

The

WEST BEND NEWS

www.westbendnews.net

VOLUME 20 – ISSUE 49

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

VOTING FOR PAULDING HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST OPENS DECEMBER 2nd



Pictured working on the Paulding County Trails Project Window is Kathleen Stoller.

By: Erica Noggle

The holiday season is officially underway, and the town is aglow with the magic of the Chamber's Annual Holiday Window Decorating Contest! Local businesses have gone above and beyond to create

dazzling, original displays that embody the spirit of the season and showcase their community pride. Now, it's your turn to help choose which window stands out as the community favorite.

Voting for the People's

Choice Award will open on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 5 PM and continue through Monday, December 9, 2024, at noon.

Make the most of this fest-

(Continued on Page 2)

Quality Work Over 25 years! Schmucker

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Stamped Concrete • Retaining Walls •
and more!

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COURTHOUSE EMPLOYEES DECORATE DOORS TO BENEFIT FOOD PANTRY

The employees of the Paulding County Courthouse have taken their own personal time to decorate the doors of each individual office of the courthouse.

They are asking the public to join in on some Holiday fun

(Continued on Page 5)

**Pole Barns - Garages
Room Additions
Roofs - Decks & More**

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SCHMUCKER CONSTRUCTION

WOODBURN MAIN STREET SET TO HOST 2 MAJOR EVENTS



In honor of Allen County Indiana's 200th Anniversary, Woodburn Main Street will have a ribbon cutting at 10:00 a.m. on December 14, 2024. This ribbon cutting is to show off the new monument in town (shown above). This monument was part of a

county-wide project to honor this milestone of history.

Also on December 14th, Santa is coming to Woodburn! He will arrive at the Clock Tower and stay to visit with the children from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. He will arrive on

(Continued on Page 3)

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2025 DOG TAGS on SALE NOW!

1 year-\$18, 3 year-\$54, Permanent-\$180

Tags may be purchased at:

The County Auditor's Of ce

115 N. Williams St., Paulding, OH 45879

Phone: 419-399-8205, Mon.-Fri. 8-4:30

(Cash, Check or Visa/Mastercard),

OR PLEASE CHOOSE ONE
OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:

ONLINE: www.pauldingcountyauditor.com

BY MAIL: Include self-addressed stamped envelope

DROP BOX: Include self-addressed stamped envelope

Located at the East Side of the Courthouse

Deadline is January 31, 2025

CONVOY OPERA HOUSE

CHRISTMAS Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH

Featuring Nashville Recording Artist
DARYL WAYNE DASHER
With Mark Lavey and Verl Dasher

06.00 PM / Doors: 5:30 PM

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Dasher Christmas Concert	1
Den Herder	2
Derck's Landscaping	8
Dooley Funeral Home	2
Edward Jones	5
Eichers Woodworking	8
Emerald Forest Pottery	1
Fairview Craft Show	3
Five Star Construction	1
Gerbers Electric	7
Grabil Truss	10
Hicksville Vill Zoning Appeals	9
Hoover Auction James Wagler	11
Huber Opera House Elf Jr	3
Klopfenstein Repair	8
Krazy Krafters	3
Midwest FHome – Sander obit	2
PC Auditor Dog tags	1
PC Commissioners Bid Notice	9
PC court Notice CI 24-175	9
PC Sheriff Sale CI 24 089	9
PC Veteran's Service	11
PCB	6
CW PUZZLE – PCH	9
Rain Tech	12
Ron Burt Left Turn	8
Sauder Feeds	8
Schmucker Construction	1
Schrader Ehle Sales & Svc	10
Troth Estate Probate Notice	9
United Edge KEIL Auction	10
United Edge Young	11

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

Community Calendar

MON & WED

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

December 2

- Christmas Lighting @ Greenway Park (by Town Hall) in Antwerp, 6pm
- Merry & Bright Parade @ Paulding, 6pm

December 3

- GIVING TUESDAY!
- PCRTA meeting @ Paulding Pancake House, 9:30am

December 4

- PC PERI meeting @ PC Sen. Ctr., 10am

December 5

- Blood Drive @ 1st Church of Christ, Hicksville, 1-6pm

December 7

- Santa Claus in Antwerp! @ Antwerp Fire Dept, 1-2:30p
- Christmas Open House @ Oakwood Elementary, 10a-4p
- Holiday Craft Bazaar @ NH UMC, 8a-2p
- Lifeway Wesleyan Church Craft Bazaar, FW, 8:30a-2:30p

December 6-8

- Elf, Jr. @ Huber, Hicksville (see ad on pg 3!)
- Festival of Trees @ Convoy Opera House, 3-6p (F), 10a-7p (Sa), 1-5p (Su)

December 7-8

- Kris Kringle Market @ Convoy Fox Hunters bldg., 10a-5p (Sa), 1-5p (Sun)

Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES



PREMIER BANK LAUNCHES 5TH ANNUAL KINDNESS CAMPAIGN

Premier Bank is pleased to announce the launch of the 5th annual “Powered By (kind) People. Fueled By You.” campaign.

The “Powered By (kind) People. Fueled by You.” tagline reflects Premier Bank’s longstanding commitment to the community.

Powered By (kind) People represents the strong sense of passion the Bank’s associates have for supporting local communities, coupled with the Bank’s commitment to giving back. Fueled By You represents the inspiration that the Bank’s clients and communities give them to give back and spread kindness in the places they call home.

“This annual campaign is especially meaningful to us because it symbolizes our associates, customers and the communities that we serve,” said Gary Small, President & CEO, Premier Bank. “The kindness we witness in our communities inspires us to support local initiatives, events and projects. Whether we are donating our time or resources, we know that every act of kindness makes our communities stronger. Once again, we are excited to invite the entire community to join us in our dedication and passion for spreading kindness, doing good deeds and strengthening our communities!”

Because one simple act can fuel the cycle of kindness, the Bank proudly encourages associates to participate in their Community Volunteer Program, which is designed to give associates the opportunity to represent Premier Bank through community events and organizations that they are passionate about. This program provides paid volunteer time for associates annually. “Partnerships with community organizations, schools and local businesses let the Premier Bank team share their time and expertise through paid volunteer hours and beyond,” added Small.

The Bank has also invited 5 of their valued community partners from various markets to join them in a video series titled “Powered by (kind) People. Fueled by You. Video Series”, as they work together to spread kindness and collectively support important programs to benefit families in the communities they serve.

For more information, please visit YourPremierBank.com/Kindness and use #PoweredByKindness to share acts of kindness on Facebook and Instagram to inspire others to keep spreading kindness.

SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD BANKS WITH DONATED VENISON THIS HUNTING SEASON

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife is again

partnering with Farmers and

Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) to support local food banks with donated

venison. With a \$30,000

grant from the Division of

Wildlife, FHFH and participating

processors donate harvested

white-tailed deer to charitable

organizations throughout Ohio.

Hunters who harvest a

deer and would like to do-

nate the venison can bring it

to one of 34 certified deer

processing shops in Ohio.

Each donated deer is pro-

vided to a verified charitable

organization that offers food

assistance. One harvested

deer yields approximately 50

pounds of venison, which

equates to about 200 meals.

Find the complete list of pro-

cessors accepting donations

of harvested deer at feedingthehungry.org/

Hunters who donate their

harvested deer are not re-

quired to pay for the pro-

cessing of the venison.

Donate a harvested deer

this hunting season to one of

34 certified processing shops

through Farmers and

Hunters Feeding the Hungry.

This program encourages

the harvest of deer for the

purpose of wildlife manage-

ment in Ohio, as well as pro-

vides for the wise and chari-

table use of the wildlife

resource for direct public

benefit. During the 2023-24

deer hunting season, FHFH

coordinated the processing

PHASE II: OLD FORT RESTORATION PROJECT



Phase II of The Old Fort Restoration Project began Monday, December 2, at the Old Fort on the Doctor’s Quarters and Hospital. A crew from Hart Log Homes LLC began demolition of the building Monday morning. The new timbers will arrive Wednesday, December 4. Construction of the new building will begin as early as Wednesday afternoon or Thursday morning.

