prove invaluable as students transition from education to the workforce.

The competitors who placed in the top three of each event are now poised to advance to the prestigious State SkillsUSA Ohio Competition, held in Columbus, Ohio, where they will have the opportunity to further demonstrate their skills and compete against top talent from across the state.

The event's success owes much to the diligent preparations of the Vantage staff and students, whose dedication ensured smooth operations and a memorable experience for all involved. Additionally, the unwavering support of local leaders, college representatives, and employers, who generously volunteered their time as judges and scorers, played a pivotal role in shaping the event's success.

A special thank you to the Ohio State Beauty Academy for hosting the Cosmetology, Esthetics and Nail Care competitions at their facility located in Lima, Ohio.

Vantage Career Center is set to host the Northwest Region SkillsUSA competition for a second year in February, 2025.

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The afterparty will be preceded by the center's Eclipse Day event, running from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost to attend is Science Central's general admission fee, payable online or at the door. The event is free for Science Central members. Eclipse Day tickets do not include admission to the afterparty.

## WOODBURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 2/19/24

The meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance was Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Hileman, Superintendent Walls, Chief Parker as well as Council Members Gerig, Gentz, Graber, Sarrazine, and Watts.

Chief's Report: Nothing to report Superintendent's Report: Nothing to report Mayor's Report: Mayor Kelsey informed council members that the ARPA money from the county has been received. Clerk-Treasurer's Report: The meeting minutes were presented from the February 5th meeting. After discussion, Council Member Gerig moved to accept the meeting minutes as corrected, second by Council Member Sarrazine, all present in favor, except Council Member Watts (Abstain).

The warrants were presented. After discussion, Council Member Watts moved to pay the warrants as presented, second by Council Member Sarrazine, all present in favor. Clerk-Treasurer presented quote for new accounting software for \$31,193.

After discussion, Council Member Watts moved to approved the purchase. Second by Council Member Sarrazine, All in favor. Clerk-Treasurer also brought discussion of Reliance I/O, the city's IT consultants.

Councilmen's Report: Council Member Sarrazine bought discussion of the "Welcome to Woodburn" signs. After discussion, additional signs would be ordered for the city.

Audience: 2 citizens were present to discuss a problem with Lynnwood Apartment's trash dumpsters. Citizens reported the trash was out of the dumpsters and was blowing around the neighborhood. Also stating that the problems arose when the new management took ownership. The Mayor and Chief of police will be contacting the apartment complex to remedy the situation.

Mayor Kelsey moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Council Member Watts, all present in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Go to [cityofwoodburn.org](http://cityofwoodburn.org) to see previously approved minutes and recent community news.

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# KEEP THE FORT IN FORT WAYNE!



The Old Fort will soon be getting a facelift! Construction will soon begin on the Spy Run Blockhouse. The timbers have arrived. A small crane from Fruchey has already been on site to install steel beams and rigging to the upper roof section of the blockhouse. A larger crane arrived Tuesday morning (March 12). The plan is to lift the roof off the blockhouse and rebuild the second floor.

The official "lift-off" will be Tuesday, March 19, at 10:00 am.

But this is only the beginning! Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. will also officially kick off a Capital Campaign to continue construction on the rest of the fort buildings.

The Reconstruction Fort This project began in 1964 when the first Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. was established and started planning a reconstruction of the Old Fort, using Major Whistler's 1814 drawings. It was reconstructed on a plot of ground less than a quarter of a mile from its original site. Lok-N-Logs Inc., a log home company in Sherburne, New York, took on the unusual project, constructing the fort first in New York, then transporting it to Indiana, where it was re-assembled. It officially opened shortly before July 4, 1976, to celebrate the nation's Bicentennial. The current Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. was formed in 2004 as a volunteer effort to

preserve and manage The Old Fort. The Old Fort is almost fifty years old and in need of repairs. It will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2026.

The Fort played a major role in the development of the Fort Wayne Area. Its location on the confluence of the three rivers was of strategic importance. It allowed travelers to easily travel and transport goods from Canada all the way to the Gulf of Mexico almost entirely by water. It also played a significant role in the history of the Old Northwest Territory, the State of Indiana, and the United States during the 17th and 18th centuries. It is a part of Fort Wayne's history!

Historic Fort Wayne, Inc. needs your help! It does not receive any state or federal funding. It relies on generous donations from members of the public like you, as well as private and corporate donors. Your contributions make it possible for us to provide ongoing programming and maintenance of the Old Fort now and for future generations.

Please consider supporting us to help "Keep the Fort in Fort Wayne" and continue to "Bring History Alive"!

## ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS



On February 22, a report was made that a vehicle had hit and damaged the yellow barricade at Canal and Main. An investigation was con-

ducted and driver of the truck and the company were contacted. A report was prepared and the company agreed to pay for the damage to the barrier.

On February 22, a report was received of a broke down vehicle in the parking area beside Small Town Bliss. The owner was contacted and the vehicle removed.

On February 26, a motor vehicle accident was reported near the intersection of River and Main. An officer responded and a report was prepared.

On February 27, Antwerp Police Department was contacted in reference to a vehicle that had driven into and through the Park Avenue Villas. A report was prepared and the driver cited for OVI.

On February 28, a request was made to speak to a juvenile on Buffalo St. that was shooting toward neighbor's property with a bb gun.

On February 29, an officer was contacted in reference to a welfare check on a juvenile who had made suicidal threats via the internet. The officer located the juvenile and the parents and relayed the information to the parents and determined there was no real threat.

On March 1, a search warrant was executed in reference to a case. Evidence collected and report forwarded to the Paulding County Prosecutor.

On March 1, a resident of Leinard Mobile Home Park called and requested assistance getting into her house. The officer responded and assisted.

On March 1, Antwerp Police Department received a report from Antwerp Local School in reference to one of the school buses stop arms being ran by a suspect. The case was investigated, the driver located and cited.

On March 2, Antwerp Police Department assisted Antwerp EMS at a residence on Washington St.

On March 2, an officer found a vehicle parked in the 100 block of Kroos Dr. The officer investigated, located the driver and it was determined it had broken down and family was coning to move vehicle.

On March 2, an officer was called to the Park Avenue Villas in reference to juvenile girls arguing.

On March 7, a resident called and asked if any solicitor permits had been issued. The officer explained there was not and the caller reported there was a man in a white car that had a blue shielded exterior and was go-

ing to door to door. The officer attempted to locate the vehicle.

On March 7, Antwerp Police Department was contacted by a the driver of the Hicksville Head Start bus. The driver reported that a vehicle had run her stop arm. The case was investigated, the driver was located and cited.

On March 8, Decatur Indiana Police Department called Antwerp Police Department in reference to a hit/skip accident that occurred in Decatur. Antwerp Police Department assisted the Decatur Police Department in locating the vehicle and the driver of the car that was involved in the hit/skip accident in Decatur.

On March 8, a resident called and said they ran out of gas near the 500 block of North Main. The officer went to a local gas station obtained some gas in a can and went and assisted the motorist with getting their vehicle going.

On March 8, a motor vehicle accident was reported in the 300 block of Harrmann Rd. The officer responded and prepared a report and also sited one of the individuals for failure to yield.

On March 9, a resident of Leinard Mobile Home Park called and stated she was not feeling well. The officer responded and also called Antwerp EMS to transport the individual.

On March 10, a resident of Erie St requested their vehicle be unlocked. The officer unlocked the vehicle

On March 10, Antwerp Police Department received a notice from job and family services that a referral in reference to child abuse was not accepted.

On March 10, a juvenile called the police department in reference to someone knocking on his window. He did not know who the individual was and requested an officer. The officer responded and was also assisted by the Paulding Sheriff Office. The individual that walked was a juvenile female who had gotten into an argument with her parents and was just walking around.

On March 10, a domestic dispute was reported at a residence on River St. The officer responded and prepared a report and the report was forwarded to the Paulding County Prosecutor.

On March 11, someone reported people possibly drunk and being loud at Leinard Mobile Home Park. The suspected individuals were contacted and told to be quiet that they were disturbing the neighborhood.

On March 12, someone reported a water main break to the police department. The village workers were contacted.

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

## PARKVIEW BRYAN HOSPITAL EARNS TOP 100 RURAL & COMMUNITY HOSPITAL AWARD FROM THE CHARTIS CENTER FOR RURAL HEALTH

Parkview Bryan Hospital was recently recognized by The Chartis Center on its 2024 Top 100 Rural & Community Hospitals list. The annual recognition highlights outstanding performance among

## The West Bend News

# Sudoku Puzzle

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6			3		1	2	
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		1		2			6
					6		4

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

the nation's rural hospitals.

Parkview Bryan Hospital was one of six Ohio hospitals that made The Chartis Center's 2024 list.

"Here at Parkview Bryan Hospital, we pride ourselves on providing high-quality care and a great patient experience to everyone who walks through our doors," said Chad Tinkel, president, Parkview Bryan Hospital and Parkview Montpelier Hospital. "Being recognized by The Chartis Center confirms that the dedication, compassion and skill of our co-workers results in the best care available for residents of northwest Ohio."

This award is not the first time Parkview Bryan has been recognized by Chartis, as the hospital also received a Performance Leadership Award in the outcomes category in November 2023.