Hard work of the preserva-

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH TO SHOW FAMILY MOVIE: GREATER



Everyone wonders “Why bed things happen to good people.” On Sunday, December 8 at 7:00 p.m., the Bible Fellowship Church in Pauld-

partnering with Farmers and Hunters Feeding the Hungry (FHFH) to support local food banks with donated venison. With a \$30,000

grant from the Division of Wildlife, FHFH and participating processors donate harvested white-tailed deer to charitable organizations throughout Ohio.

Hunters who harvest a deer and would like to do-nate the venison can bring it to one of 34 certified deer processing shops in Ohio. Each donated deer is pro-vided to a verified charitable organization that offers food assistance. One harvested deer yields approximately 50

pounds of venison, which equates to about 200 meals. Find the complete list of pro-cessors accepting donations of harvested deer at feedingthehungry.org/

Hunters who donate their harvested deer are not re-

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cessing of the venison.

Donate a harvested deer this hunting season to one of 34 certified processing shops through Farmers and

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This program encourages the harvest of deer for the purpose of wildlife manage-

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vides for the wise and chari-

table use of the wildlife

resource for direct public

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deer hunting season, FHFH

coordinated the processing

of 1,157 deer donated by

Ohio hunters. Seventy-nine

charitable organizations then

distributed the venison.

Ohio’s deer archery hunt-

ing season is open until Sun-

day, Feb. 2, 2025. Statewide

gun seasons are Monday,

Dec. 2 until Sunday, Dec. 8,

and again Dec. 21-22. The

muzzleloader season is from

Saturday, Jan. 4 to Tuesday,

Jan. 7, 2025. Hunting licenses

and deer permits are avail-

able on the HuntFish OH

(<https://ohiodnr.gov/buy-and-apply/hunting-fishing-boating/hunting-resources/huntfishoh-mobile-app>) app,

at wildohio.gov (<https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/wildlife>), or at

any license vendor.

Venison is a lean meat

with high nutritional value.

Wild Ohio Harvest (<https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/education-training/wild-ohio-harvest-community>) provides a variety of

delicious recipes for deer,

turkey, fish, and small game.

Check out the Wild Ohio

Harvest Cookbook (<https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/education-training/wild-ohio-harvest-cookbook/wild-ohio-harvest-cookbook>) for ideas on

cooking venison and other

wild game.

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ber 8 at 7:00 p.m., the Bible

Fellowship Church in Pauld-

ing will be having a family

movie night for all in the com-

munity that tries to answer

that question.

The film, “Greater” is a

masterful portrayal of Bran-

don Burlsworth’s story, argu-

ably the greatest walk-on in

the history of college football.

It showcases a seamless inter-

weaving of heart-touching

family dynamics, intense foot-

ball action, and moving per-

sonal struggles that leaves

viewers inspired and emotion-

ally engaged.

Admission to the movie is

free and there will be popcorn

and water available, also free.

habits for sustainable use

and appreciation by all. Visit

wildohio.gov (<https://ohiodnr.gov/discover-and-learn/safety-conservation/about-ODNR/wildlife>) to find out

more.

In 2024, join ODNR as we

celebrate 75 years of protect-

ing Ohio’s natural resources

Scripture of the Week

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.”

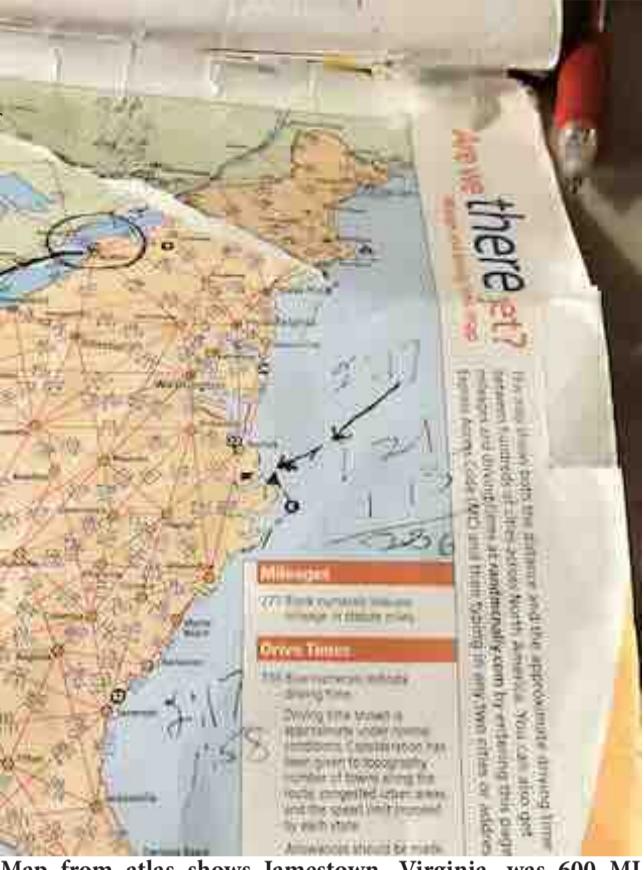
— Psalm 136:1,26

CLEANSING PRAYER



Heaven

JAMESTOWN



Map from atlas shows Jamestown, Virginia, was 600 MI South of Plymouth, Massachusetts. The climate should have been much warmer.

We tend to think that the pilgrims were the first settlers in America but that is not the case. A group came over from England and settled in Jamestown, Virginia, 10 years earlier. On April 26, 1607, three ships landed in America. They had sailed from England in December, and carried 100 passengers.

They landed at Chesapeake Bay, looking for a place to settle. They sailed about 60 miles up the James River and settled on a peninsula which they called Jamestown, naming both of them after King James. One of the reasons they chose this is because they thought it would be easy to defend, with entrance on land from only one direction. Also the river was so deep that they could dock against land.

It is said they saw "Fair medders and goodly tall trees," along the coast. "The interesting thing is that these were all men. 100 men. They had been financed by a group of investors who charged them to: search for treasure, to raise farm products to be sent to England, and to spread the Christian faith among the Indians. The very first settlers in America were missionaries.

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20th Annual Craft Show

Fairview Elementary School

corner of US 127 & Blosser Rd., Sherwood, OH

Saturday, December 7, 9 am to 3 pm

* Free Admission!

* Lunch Available!

* Variety of crafters and vendors – over 65!

Sponsored by the Fairview Athletic Boosters

Like us on Facebook - Fairview Athletic Booster Craft Show

Park Service and is operated by the Colonial National Historic Park. In 1957 they celebrated the 350th anniversary of the settling of Jamestown.

If I were younger this would be a neat place to visit and to study the history of our country. Today the park has a replica of the areas first fort, Powhatan's Lodge, and the three ships that brought the first settlers. Too bad the settlers didn't know that I-64 runs just a few miles from Jamestown. They could have hopped on and saved all of that trouble.

-James Neuhouser

AUGLAIZE CO. FAIR ANNOUNCES 2025 CONCERT FEATURING EDDIE MONTGOMERY



The Auglaize County Fair is thrilled to announce the lineup for its concert on August 2nd, 2025, featuring Eddie Montgomery of Montgomery Gentry. The event will also feature Brother Believe Me as the opening act. The concert will be held in the Auglaize County Fairgrounds Grandstands, with gates opening at 5:30 p.m.

Montgomery Gentry is one of country music's most iconic duos, known for their signature blend of Southern rock and honky-tonk anthems. Formed in the late 1990s by Eddie Montgomery and the late Troy Gentry, the duo gained national recognition with hits like "My Town," "Hell Yeah," "Something to Be Proud Of," and "If You Ever Stop Loving Me." With numerous chart-topping singles and multiple award nominations, Montgomery Gentry has been a mainstay in the country music scene for over two decades. Eddie Montgomery continues to honor the legacy of the duo with performances that keep the spirit of Montgomery Gentry's music alive and rockin' for fans across the nation.