Parkview Bryan Hospital joined Parkview Health in October 2023, along with Parkview Montpelier Hospital and the Parkview Archbold outpatient center. Parkview Health operates 14 hospitals total and offers nearly 300 physician and specialty offices across northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio.

Hospitals were selected to the Top 100 list based on results of Chartis' Rural Hospital Performance INDEX. Now in its 14th year, the INDEX is

the industry's most comprehensive and objective assessment of rural hospital performance. Featuring a methodology utilizing publicly available data, the INDEX is leveraged nationwide by rural hospitals, health systems with rural affiliates, hospital associations, and state offices of rural health to measure and monitor performance across a variety of areas impacting hospital operations and finance.

"During an era of profound uncertainty for rural healthcare, the Top 100 rural hospitals continue to provide a unique lens through which we can identify innovation and inspiration for how to deliver high quality care to increasingly vulnerable populations," said Michael Topchik, national leader, The Chartis Center for Rural Health. "We're delighted to be able to recognize all this year's Top 100 but especially the more than 40 first-time recipients across both categories. It's wonderful to see so many new facilities join the ranks of our Top 100 alumni."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of intent to sell by the Village of Oakwood. Vehicle will be sold on **GOVDEALS.COM** via online auction. 1993 Ford F8F. More details available on **GOVDEALS.COM** beginning **3-25-24**.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Village of Oakwood 2023 annual report is available for viewing.

Please contact the Village of Oakwood at **419-594-3352**.

Village Town Hall: **228 N First St. Oakwood**

## PC SWCD PUBLIC NOTICE

Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District's 2023 Cash Basis report has been completed and is available for review at the Paulding SWCD office.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Paulding County Hospital Board of Trustees meetings for 2024 / 2025 will be held the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Paulding County Hospital Education Room except for July and January.

Annual Organizational Meeting will be held in March.

## VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE BID NOTICE

The Village of Hicksville is looking for qualified individuals or companies to provide mowing services for nuisance lots and properties within the Village limits for the 2024 mowing season via a bidding process.

Bids should include a set price per hour. The best and lowest bidder will be awarded the project. The awarded contractor will then be responsible for mowing all nuisance properties as determined by Zoning Official.

Individuals or companies are invited to submit bids to the Village Municipal Building, 111 South Main St. Hicksville Ohio by **Wednesday, April 17th at 11:00am**. At such time, the Zoning Official will open and read aloud all bids received.

If you have any questions concerning this bid, please contact the Zoning Official at:

**419-542-6138 ext. 7 or hixzoning@metalink.net**

# GARAGE SALE SEASON IS UPON US!

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# LOCAL AGENCY HOSTS VOLUNTEER EXPO



Volunteer Center will host its annual "Get Connected Volunteer Expo" on Wednesday, April 24th from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Glenbrook Square Mall, 4201 Coldwater Road, in the lower level near the food court.

The Volunteer Expo offers an excellent opportunity for current volunteers or those interested in learning more about volunteering in the Fort Wayne community, to meet with area non-profits and civic based organizations. Attendees will speak directly with agency representatives, learn about their missions, goals and current volunteer needs all in one convenient location. Prospects for volunteering from home will also be available. As of this date, 45 organizations plan to be in attendance.

Attendees are encouraged to register at the event to be entered for a chance to win gift cards from local restaurants.

Executive Director Ani Eter states "Volunteering offers many benefits, opening the

doors to meeting new people, learning new skills and creating social connections, all while having fun and helping others. There is a perfect volunteer opportunity waiting for you. Don't be left out! Come and find your perfect match at the Expo!"

Volunteer Center is a non-profit agency that connects volunteers with local community organizations that are in need of help. Their Signature Programs such as Coats for Kids, VITA Tax Assistance and the I CAN Service Team address critical disparities affecting low to moderate income households and the most vulnerable in our community.

## PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

### Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

**Taryn L. Stiltner**, Paulding, OH; Paulding, OH; Assault; Guilty; Defendant appeared with Mr. Hill; Removed from the diversion program; Complete all previ-

ous requirements; Additional \$120 in costs; 100 days jail, 98 days suspended

**Katie J. Hale**, Montpelier, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Defendant completed distracted driving course

**Shane A. Carroll**, Payne, OH; Headlights; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Rachael S. Seals**, Grosse Pointe, MI; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Shelby L. Erford**, Oakwood, OH; Reckless operation; Guilty; ALS vacated; Unlimited driving privileges granted