Brian Knatz, a member of the Auglaize County Fair Board, expressed the board's excitement for the 2025 concert. "We hope to continue to have that community support and wish to see growth from last year so we can continue to grow this event," said Knatz. "It takes a lot to put on an event like this, and with everyone's support, we hope to keep a concert at the Auglaize Fair for the unforeseeable future. Our community's enthusiasm has been amazing, and we look forward to building on that momentum."

Following a successful inaugural concert in 2024 featuring rising country star Conner Smith, the Fair Board has chosen to bring in one of country music's most beloved acts for 2025. Jake Vogel, another Fair Board member, shared the board's excitement. "The community support was great for the concert last year. From the concert-goers to the sponsors and volunteers—everyone thought it was a big hit, which is why we wanted to keep the ball rolling and continue into 2025," said Vogel.

"Montgomery Gentry is a legendary band with a catalog of great hits, and we thought they'd be a perfect fit for the fair crowd here in Auglaize County. After introducing an up-comer like Conner Smith, we wanted to bring in an established artist with a wide appeal to get the crowd rocking."

The Auglaize County Fair Board is proud to acknowledge the local sponsors, volunteers, and the community for their continued support in making events like this possible. Special thanks go to 92.1 The Frog, RRR Tire Service, Bambauer Fertilizer & Seed, Inc., B. Cook & Son Plumbing & Heating, Inc., and Harrod Nagel Electric, Inc. for their generous contributions.

"Our sponsors and volunteers are vital to the success of this event," said Knatz. "We're incredibly grateful for their unwavering support. With their help, we hope to continue offering incredible live music and entertainment at the Auglaize County Fair for years to come."

Visit auglaizecountycountyfair.org for information.

LEHMKUHLE RELEASES SECOND BOOK



2000 Wayne Trace Graduate, Erik Lehmkuhle, has released his second book, The Swiss Effect. This is Erik's year-long investigation that includes research and interviews that lead to the direct influence European Oligarchs have on US soil.

The study also found that the rate of agricultural land loss is consistent with trends observed in other Midwest states, where, on average, 55% of lost agricultural land has been converted to development.

However, Ohio's loss of agricultural land stands out for its concentration in major

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

significant implications for land-use policies as urban development increasingly encroaches on Ohio's rural areas.

"Since 2001, Ohio has lost 268,430 acres of agricultural land, a decline of 2.04%," Katchova said. "Ohio's agricultural land is a precious resource, and land preservation efforts are needed if there is a desire to protect it."

Katchova and her team emphasized that land-use policies likely need to be tailored differently for areas inside and outside of MSAs, given the stark differences in land loss patterns.

In the Columbus MSA, for example, the pace of agricultural land conversion is significantly higher than in other parts of Ohio.

"This rapid pace of conversion in and around Columbus could have long-term implications for agricultural land loss in the state," Katchova said.

"The needs of preserving agricultural land need to be carefully balanced with the needs to converting agricultural land for development purposes around the major cities in Ohio."

Implications for the future
Understanding the underlying causes of agricultural land loss is vital for developing effective policies that can both accommodate urban growth and protect Ohio's agricultural heritage. Katchova's research also highlights the importance of considering the impact of development on both a local and statewide level, if the current pace of development of Ohio's farmland continues.

"Given that Ohio's urban centers are growing rapidly, local governments and policymakers may want to consider strategies that balance farmland conversion with development needs," Katchova said.

Millions of Americans have wondered, who is running Joe Biden? It is a valid question as we have, in real time, watched his mental capacity deteriorate. My investigation answers this question down to the power brokers and Big 3 asset management corporations that initiate their anti-Constitutional agenda. This money path takes you all over the globe and every vein has one singular destination.

STUDY REVEALS OHIO'S GROWING STRUGGLE TO PRESERVE AGRICULTURAL LAND AMID URBAN EXPANSION

(Continued from Page 1)
an East Central Fire Truck! There will be treats for all – Christmas cookies from Brian's Pizza, Gift Bags from Woodburn Branch Library, Hot cocoa & coffee from Westwood Fellowship

metropolitan areas.

"As the population continues to grow and urban areas expand, the challenge of preserving farmland becomes more complex," Katchova said. "Ohio's agricultural land is a precious resource, and land preservation efforts are needed if there is a desire to protect it."

Katchova and her team emphasized that land-use policies likely need to be tailored differently for areas inside and outside of MSAs, given the stark differences in land loss patterns. In the Columbus MSA, for example, the pace of agricultural land conversion is significantly higher than in other parts of Ohio.

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Church, Chili and homemade bread from Woodburn Main Street.

These two festive events are sponsored by Woodburn

Hardware, The Chop Shop,

East Central Fire & EMS, and

Woodburn Main Street.

The Huber Opera House Youth Productions present



Dec. 6 & 7 @ 7:00 pm

Doors Open at 6:30

Dec. 8 @ 2:30 pm

Doors Open at 2:00

Tickets available online at huberoperahouse.org

or call the Huber Office at 419-542-9553

Presented through special arrangements with Music Theater International. www.mtishows.com



ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOLS

Home of the Archers

December 24/January 25



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

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

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

Friday, December 20th will be the final day of classes prior to the start of the holiday break. There will be no school December 23rd through January 3rd. Classes resume Monday, January 6th. I hope everyone has an opportunity to spend time with family and friends during this holiday season. A reminder that there will be no school Monday, January 20th in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Also note that a change was recently made to our current school year calendar with Friday, February 28th being designated as a no school day for students in order for our staff to participate in an In-Service Day with professional development focused on curriculum matters.

January is School Board Recognition Month and a chance for all of us to say thanks to our school board members for the important work that they do for our school. The positive leadership of the board members and their concern for the well-being of the students in our district continue to make Antwerp a great place to work, a wonderful place to go to school, and a source of community pride. Our current Board of Education has 70 years of combined experience leading our school district. Board member Bob Herber is completing his 23rd year, Board member Anita Bok is completing her 19th year, Board member Dennis Recker is completing his 13th year, Board President Sara Schuette is completing her 9th year, and Board Vice-President Jayme Landers has served on the Board for the past 7 ½ years.

Our Board of Education would like to thank our district residents for your support of our recent five year .75% Income Tax **Renewal** election ballot issue. Passage of the ballot issue was necessary in order to maintain the district's current services and programs for our students. During the past few school years, funds from the levy have been utilized for a variety of needs including the offering of full day every day Kindergarten, the purchase of exterior and interior security cameras, providing for a full-time on-site School Resource Officer, and providing professional development opportunities for our staff.

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

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

MS. ARNOLD - HS/MS

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize many groups and individuals for their recent academic and extracurricular accomplishments. Congratulations to our First-Quarter Students of the Quarter! Each staff member chose a student who went above and beyond expectations during the first grading period. The group then enjoyed a day out of school at the Toledo Zoo. The following students were chosen: Bryceton Barker, Noah Lucas, Alyssa Phillips, Aiden Dunderman, Clare Ehrhart, Blake Gribler, Aiden Hook, Eliana Hormann, Alyssa Lawson, Keira Spyker, Krystal Bradbury, Leigha Doster, Zaine McMichael, Raelynne Zuber, Allison Carnes, and Gracie Stoller.

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

The Archer Marching Band recently wrapped up their successful fall season with their annual indoor Marching Band concert and winter concert.

The Archer 2023-2024 yearbook recently was recognized by winning an All-Ohio award. *The Archer* has won this award more times than any other yearbook in the state. Senior Gracie Stoller won Honorable Mention in the JEA Student Media Contests in Philadelphia for Yearbook Theme Design. Students CJ Eaton and Gracie Stoller are also serving as OSMA student board members for the school year.