**Elizabeth R. Grubb**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Bradyn L. Shull**, Antwerp, OH; Off inv underage, Case dismissed per state agreement, Costs to the defendant; OVI breath(low), Guilty, Operator license suspended 11/22/23 to 11/22/24, 90 days jail, 87 days suspended, May attend DIP in lieu of 3 days jail, Placed on standard probation, Complete 40 hours of community service, Must find and keep employment, Letter of apology to victim; Left of center, Count B dismissed

**William T. Vance**, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence, Defendant appeared with Mr. Holtsberry, Pled guilty to a reduced charge, Have no contact with victim, Pay or collection 12/20/24, 30 days jail, 3 days suspended; Disorderly conduct, Count B dismissed per state agreement, Costs to the defendant

**John D. Conley**, Defiance, OH; Distracted driving, Guilty, Defendant completed course; Marked lanes, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

**John B. Rickels Sr.**, Paulding, OH; Litter, Guilty; Defendant appeared with Mr. Gordon; Pled guilty; Defendant to write a letter of apology; Pay restitution; 60 day jails, 58 days suspended; Placed on probation and pay all fines and costs by 4/25/25

**Ruthann Swary**, Paulding, OH; Theft; Defendant appeared with Mr. Gordon; Pled guilty; 90 days jail, 86 days

# PJHS PAULDING PRIDE CARD RECIPIENTS



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

# PAYNE ELEMENTARY FEBRUARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Self-Control was the character word of the month of February. The following students were recognized for achieving this quality. Row 1: Aryah Delgado, Bentley Vance, Colton Barajas, Ellie Burkley, Ayla Praul, Raylynn Gerardot, Quentin Coutts, Abbi Miles, Ethan Valdez. Row 2: Grace McKinney, Aubrey Fairley, Gabe DeWaard, Zachary Bolyard, Wade Stoller, Leitrim Crites, Luke Shepherd, Brass Mansfield. Not Pictured: Finley Stoller, Aliyah Gerardot, Kaylee Miller, Nimai Danner

suspended; Pay fines and costs and have no contact with PCHD

**Tiffini E. Aldrich**, Antwerp, OH; Disorderly conduct; Defendant appeared in open court without counsel; Pled no contest, guilty; finding; Pay fines and costs by 8/30/24

**Alexis N. LaBounty**, Hicksville, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Defendant completed course; Pay court costs

**Caid M. Blessing**, Fort Wayne, IN; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Registration violation, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

**Amanda S. Saylor**, Defiance, OH; Driving under FRA suspension; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Manjot S. Kang**, Brampton, ON; Driving/text; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Farkhad Yussupov**, Brooklyn, NY; Permit violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jeffrey M. Boterf**, Antwerp, OH; Traffic device/sign Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Auston J. Hosler**, Grover Hill, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

## PREPARE FOR THE ECLIPSE WITH DEFIANCE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

With funding from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Space Science Institute, through its Solar Eclipse Activities for Libraries (SEAL) program is distributing 5 million pair of solar viewing glasses to 10,000 libraries, including those in Defiance County.

From March 25-April 8, free solar eclipse viewing glasses will be available at all Defiance Public Library System locations during open hours, including Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, & Johnson Memorial libraries. Patrons can pick up one pair of glasses per family while

supplies last.

If glasses are available by April 5, families will be able to obtain a second pair. Glasses can be picked up at the Reference desk in Defiance and at the main desks in Sherwood and Hicksville.

In addition, all are invited to prepare for the eclipse by making a DIY solar eclipse T-shirt on April 1 from 4:00-6:30 p.m. (come and go) at Grace Episcopal Church, 308 W. Second St. Bring your own black shirt or other cotton item. Paint and instructions will be provided, while supplies last. No registration is needed.

For more information, contact the library at 419-782-1456.

## TID-BITS IN THE BEE-ARGUS, ANTWERP

1914-2001 Part 2

Please be aware these were

obtained from the online copies of the newspaper and are little items that caught my eye while reviewing each issue - some funny, some tragic but all true as written in the Bee-Argus

11-15-1959 - 1st solar heated farrowing house, S.W. of Waterville on U.S.24. What cost \$1.00 in 1940 now costs \$2.07 related to inflation

11-5-1959 - Grand opening: Roll-A-Way skating venue. Over 800 skaters and spectators present 11-7 for opening. Picture included. (FYI: There were many articles about this place over the next few years in the paper with a lot being front page news.)

12-10-1959 - Pillsbury Flour 25 lbs \$1.69, Potatoes 15 lbs 59 cents, T-Bone or Sirloin 95 cents 1b. All at Deventer's Market Ph 5-5784

2-4-1960 - M/M John Meyer celebrate 60th An-

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- EDDM Mailings, Posters/Flyers & Brochures
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- Outdoor Signs & Banners

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**NEW DIGITAL SCANNERS**  
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Local Programming included

**MARCH FARM TOY AUCTIONS**

**10 am ET start time**  
**Friday, March 22**  
**Saturday, March 23**  
**Saturday, March 30**

Miller Park Bldg.  
300 Miller Park Dr.  
Edgerton, OH 43517

ONLINE BIDDING AVAILABLE

**HUGE variety of all scales, makes & models - prototypes, chase units, pedal tractors & custom builds.** Ertl, Yoder, DCP, Valley Pattern, Trumm, Precision Engineering, JD, IH, Kinze, Case, AC, MM, Oliver, Massey, Ford, Big Bud, NTP pullers, Fred Ertl collection & MUCH MORE!!

1/64 scale toys selling at online only auction ending **March 26**

[www.BidUnitedEdge.com](http://www.BidUnitedEdge.com)

**UNITED EDGE** REAL ESTATE AND AUCTION CO., LLC  
**419-298-1100**  
Owner: Ryan Young & Other Consignors  
Auctioneer: Darren Bok, CAI, CAS

# CAST ANNOUNCED FOR SPRING COMEDY IN VAN WERT



Front row (l-r) Yessi Lau, Lisa Eichler, Stephanie Wagner, and Dolores Foreman; Back row (l-r) Emily Smith, Ed Eichler, Travis Nihiser, Matt Rau, and Jami Sons-Bear

Van Wert, OH Off Stage Productions Inc. is proud to announce the cast and crew for our Spring 2024 Dinner Theatre production of "Gladys in Wonderland", a comedy by Rosemary Frisino Toohey. Director Daniel Sanderson has put together a cast of nine actors, six of whom are veterans of OSP and three who are making their first appearance in community theatre. The cast is as follows:

Gladys Overmeyer - Stephanie Wagner, Doris - Emily Smith, Mort - Travis Nihiser, Frank - Ed Eichler, Karen - Yessi Lau\*, Dennis/Henry - Matt Rau\*, Mildred/Ethel - Lisa Eichler, Lillian - Dolores Foreman, Myrna - Jami Sons-Bear\*

DIRECTOR: Daniel Sanderson  
COSTUMER: Julie Lang  
\*indicates performers making their first appearance at OSP

Synopsis: 87-year-old Gladys' days of munching donuts and scouring the obituaries seem numbered when Death himself comes knocking on her door one morning. Ready to whisk her off into the great unknown, her cheerful grim reaper (Mort) is startled by Gladys' stubborn refusal to expire. In order to push Gladys toward the light, he ushers in a parade of ob-

anniversary. Have 11 children; 57 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren

3-10-1960 - S&H green stamps ad  
4-21-1960 - Unveiled July 4, 1960 stamp. Honors Hawaii as the 50 state. Is 4 cents

FYI: Been noticing more classified ads. When began re-searching the paper from back in 1920's, there may have been 5 or fewer classifieds. Now there are 3 full columns!!!!

10-6-1960 - Bee Argus now has 8 columns per page (up from 7 r/t new machinery)

10-13-1960 - James S. Temple remains editor. Now averaging 903 copies per issue over last 12 months.

10-27-1960 - Camel cigarette ads are back (FYI: but only for a couple of weeks was it run in the paper)

11-10-1960 - John F. Kennedy (1" Catholic ever elected to presidency) and

noxious friends and relatives who nitpick and whine. He also gives her a taste of nursing home life from an inmate's point of view. Suddenly, the afterlife doesn't look so bad...

Performances will once again be held in the commons area at Vantage Career Center. Enter door 14 off the back parking lot where plenty of parking is available. Show dates are April 19, 20, 21, and 26, 27, & 28, 2024. Friday shows are "Popcorn Nights" - \$16 admission charge includes free popcorn with the show. Saturday evening and Sunday Matinee shows are Dinner Theatre -- \$30 Admission includes a delicious three course catered meal, coffee, and this wonderful show!

Reservations for Members open Monday, April 1, 2024

Reservations for the General Public open Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Call the box office number 419-605-6708 on or after these dates to reserve your tables or seats!

Box office hours: Monday through Saturday - Noon until 6:00 PM, no Sunday calls please

"Gladys in Wonderland"

By Rosemary Frisino Toohey

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com)

Lyndon B. Johnson won over Richard Nixon

11-17-1960 Nancy Eagleson murder makes headlines. Paulding teen murdered.

2-2-1961 - Ed Shuhert recently bowled highest ever 3-game series at Pin-A-Rama Lanes. Leagues

average is 178. Bowled 278-234-234 = 790

6-8-1961 - Ramblers and Corvairs still advertising.