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

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

~ Ms. Jessie Arnold, MS/HS Principal

HS/MS GUIDANCE NEWS

Any student (grades 6-12) wishing to change his/her schedule for the second semester should see Mrs. Hammer before Winter break begins. All schedule changes must occur before January 17th. All middle school scheduling changes require a note or email from a parent or guardian.

Vantage faculty will be here in January during AA to talk with sophomores about attending Vantage for the 2025-2026 school year. Interested sophomores will visit Vantage on January 31st.

Students taking University of Findlay or Northwest State Community College CCP classes will start their Spring semester on January 13th. Students should log in to their Sakai or Canvas account on the 13th to make sure their courses are active.

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

Scheduling for the 2025-2026 school year will begin in late January. More information on scheduling will be available in Mrs. Hammer's Google Classroom.

MR. BILLMAN - ELEMENTARY

OCTOBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

A huge congratulations to our elementary students who earned Student of the Month for the month of October.

Kindergarten: Georgia Kobee, Freya Chafin, & Kainen Bok

1st Grade: Micah Mendez, Allura DeVault, & Eloise Scharr

2nd Grade: Zeke Laker, Riley Henschen, & Duke Wiesehan

3rd Grade: Jaxton Schilt & Eve Graham

4th Grade: Roman Laker, Deacon Hitzeman, & Ensley Parisot

5th Grade: Jayden Fish, Brock Barker, & Lauren Overman

UPCOMING WINTER EVENTS:

Our 2nd and 3rd grade students will perform at their Winter Concert on December 12th, under the guidance of Mrs. Andrea Newell and Mrs. Mary Smith. On December 9th our 1st grade students will spread holiday cheer by caroling at Antwerp Manor. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Katie Scharr, Mrs. Mary Lillemon, and Mrs. Katrina Tonneas for their hard work in organizing this event. Additionally, our preschool will host a canvas painting party with parents on December 11th. We're excited about all the fun and festive activities lined up for this holiday season!

~ Mr. Doug Billman, Elementary Principal

ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE

This month in elementary guidance, kindergarteners learned the difference between tattling and warning by listening to the book, *A Bad Case of Tattle Tongue*. They then completed a fun activity afterward.

First graders learned that they should be grateful for all things big and small by listening to the book *The Gratitude Jar*. Mrs. Lichtry then shared her own gratitude jar, which contained small items, such as a fork, toilet paper, and sugar, to remind the students that even on our hardest days, we can always find something to be grateful for.

Second graders learned about gratitude by watching a video explaining what gratitude is. They then took a "gratitude walk" around the school and wrote down all of things they were grateful for in our school.

Third graders also learned about gratitude by listening to the book, *Gratitude is my Superpower*. Then they made their own gratitude superhero and received a gratitude stone and journal to remind them to practice gratitude.

Fourth graders learned about gratitude by making a gratitude rainbow.

Fifth graders learned about rumors and gossip by watching a video on the topic and playing "telephone" to demonstrate how easily a rumor can be misunderstood and get out of control.

As always, Mrs. Lichtry is always available to meet with students for their individual needs. You can contact her at 419-258-5421, extension 2204, or lichty_e@antwerpschools.org.

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 6	6:00	vs. Ft. Jennings
Dec 10	6:00	vs. Ottoville
Dec 14	6:00	vs. Continental
Dec 17	6:00	@ North Central
Dec 21	6:00	vs. Delphos Jefferson
Dec 27	8:00	Rte 49 Tourney (Home)
Dec 28	TBA	Rte 49 Tourney (Home)
Jan 3	6:00	@ Tinora
Jan 4	5:00	@ Crestview
Jan 10	6:00	vs. Paulding
Jan 13	6:00	@ Hilltop
Jan 17	6:00	vs. Edgerton
Jan 18	4:00	@ Lincolnview
Jan 24	6:00	@ Fairview
Jan 25	6:00	@ Patrick Henry
Jan 31	6:00	vs. Wayne Trace

GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL

Dec 3	6:00	vs. Stryker
Dec 5	6:00	vs. Holgate
Dec 9	6:00	@ Miller City
Dec 14	12:00	vs. Parkway
Dec 17	6:00	@ North Central
Dec 19	8:00	Rte 49 Tourney @ Edgerton
Dec 20	TBA	Rte 49 Tourney @ Edgerton
Jan 2	6:00	vs. Tinora
Jan 7	6:00	@ Crestview
Jan 9	6:00	@ Paulding
Jan 14	6:00	@ Lincolnview
Jan 16	6:00	@ Edgerton
Jan 21	6:30	@ Continental
Jan 23	6:00	vs. Fairview
Jan 28	6:00	vs. Pettisville
Jan 30	6:00	@ Wayne Trace

VARSITY BOYS WRESTLING

Dec 7	9:00	@ Hicksville
Dec 14	9:00	@ Lincolnview Invite
Dec 27	10:00	@ Defiance
Dec 28	9:30	@ Defiance
Jan 11	9:00	@ Crestview Duals
Jan 14	6:00	vs. Edg/FV/PW
Jan 18	10:00	@ Celina

VARSITY GIRLS WRESTLING

Dec 8	9:00	@ Bryan Invite
Dec 14	10:00	@ Archbold Invite
Jan 4	9:00	@ Tinora Invite
Jan 18	9:00	@ Patrick Henry Invite

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 12	Winter Choral Concert - 2nd/3rd
Dec 16	Winter Choral Concert - MS/HS
Dec 17	Winter Band Concert
Dec 19	Board of Education Meeting
Dec 20	End of 2nd Quarter
Dec 23-Jan 3	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
Jan 6	Classes Resume
Jan 20	NO SCHOOL - M.L.K. Jr. Day
Feb 17	NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day
Feb 28	NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-service

CAFETERIA MENU

Mon, Dec 2	Chicken alfredo w/ breadstick, caesar salad, strawberry cup, & milk
Tue, Dec 3	Pulled pork on bun, coleslaw, pineapple, & milk
Wed, Dec 4	Hot dog on bun, cheesy tots, apples, & milk
Thu, Dec 5	Vegetable beef soup, garlic bread, pears, & milk
Fri, Dec 6	Chicken bacon ranch or BBQ chicken pizza, salad, grapes, & milk

Our menus are subject to change without notice.

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Editor's Note: We here at the West Bend News allow "Letters to the Editor" because we believe there is a Constitutional right to freedom of speech. 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, or attempt to justify a physical attack that took place will not be considered. Keep your opinion to the discussion only. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article along with the town of residence. **To be considered for publication, you must live in our readership area. Letters must be no longer than 1000 words, and you must provide your legal name along with a phone number and address.** You can submit a letter in person at our office, by email, mail or fax.

Responses need to be received by Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. for the following publication. We reserve all rights to edit as needed.

email: info@westbendnews.net

fax: 419-258-1313

USPS: West Bend News
PO Box 1008
Antwerp, OH 45813

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Friends,
For over a hundred years, the First Presbyterian Church has been a fixture in the Antwerp Community. Our congregants have been medical workers, teachers, shop keepers, and stay at home moms. We have sent out sons to the military and not always been able to welcome them home.

When faith in God diminished, this church kept

their doors open because of the faithful. We have been able to serve this community in so many ways. Our community reaches out and looks to us for help and comfort at their low times and in times of celebration, we make ourselves available to the community.

In recent years, the congregation has been able to make repairs and upgrades to the building and continue to serve our community. During covid, we were able to work in shifts to make repairs and paint our sanctuary, after a leak was discovered in the roof, we were fortunate enough to be able to make the affected bathroom handicapped accessible and add a second bathroom. Our determination to keep the building in good repair is essential to being able to serve the community.

Now we find ourselves in need of the community's help. The stained glass windows in the sanctuary need repaired, the frames painted and new storm windows put in. This project will again push the desire to make our building more accessible a little further down on our upgrade list. As we struggle to find a way for people to access our fellowship hall from outside and the bathrooms from upstairs, we also struggle with the cost of these 2 projects. The cost of these two things are going to cost us almost \$300, 000, if everything goes according to plan. This is where we need you. We welcome donations in the mail at PO Box 396, Antwerp, Ohio 45813, or in person at our Sunday morning service at 10am.

As donations come in,

you will be added to our donor prayer list, or remain anonymous. Thank you for any help you can provide.

—Antwerp Presbyterian Church

2024 CONVOY CHRISTMAS IN THE VILLAGE

DOWNTOWN CONVOY OHIO

Friday December 6th:

Dining at Cheers & Gears Bar & Grille, Gibson's Barnyard BBQ, Knight Pizza

Enjoy Shopping - 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Secret Garden Floral & Gifts, Phunk Pheasant, Harting Homesteaders, Rebel Bean Coffee, Daily Dose & Danny's Food Mart.

Festival of Trees & Snowman Display - 3:00-6:00 p.m. in the Opera House

Saturday December 7th:

Dining at Cheers & Gears Bar & Grille, Gibson's Barnyard BBQ, Knight Pizza & Flying Burrito (at market, carryout only).

Enjoy Shopping - 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at Secret Garden Floral, Phunk Pheasant, Harting Homesteaders, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Kris Kringle Market, 8am-noon at Intensity Fitness/Recovery Massage purchase gift cards, Rebel Bean Coffee, Daily Dose & Danny's Food Mart for donuts & coffee.

Library Convoy - 9:30 a.m. Storytime and Craft

Fry Pie Pick Up - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Fry Pie Bakery

Train Displays - 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the VMC Building

Festival of Trees & Snowman Display - 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. at the Opera House & Annex

Adult Board & Brush - 10:00 a.m. at Special Occasions

Kids Face Painting & Kids Craft - 12:00-2:00 p.m. at

(Continued from Page 1)

and if you are able to stop by the courthouse December 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, or 17 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or December 18th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and vote for your favorite door by placing a canned good in the box outside your favorite door.

All food items will then be delivered to the food pantry for distribution to those in need. If you are unable to go up the steps to the second floor we will have pictures of the second floor doors available at the security desk for you to look at.

Ohio Locations

Antwerp: Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Village Hardware, Small Town Bliss

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

Cecil: 127 Maramart, Paulding Pancake House

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

Defiance: Newman's Marathon Carryout, Smoke Stop, Chief, (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Dollar General(Clinton St), Nursing Home, Golden Years Junction, Dollar General, Assisted Living

Senior Center, Cabbage Patch, **Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Advanced Auto, Marathon Country Main Stop, Rite Aid, Defiance 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, Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General

New Haven: ACPL Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Chamber of Commerce (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, ACPL 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.

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Special Occasions

Santa comes 12:00-2:00 p.m. Sponsored by Convoy Lions Club in the Village Square

Horse Drawn 'wagon Rides 1:00-4:00 p.m. at the municipal building sponsored by Convoy Lions Club

Kids Pinata - 2:00 p.m. in the Convoy Village Square

Sunday December 8th:

Dining - 1:00-5:00 p.m. Flying Burrito (at market & carryout only) & Knight Pizza will be open 3:00-11:00 p.m.

Shopping - 1:00-5:00 p.m. Kris Kringle Market, 12:00-5:00 p.m. Secret Garden Floral & Gifts, Phunk Pheasant, Harting Homesteaders, Rebel Bean Coffee, Daily Dose & Danny's Food Mart.

Cookie Walk - 12:00-2:00 p.m. at the Fry Pie Bakery while cookies last. Fry Pie Sales- 1pm Fry Pie Bakery

Festival of Trees & Snowman Display - 1:00-5:00 p.m. at the Opera House & Annex

Hot Dogs & Hot Chocolate - 1:00-5:00 p.m. next to the former bank

Train display - 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the VMC Building

Pet Parade - 2:00 p.m. Registration at Convoy Methodist Church parking lot.

Ugly Sweater Cookie Decorating - 2:00 p.m. in the Annex

Ugly Sweater Event - 3:00 p.m. in the Opera House

Memory Tree - 5:00 p.m. in Convoy Village Square Reading the names and lighting the tree.

O Holy Night Children's Candlelight Parade - 5:00 p.m. - Kids meet at the Convoy Methodist Church and will parade to the downtown ending at the Convoy Village Square for the reading of the Christmas Story, Caroling & Prayer.

SPONSORS

Convoy Lions Club, Convoy Tastee Freeze, Harting Farms, CCT Co., Harting Homesteaders, Cooper Farms, Raymond Hertz, The Phunk Pheasant, Cowan & Sons, Larry & Diane Webb, Leland Smith Insurance, Convoy Community Days, Greenway Bank, Recovery Massage, First Bank of Berne, Flock Farms, Launder's Jewelry

Delay taking Social Security. You can start collecting Social Security benefits at 62, but your monthly checks will be much bigger if you wait until your full retirement age, likely between 66 and 67. You

INFLATION-FIGHTING STRATEGIES FOR RETIREES

At different times, inflation may be high or low, but, except in those rare periods of deflation, it's always with us. During your working years, when you may receive boosts in your salary, you at least have the potential to keep up with inflation — but what happens when you retire? As a retiree, what can you do to cope with the rising cost of living?

Here are a few suggestions:

- Keep some growth potential in your investment portfolio. During your retirement years, you may want to move your portfolio toward a somewhat more conservative approach by owning investments that offer significant protection of principal. However, these same investments offer little in the way of growth, which means they are susceptible to inflation. Consequently, you'll also need to own a reasonable amount in growth-oriented investments, such as stocks and stock-based securities. Of course, these investments will fluctuate in value as the financial markets move up and down, but by owning some more conservative investments, you can reduce the overall impact of market volatility on your portfolio.

- Think about extending your employment. If you like what you do, you might want to consider working a few years longer than you had originally intended. Not only will you be bringing in more income, but you could also continue to contribute to retirement accounts, including your IRA and 401(k). Even if you don't want to continue working full time, you could do some part-time work or consulting. Any earned income you bring in can help in your fight against inflation.

You can't control the cost of living, but by making some of the moves described above, you can help yourself mount a defense against the effects of inflation during your retirement years.

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

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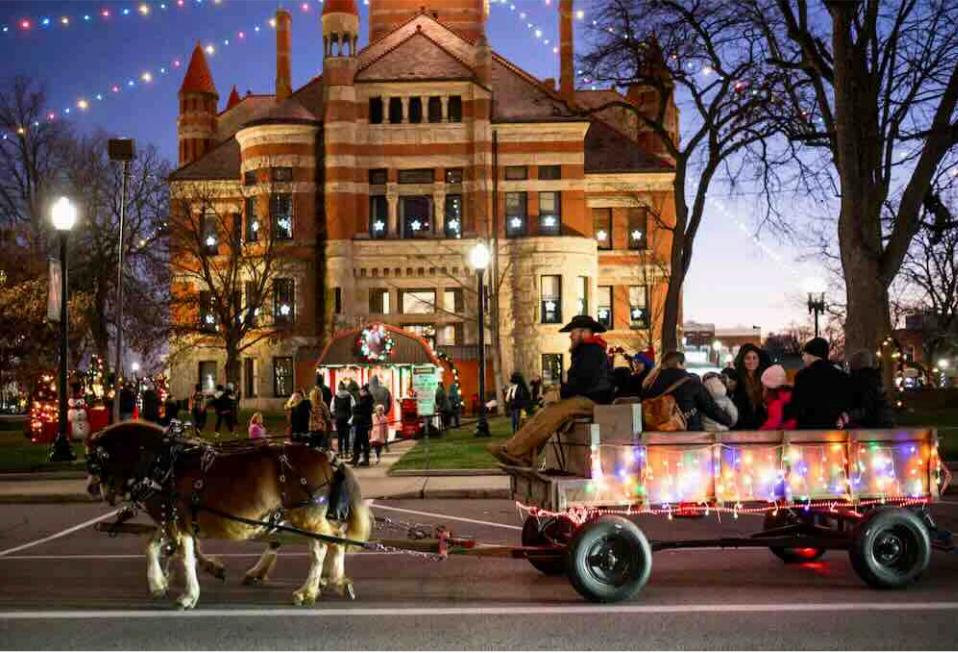
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CHRISTKINDL MARKET OF BRYAN OPENED FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29



The Christkindl Market of Bryan opened for the 2024 season on Friday, November 29, running Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 4:00-8:00 p.m. through December 21. It is located on the square in downtown Bryan, Ohio, and includes a European-style outdoor market, hot food and beverage options, visits with Santa, horse-drawn wagon rides and nightly entertainment.