6-29-1960 - Osmun's everyday price: 40 cents/dozen eggs from dairy or route driver. OOPS!! 7-20 ad shows price now up to 45 cents/dozen.

Throughout 1961 the telephone systems in NW Ohio are getting 7 digits long, i.e.: 8-2134 previously in Antwerp got "25" before the number making new one 258-2134. During this transition to 7 digits there are ads in the paper still with 5 numbers. At least this is progress, right? Could still have an operator helping you get your call through!

10-26-1961 - VFW Ladies Auxiliary giving reflector tape to those with a bike. Go to schools and even help kids put tape on their bike.

11-16-1961 - Civil suit brought against Marshall Kenneth Johnson by another officer (misuse of Village funds) thrown out of court after 3 men that had signed the

# 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!!**

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

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

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

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

**GET YOUR BUSINESS CARDS at West Bend Printing today! Call 419-258-2000**

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

**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.**

**RAIN TECH SEAMLESS GUTTERS, 419-258-1818 10-12**

**DESIGN - PRINT - ADVERTISE: West Bend Printing can get you what you need! Logos, office, signs, yard signs & banners. Call or stop in today! 419-258-2000.**

### MERCY HEALTH STRESSES AWARENESS FOR COLORECTAL CANCER

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and research shows that it remains the third leading cause of cancer-related deaths in both men and women.

Prevention is key so it's an ideal reminder to schedule your screening for colorectal cancer if you're age 45 and older. Many misconceptions still exist - such as what a colonoscopy entails, including the prep and pain involved - preventing some individuals from undergoing this important screening and getting the treatment they need.

Mercy Health gastroenterologist Dr. Muhammad Aziz addresses 5 common misconceptions:

• "A colorectal cancer screening isn't necessary if I don't have a family history."

You should be screened, even with no family history. Diet, exercise level, smoking and alcohol intake all factor into your risk. Other risk factors include family history of colon and other cancers, a personal history of inflammatory bowel disease or personal history of cancer or polyps. Screening for colorectal cancer has come a long way and can even be done at home. However, colonoscopy remains the preferred test. If caught early, colon cancer can be prevented by removing precancerous polyps.

• "I couldn't possibly have cancer or a precancerous polyp without any symptoms."

Many patients with colon polyps or even cancer may not have symptoms at all, which is why screening before developing symptoms is important. However, if you do have blood in or around stools, pain with bowel movements, abdominal pain, or weight loss, you should be evaluated right away by your primary care provider to see what additional testing is needed.

• "The prep for a colonoscopy is miserable and



**TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

The story of a church builder turned pirate. One of the most mysterious stories, where was I when we studied famous cathedrals in the fourth grade.

William arrived in the US from Scotland in 1691. He lived in New York City and was the talk of the Town. He was a handsome young man, lived in a fashionable neighborhood, one block east of Hanover Square, and all the ladies were mad for him. He married a woman from a wealthy family by the name of Sarah.

They held elaborate parties for the elite, had imported furnishings, fine Turkish tapestries, a wine cellar, and it is said they had 91 lb of silverware. But they also were giving people. They were instrumental in helping to build the beautiful Trinity Episcopal Church at 89 Broadway, opposite Wall Street.

At the same time England was having trouble with pirates robbing their ships. The British West India Company, was being devastated, and parliament in an effort to counteract this voted to call William to come and fight the pirates. They outfitted a 275 ton vessel equipped with 36 guns. The most modern of its day, equipped with oars, to out maneuver any other ship. The vessel was sailed to New

York where William took command. He buttoned his admiral uniform, left his wife and young daughter, and left East River dock in April, 1696, never to return.

He was sailing for the King of England. But the question remains, how did the sweet guy who had everything, whose father was a respected Scottish minister become one of the most feared pirates of all time. For you see William, William Kidd, became a household name that you have heard before, Captain Kidd. He was the most feared, plundering, killing pirate of all times. He is said to have buried 60 lb of gold on different islands that people have searched for a couple hundred years.

He was captured and hung in wrapping on Execution Dock in London, May 23rd, in 1701. Trinity Episcopal Church in New York City still stands, although it has been rebuilt two times because of fire.

Let me say I find this story fascinating, but I do not know much of the story. Was he falsely accused? It would probably take years of study to decide.

What I have related I believe to be true. Any conclusions or implications drawn are yours and not mine. Thousands witnessed the hanging, some cheered and some mourned. His body was left hanging for 3 years, as a deterrent to pirates. I mourn for his wife and daughter, and all that were affected by what he did, even if he might have been completely innocent.

—James Neuhausen

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

**Sudoku solution from page 9**

York where William took command. He buttoned his admiral uniform, left his wife and young daughter, and left East River dock in April, 1696, never to return.