This year's market features 14 vendor chalets with products ranging from locally-produced honey and hand-poured candles to specialty Christmas décor items imported from Europe. The market also includes St. Nick's Snak Haus, a food and beverage chalet that serves hot cocoa, coffee and traditional German treats.

"It's hard to believe we're

entering the fourth year of the Christkindl Market. Each year, we try to add something new and improve what we've done in the past. This year is no exception," said Ann Spangler, committee member. "Look for our new Kakao Hütte for specialty hot cocoas, along with new events including Hispanic Heritage Night and a live nativity. Being named one of Ohio's Best Hometowns by Ohio Magazine has us all excited to show even more visitors how we 'live the sweet life' here in Bryan."

Each night of the market, guests can enjoy free activities and entertainment. Some of this year's highlights include a live nativity on December 6; Hispanic Heritage Night, with a performance by El Corazon de Mexico Ballet Folklorico, on December 7; a live reindeer visit on Decem-

ber 20; and the Bryan Area Foundation's Festival of Trees on various nights. See the complete schedule at bryan-development.org/market.

Created in 2021, the Christkindl Market of Bryan is a beloved community tradition under the beautiful lights of the courthouse square. There is no admission fee, parking is free, and many businesses around the square offer specials and extended hours on market nights to enhance the visitor experience.

The Christkindl Market of Bryan is a project of Bryan Development, which focuses on economic activity, preservation and growth. This non-profit event is made possible through the generous support of corporate and individual sponsors, including the 2024 presenting sponsor, Bryan Area Foundation.

MOORE LEADS WT TO SECOND WIN

HAVILAND - Junior forward Lexi Moore posted her second double-double of the season with 19 points and 16 rebounds to lead the Wayne Trace Lady Raiders to a 52-24 victory over Defiance Tuesday night at the 'Palace.'

The red, white and blue led at every stop, taking a 14-5 lead at the end of eight minutes of action before widening the gap to 27-10 at the intermission. Wayne Trace took a 41-22 advantage into the final period.

Wayne Trace also got eight points each from Tianna Sinn and Careen Winans with Kathleen Stoller posting six and Amber Stoller chipped in five. Harper Myers and Caitlin Mead completed the scoring for the Lady Raiders with four and two points, respectively.

Jamie Rollins paced Defiance with seven points while Isabella Rowlison added five

and Samantha Hohenberger chipped in four. Caroline McDonald (three), Eliza Ramirez (three) and Alexandra Fernandez (two) also found the scoring column for the Lady Bulldogs.

The Lady Raiders ended the night 21 of 51 from the field (41 percent) compared to Defiance's 6 of 45 (13 percent). At the charity stripe, the red, white and blue converted 8 of 16 (50 percent) while the Bulldogs hit 11 of 24 (46 percent).

Wayne Trace won the battle of the boards 43-37 with Defiance having just eight turnovers compared to eleven for the Lady Raiders.

LADY RAIDERS OPEN SEASON WITH WIN

Wayne Trace hit the road Monday night for its girls basketball season opener where the Lady Raiders recorded a 53-40 victory over Blackhawk Christian.

The red, white and blue

led at every stop in the contest, taking an 11-5 lead at the end of the first quarter before Wayne Trace pushed the margin to 27-15 at the midway point of the contest.

The Lady Raiders expanded the gap further in the third quarter, scoring 13 points compared to eight for Blackhawk Christian as Wayne Trace posted a 40-23 lead entering the final stanza.

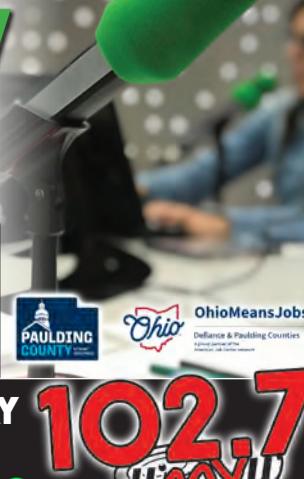
Avery Elsworth topped the Lady Braves with 14 points, four rebounds and two steals while Desi Pope chipped in ten markers and six assists.

Malea Steele contributed eight points and eight steals for Blackhawk Christian with Jaelyn Pickett totaling six markers while Marnie Davis finished with two points. Pickett had six rebounds for the Lady Braves and Davis hauled own two.

Harper Myers and Lexi Moore both had double-

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doubles for Wayne Trace. Myers totaled 17 points and 13 rebounds for the Lady Raiders with Moore chipping in 15 points and 28 rebounds in the contest. The 28 rebounds sets a new Wayne Trace single game record in girls basketball, breaking the previous record of 23 set by Lauren Speice against Edgerton on February 13, 2014.

Careen Winans chipped in ten markers, seven boards, two assists and three steals for the Lady Raiders while Kathleen Stoller contributed six points and three rebounds. Tianna Sinn added three markers and five assists for Wayne Trace with Amber Stoller totaling one basket.

ARCHERS RECORD FIRST WIN OVER BOMBERS

ANTWERP - After dropping their first two contests of the season, the Antwerp Lady Archers rebounded in game three to record a 55-38 win over visiting Edon Tuesday night in non-conference action.

The hosts led at every stop of the contest, opening a 17-8 margin at the end of one period before Antwerp added 16 second quarter points to post a 33-19 halftime advantage.

The Lady Archers then widened the gap to 48-24 entering the final quarter before settling on the 55-38 win.

Leading the way for Edon was Adison Briner totaling 13 points and Genna Ripke posted six markers.

Addi Snyder (five), Grace Ripke (four), Madison Baker (three), Kaylynn Bartlett (three), Nevaeh Smith (two) and Amanda Schwartz (two) rounded out the Bomber scoring.

Pacing the Lady Archers was Caroline Rohrs with 28 points and Mara Phlipot chipped in six markers.

Clara Rohrs and Briley Bagley totaled five points apiece for the blue and white with Raeley Franklin totaling four markers.

Eliana Hormann, Allison Sproles and Madisyn Peters all picked up two points for Antwerp and Avery Honigford chipped in a free throw.

PANTHERS ROLL TO WIN OVER TIGERS

LIBERTY CENTER - The Paulding Lady Panthers hit the road Tuesday night for a non-league battle at Liberty Center where the maroon and white rolled to a 45-25 victory over the Tigers.

The local squad took control of the contest early on and rolled from there as Paulding grabbed a 12-2 advantage at the end of one period.

The Lady Panthers expanded the gap in the second stanza to 25-7 before taking a 34-22 lead into the final period.

Kayleigh Dunham paced a balanced Paulding scoring attack with ten points while Brooklynn Bakle chipped in eight markers.

Brooklynn Schlatter and Tori Schlatter both totaled six points for the maroon and white while Estie Pease added five. Lucy Breier and Addison Pease finished with three points apiece as well for the Lady Panthers while Brianna Bermejo and Kate Manz recorded a basket each.

Mackenzie Fuller bucketed eight points to top Liberty Center followed by Addi Zien-

PJHS POSITIVE PANTHERS



Each month Paulding Junior High School teachers select one Positive Panther per grade level. These students are recognized for the positive character traits they ex-

PJHS ANNOUNCES STUDENTS OF THE MONTH SELECTIONS



hibit as students of Paulding Junior High School. Shown in the picture from left are Jezaih Seba Fuentes (Grade 8), Madison Durham (Grade 7), and Iridessa Reyes (Grade 6).

tek (four), Maddie Bailey (four), Aletha Fausnight (three), Macie Krugh (three), Payten Hageman (two) and Hope Atkinson (one).

CADETS CRUISE TO WIN OVER ARCHERS

Libbie Baker scored a game high thirty-two points to lead the Hilltop Lady Cadets to a 60-42 victory over host Antwerp in non-league girls basketball action Friday night.

The Williams County squad led at every stop on the night, taking an 18-5 lead at the end of eight minutes of action before expanding the lead to 31-16 at the intermission.

Hilltop then posted a 50-28 advantage entering the final stanza before settling on the 60-42 victory.

Molly Dickinson and Eleana Van Arsdale both scored eight points to aid the Hilltop cause with Kennedy Bailey chipping in seven markers.

Sophia Crossgrove picked up five points as well for the Lady Cadets.

Antwerp was paced by Caroline Rohrs with seventeen markers and Raeley Franklin chipped in eight points apiece.

Eliana Hormann and Clara Rohrs each totaled five points as well for the Lady Archers with Mara Phlipot

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PJHS 7-MINDSETS: PASSION FIRST



Paulding Junior High School is utilizing the 7-Mindsets curriculum to address the social and emotional needs of students. Each unit revolves around a specific theme students can apply to their lives. This unit's theme was

Passion First. Shown in the picture are Paulding Junior High School's Passion First Mindset Motivators.

PPEC MEMBERS DONATE \$13,332 TO 13 LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS



Power House Youth Center received a \$1,000 donation from PPEC members through the co-op's Operation Round Up program. The funds were used to purchase a refrigerator for the after-school program.

Members of Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative recently donated \$13,332 to 13 local charities and community projects through the co-operative's Operation Round Up program.

Thanks to the 80% of members who round up their electric bill and donate to this fund, PPEC has provided more than \$710,900 to northwest Ohio and northeast Indiana communities since 2010.

Participating members round up their monthly electric bill to the next dollar, with the extra pennies being used to help fund charities and groups in their communities. Each quarter, the funds

are dispensed to local causes that applied for funding.

The most recent donation recipients include:

- Antwerp Local Schools: \$1,000 to purchase adjustable desks and chairs for the special education resource room.

- Columbus Grove Pleasant Township Joint Fire District: \$1,215 to purchase a water straining system to ensure water pumped into the trucks is free of rocks and other materials.

- Family Promise of Lima: \$1,500 to purchase air mattresses, pumps, sheet sets, and bed covers.

- Friends of the Grover Hill Library: \$1,500 to help replace and repair their water

system.

- Junior Achievement of Northern Indiana: \$1,000 to purchase classroom kits.

- MAV Youth Mentoring: \$1,000 to support the Buddies Program and One on One matches.

- Ottawa Head Start: \$1,000 to purchase outdoor learning space activities and play station.

- Paulding Chamber of Commerce: \$1,000 to support the Trails Project marketing efforts (printed materials, ads on local radio stations).

- Paulding County Opportunity Center: \$225 to purchase movie tickets for the Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Program.

- Power House Youth Center: \$1,000 to purchase a refrigerator for the after-school program.

- Vantage Career Center: \$1,300 for the Toss a Toy program for local kids.

- VFW Van Wert County: \$592 to replace a freezer.

- Wayne Trace Schools (Payne and Grover Hill Elementary): \$1,000 to purchase sensory items.

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

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

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

steals for the Lady Warriors and McKenna Goble recorded five points and two rebounds.

Reagan Widenhoefer and Savannah Scheumann aided the Woodlan cause with five and four points, respectively.

Scheumann chipped in five rebounds, four assists and five steals as well for the Lady Warriors.

Bailey Holman topped Angola with a dozen markers while also posting a double-double with ten rebounds. Holman finished with four steals as well for the Lady Hornets.

Lexi Stilman totaled six points and seven rebounds for Angola while Ava Rinard added five points and two boards. Karleigh Gillen recorded four points, ten boards, four assists and four steals for the Lady Hornets while Aspen Sutton finished with four points and five rebounds.

Anna McClure and Kendall Holman both picked up a pair of rebounds for Angola and McClure dished out a pair of assists as well. Stella Stockamp and Holman contributed six and two points, respectively.

LIONS WIN RIVALRY GAME

The Leo Lady Lions picked up a rivalry win over visiting Woodlan Friday evening as the Lions recorded a 55-43 victory in the battle of East Allen County Schools' squads.

Brooke Kneubuhler led the way for Woodlan with 21 points and four steals while Alyssa Anderson finished with 14 points and seven rebounds.

Makenna Smith, Emma McDaniel, Alix Jacquay and Savannah Scheumann all recorded two points for the Lady Warriors.

McKenna Goble picked up four rebounds and Scheumann recorded three for the Lady Warriors while Scheumann and McDaniel totaled three and two steals, respectively.

WARRIORS ROLL TO WIN OVER BULLDOGS

In a battle of East Allen County Schools girls basketball squads, visiting Woodlan rolled to a 65-35 victory over New Haven last week.

Alyssa Anderson topped the Lady Warriors with sixteen points while Brooke Kneubuhler chipped in a dozen markers for Woodlan. Emma McDaniel also reached twin digits with ten points for the Lady Warriors.

Also scoring for Woodlan were Reagan Widenhoefer (eight), Mariah Thullner (six), McKenna Goble (five), Layla Hodson (four), Savannah Scheumann (two), Scarlett Gillingham (one) and Kaitlyn Sterling (one).

Alannah Webb paced New Haven with thirteen points.

Anderson finished with a double-double in the contest in grabbing a dozen rebounds on the night with Alix Jacquay hauling in eight and Kneubuhler picked up six.

Kneubuhler and Scheumann each dished out four assists for the Lady Warriors while McDaniel had two. Anderson topped Woodlan with three steals and Kneubuhler recorded two steals.

SUCCESSFUL TURNOUT AT SHOP THE VILLAGE EVENT



Pictured for Shop the Village is Trista Evans and Allison Noggle.

By: Erica Noggle

The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce the resounding success of the 2024 Shop the Village event, held on Saturday, November 23rd. The community came together to support local businesses and entrepreneurs in a festive and bustling atmosphere, marking this year's event as one of the most vibrant yet.

With over 60 talented vendors participating, attendees had the unique opportunity to shop for an incredible variety of handcrafted goods, holiday décor, specialty items, and more. The event also spotlighted 13 local businesses that graciously opened their doors to host these vendors, creating a seamless blend of established shops and visiting artisans.

"Shop the Village is a celebration of community, entrepreneurship, and the holiday spirit," said Erica Noggle, Executive Director of the Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce. "We're grateful for the support of our local businesses, vendors, and attendees

who made this day truly special."

The event showcased the creativity and talent thriving within Paulding County and the surrounding area. From one-of-a-kind gifts to delicious treats, there was something for everyone to enjoy while shopping small and supporting local.

The Chamber extends its heartfelt thanks to all who participated and attended, as well as to the vendors and local businesses that helped bring this vision to life. Events like Shop the Village highlight the strength of the Paulding community and its commitment to supporting local entrepreneurs.

The Chamber looks forward to continuing this cherished tradition in the years to come and encourages everyone to keep supporting local businesses this holiday season.

For more information on future events, follow the Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce on social media or visit our website at www.pauldingchamber.com.

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FORT DEFIANCE PLAYERS RECEIVE \$10,000 GRANT



The Defiance Area Foundation wants to congratulate Fort Defiance Players on receiving a \$10,000 grant during our fall grant cycle! This grant funding will cover the final phase of stage-lighting and equipment costs at the Community Auditorium.

Pictured representing the grant are (L to R) Dr. Bob Barnett - Director of Fort Defiance Players and Dan Michel - DAF Vice President and Grants Committee Chair.