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—James Neuhausen

not worth it."

Prepping has improved a lot in recent years and there are multiple options to cleanse the colon, including various liquid and pill formulations. Colon cancer, if caught early, is very curable - so the prep for the screening is absolutely worth it.

• "A colonoscopy is painful and requires extensive time off work."

Patients are given medicine to help them sleep through the procedure. As well, most patients have no memory of the actual procedure and wake up with little to no pain or discomfort. Most patients take the day of the procedure off from work but

can go back to normal activities the following day.

• "I only need a colonoscopy every 10 years."

Everyone's risk for colorectal cancer is unique. Individuals with a strong family history of colorectal cancer or a personal history of diseases of the colon and rectum may benefit from more frequent and earlier screenings. It is important to talk to your doctor about your risk factors and design a colorectal screening plan that is the right fit for your needs.

To learn more, visit mercy.com to find an expert, compassionate caregiver near you.

### HELP WANTED:

**Innovative Assembly Services, LLC**  
109 Victory Lane, Antwerp, OH 45813  
Phone: 419-399-3886  
Email: InnovativeAssemblySvc@outlook.com  
Family owned business located in Antwerp, Ohio looking for general labor associates to do light manufacturing and assembly. Will provide on the job training. Hours are Monday-Friday from 5:00 am-1:30 pm. Competitive wages, vacation and personal leave after probationary period.  
To apply contact us via phone or email

## HELP WANTED

**THE VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE** is seeking qualified EMT-B/ EMT-I/PARAMEDICS who are professional and looking to invest in a rewarding career with Hicksville Fire and Rescue. These positions are responsible for providing emergency medical coverage within the designated area of the Village of Hicksville, Hicksville Township, Mark Township, Milford Township, and Farmer Township as well as mutual aid with surrounding departments. One full-time and 2 part-time positions are open. Applications are available at the Village's Offices located at 111 South Main Street Hicksville, OH 43526 or on Hicksville Rescue Squad Facebook page. Please contact the Hicksville Fire Chief at 419-542-1348 with any questions.

**THE VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE IS AN E.O.E**

# RHODES SPEAKS TO KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Jon Rhodes (Quiz Bowl Co-Advisor, Paulding Exempted Village Schools) along with Xander Schwab and Vivienne Myers (members of the Quiz Bowl Team) as the guest speakers at the March 14th, 2024, club meeting. Jon, Xan-

der, and Vivienne came at the invitation of Erica Noggle (Executive Director, Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce). Jon spoke to the Kiwanians about the Paulding Quiz Bowl and their accomplishments so far this season which include an upcoming trip to Nationals.

## MERAZ NAMED COCA-COLA ACADEMIC TEAM SILVER SCHOLAR

Faith Meraz, a student at Northwest State Community College, has been named a 2024 Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar and will receive a \$1,250 scholarship.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Academic Team program by recognizing 50 Gold, 50 Silver, and 50 Bronze Scholars with nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually. Each scholar also receives a commemorative medallion.

"The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation has a long history of providing financial



assistance to outstanding students at community colleges," said Jane Hale Hopkins, President of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation. "We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa to make it possible for more deserving students to achieve their educational goals and support tomorrow's global community leaders."

Students are nominated for the academic team by their college administrators. Selection is based on academic achievement, leadership, and engagement in college and community service.

Coca-Cola Academic Team members will be recognized in both local and statewide ceremonies. They will also be recognized internationally during Phi Theta Kappa's annual convention, PTK Catalyst, in Orlando, Florida, April 4-6.

"We thank the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for recognizing these student leaders and for investing in their futures," said Dr. Lynn Tincher-Ladner, President and CEO of Phi Theta Kappa. "Scholarships like these are integral to the success of these students in reaching their educational and career goals."

About the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation celebrates and empowers visionary leaders who are refreshing the world. Supporting more than 1,400 exceptional college students each year, it awards \$3.55 million in scholarships annually through three nationally recognized programs.

Learn more at [coca-colascholarsfoundation.org](http://coca-colascholarsfoundation.org).

# CIC STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING



**Pictured: Estee Miller-presenting. L-R: Denise Coleman, Jennifer Zartman, Jan Reeb, Tyson Mowery, Brian Davis, Todd Cook, Mike Meyer.**

Members of the Antwerp/Payne/Paulding County Community Improvement Corporation held a team building event including a strategic planning session in Antwerp on March 5th.

Estee Miller with the Maumee Valley Planning Organization, and current CIC board member, led the meeting of nine members of the CIC board.

Discussion centered around the creation of a Mission and Vision statement and a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. Goals were identified for the current year and for the next 3-5 years.

Priorities were divided into three categories: Development, Quality of Life, and Organizational. The group then identified points in each category.

- Development:
  - Empty store fronts
  - Assets and transportation—rail and highway
  - Affordable housing
  - Working with stakeholders to identify properties
- Quality of Life:
  - Fresher food options
  - Assets-River
  - Tourism- Ag flows
- Organizational:
  - Establish active committees
  - External communication

- County profile
- Mission Statement- To improve our communities through promoting a positive business culture. Assisting with commercial, industrial, civic and residential development and advancing the quality of life for residents and visitors to Paulding County.

Vision Statement- A clean, safe, prosperous community where people want to live, work and play.

The group meets bi-monthly and will continue to discuss and act on projects that have the potential to move Paulding County forward.

[lascholarsfoundation.org](http://lascholarsfoundation.org). About Phi Theta Kappa

Phi Theta Kappa is the premier honor society recognizing the academic achievement of students at associate degree-granting colleges and helping them to grow as scholars and leaders. The Society is made up of more than 3.8 million members and nearly 1,300 chapters in 11 countries, with approximately 240,000 active members in the nation's colleges. Learn more at [ptk.org](http://ptk.org).

ship; Christopher Bercaw, Board of Health; Ronald Schmidt, Board of Health; Jacob Shaffer, Board of Health; Wendell Spangler, MD, Board of Health; Bill Edwards, RS, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Barbara VanArsdalen, RN, Director of Nursing; Robin Gonzales, Fiscal Officer/ Registrar; Brandi Schrader, MEd REHS, Environmental Health Director/ Deputy

Health Commissioner; Kristen Kurilec, RDN, LD, WIC Director; Joseph M. Kuhn, DO, Health Commissioner.

The Paulding County Health Department's 2023 Financial Report and the 2021/2022 Audit Report are on file at the health department. The report can be viewed during regular Health Department business hours.

## Spring HEALTH FAIR

FOUR DAYS. ONE CONVENIENT LOCATION.

### DATES & HOURS

**Tuesday, April 16.** . . . . . 7:00 am - 9:00 am  
**Wednesday, April 17.** . . . . . 7:00 am - 9:00 am  
**Thursday, April 18** . . . . . 7:00 am - 9:00 am  
**Friday, April 19.** . . . . . 7:00 am - 9:00 am

**LOCATION**  
**Black Swamp Nature Center**  
 753 Fairground Drive • Paulding, Ohio 45879

**AVAILABLE BLOOD TESTING**

Comprehensive Health Panel. . . . .	\$30.00
Thyroid Screening . . . . .	\$15.00
Hepatitis C Screening. . . . .	\$15.00
Hemoglobin A1C. . . . .	\$15.00
PSA. . . . .	\$20.00
Vitamin D. . . . .	\$20.00

Registration available the day of the fair or pre-registration packets are available at Paulding County Hospital provider offices, lobby and online at [pauldningcountyhospital.com](http://pauldningcountyhospital.com). Cash and check accepted the day of the fair. Credit Card accepted **ONLY** when pre-registered.

**PAULDING COUNTY HOSPITAL**

1035 West Wayne Street • Paulding, Ohio 45879 • 419.399.4080 • [pauldningcountyhospital.com](http://pauldningcountyhospital.com)

## PAULDING COUNTY DISTRICT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS

The annual meeting of the Paulding County General Health District Advisory Council was held on March 5, 2024.

During the meeting, Mark Holtsberry was named President, Bob Young Vice President, and Chad Benschneider was named secretary of the council for the ensuing year.

The District Advisory Council appointed Sarah Rachel Butler to serve a five-year term on the board of health, to expire in 2029. Reports were presented by all the health department personnel for the calendar year 2023.

The following were in attendance: Gene Sheets, Cecil Village; Mark Holtsberry, Paulding County Commissioner; Jammie Hughes, Blue Creek Township; Ed Ruger, Haviland Village; Bob Young, Harrison Township; Kerry Hook, Harrison Township; Bryce Mills, Blue Creek Township; Mike Meyer, Crane Township; Alex Straley, Paulding Township; Chad Benschneider, Harrison Township; Craig Dobbelaere, Brown Township; David Schroeder, Auglaize Township; Dean Leatherman, Brown Town-

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NORTHWEST OHIO CASA

# COOKIE HOP FOR CASA

DOWNTOWN PAULDING, OHIO  
**APRIL 6, 2024**  
**10:00AM-1:00PM**

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR EVENT INFORMATION AND TICKETS AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

SCAN ME

[info@nwocasa.com](mailto:info@nwocasa.com) / [www.nwocasa.com](http://www.nwocasa.com)