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

In July, State Wildlife Officer Mark T. Williams Jr., assigned to Franklin County, observed four individuals using a cast net along the Scioto River. Officer Williams contacted the individuals, who were in possession of 17 smallmouth bass and a channel catfish. Eleven of the bass were shorter than the required minimum length. The fish and the net were seized as evidence. Each suspect was convicted of using a cast net to catch sportfish. Three suspects paid \$168 in fines and court costs, while the fourth paid \$218 for a leading role. Each suspect also paid \$217.50 in restitution, totaling \$870. Two of the suspects were convicted of prior wildlife violations and had their fishing privileges revoked for one

year.

State Wildlife Officer Nick Oliver, assigned to Champaign County, was recently a guest for a career panel day at Mechanicsburg High School. The event is designed so professionals from various fields can share and discuss their experiences and insights. Officer Oliver spoke about his role as a State Wildlife Officer in Champaign County. He provided an engaging look into his job, discussing the unique experiences and challenges he faces. Students had the opportunity to ask questions and learn more about what it takes to become a wildlife officer. The event aims to inspire students as they consider their future and it was a great opportunity for them to connect with professionals from different backgrounds.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Officer Michele Butler, assigned to Erie County, responded to a

complaint regarding a group of anglers keeping more than the statewide daily limit of one channel catfish longer than 28 inches. Officer Butler found that one angler had taken two channel catfish that were longer than 28 inches. The angler was issued a summons for the violation. One catfish was released back into Sandusky Bay. The angler was found guilty in Sandusky Municipal Court and paid \$165 in fines and court costs.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

In July, State Wildlife Officer Jerrod Allison, assigned to Coshocton County, received a complaint from a turtle trapper who noticed someone had tampered with his traps. The trapper had been asked by the City of Coshocton to remove turtles from a pond they owned. A day later, Officer Allison received a call from the trapper, who reported that the top had been cut out of one of his traps. With help from the Coshocton County Sheriff's Office, Officer Allison identified a suspect. The suspect was charged for tampering with the trap, paid \$100 in restitution to the trap owner, and paid \$156 in fines and court costs.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officer Darin Abbott, assigned to Lawrence County, and Wildlife Officer Supervisor Lee VanAllen recently presented a certificate of appreciation to Tim Saunders of The Deer Process Shop in recognition of his service to the sportsmen and women of Ohio. Saunders has processed thousands of deer over the last 32 years and has also helped the Ohio Division of Wildlife collect samples for disease testing.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officer Micah Collier, assigned to Brown County, patrolled Eagle Creek Wildlife Area to contact white-tailed deer hunters. Officer Collier noticed a vehicle with out-of-state license plates and discovered

that the vehicle's owner and another individual did not have a valid controlled access permit, which is required to hunt Eagle Creek Wildlife Area. Both individuals were issued summonses for hunting the property without a valid access permit, were convicted in Brown County Municipal Court, and paid \$149 in fines and \$101 in court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Matt R. Smith, assigned to Henry County, attended an annual Cops and Bobbers event hosted by the Napoleon Police Department, wildlife officers, natural resources officers, and several other organizations. The event was a big hit, showcasing fishing, archery, BB guns, and outdoor cooking to approximately 100 children.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Officer Randy White, assigned to Lorain County, investigated a hunter who was suspected of harvesting a white-tailed deer with a firearm during the archery season. Officer White found that the individual harvested a buck with a firearm and staged it as a bow harvest to conceal the unlawful take.

The hunter was convicted in Elyria Municipal Court and paid more than \$800 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officers Evan Huegel, assigned to Ashland County, and Cory Burroughs, assigned to Holmes County, assisted at the Ashland County Wildlife Conservation League's Kids Day. The event provides experiences and education on topics including waterfowl calling and hunting, bird retrieval dogs, archery, BB guns, and muzzleloaders, with safety in the outdoors as a top priority. There were approximately 800 people in attendance.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Officer Michele Butler, assigned to Erie County, responded to a

complaint regarding a group of anglers keeping more than the statewide daily limit of one channel catfish longer than 28 inches. Officer Butler found that one angler had taken two channel catfish that were longer than 28 inches. The angler was issued a summons for the violation. One catfish was released back into Sandusky Bay. The angler was found guilty in Sandusky Municipal Court and paid \$165 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Matt R. Smith, assigned to Henry County, attended an annual Cops and Bobbers event hosted by the Napoleon Police Department, wildlife officers, natural resources officers, and several other organizations. The event was a big hit, showcasing fishing, archery, BB guns, and outdoor cooking to approximately 100 children.

PATROL INVESTIGATING SERIOUS INJURY CRASH IN WILLIAMS COUNTY

The Defiance Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is investigating a serious injury crash on November 23, 2024, that occurred at approximately 12:14 A.M. in Northwest Township, Williams County.

Connor Towers, age 20, of Edon, Ohio, was driving a 2014 Chevrolet 3500 northbound on County Road 1.50 at the intersection of US-20. Hunner Mravec, age 27, was driving a 2019 Buick Regal eastbound on US-20. Tu-murchudur Munkhbat, age 46, was driving a 2016 Volvo semi-tractor westbound on US-20. Mr. Towers failed to yield the right of way from County Road 1.50 and was struck by Mr. Mravec and Mr. Munkhbat.

Mr. Mravec and his front seat passenger were transported to Parkview Montpelier Hospital by ambulance with serious injuries. Mr. Towers sustained minor injuries and was not transported. Mr. Munkhbat was not injured.

The Patrol was assisted on scene by Williams County Sheriff's Office, Williams County Emergency Medical Services, Northwest Township Fire and Rescue and John's Towing. The roadway was closed for approximately 3 hours.

Alcohol is suspected to be a factor in the crash. The Ohio State Highway Patrol reminds all motorists to always wear safety belts, and to never drive impaired or distracted.

The crash remains under investigation.

OHIO STATE HIGHWAY PATROL INVESTIGATES FATAL CRASH ON THE OHIO TURNPIKE

The Swanton Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is investigating a two-vehicle double fatal crash that occurred on November 23, 2024 at approximately 0:12 A.M. The crash occurred on the Ohio Turnpike at milepost 26 eastbound in Franklin Township, Fulton County.

Ronald Dempsey, age 46, of Savannah, Georgia, was driving a 2007 Freightliner Columbia semi eastbound on I-80. Jean Moise, age 45, of Mi-

PAULDING COUNTY AREA FOUNDATION COMES TO THE RESCUE



Pictured above is Payne Fire Chief, Jesse Heffner, with F500 Agent.

In May of 2024 Governor DeWine ordered a recall on all Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF) used by fire departments to aid in stopping high-hazard flammable liquid fires. The agent was found to have forever chemicals that increases the risk of cancer. There were thirty-six fire departments in Northwest Ohio impacted by this recall. (EPA, 2024) This includes every fire department in Paulding County. This left the departments scrambling to replace the agent with a safer option.

"The need for this agent is great; however, due to the cost for the product and the shipping it was going to be a fair amount for each department to cover, especially as none of us had budgeted in for new foam going into the fiscal year," stated Mayor Lyons.

Paulding County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) found a new product, F500 Encapsulating Agent to replace the AFFF Agent. This new agent allows water to absorb more heat, making water more efficient at putting out fires and preventing fires from rekindling after extinguish-

ment. The EMA worked with the Paulding County Area Foundation on a grant that would cover the cost of a pallet of the F500 Encapsulating Agent. By ordering the agent in bulk the shipping could then be waived, meaning every department would receive the new foam for free under the grant.

With the assistance of the EMA coordinating with all eight departments in the county, each were recipients of this grant. Without this grant, this product and its benefits may not have been available to the fire departments in the county. Collaboratively all Paulding County Fire Departments have expressed their appreciation of the Paulding County Area Foundation's grant.

Reference:

Environmental Protection Agency, (2024, May 10) 'Statewide Firefighting Foam Takeback Program Provides Collection in Wood County,'

<https://epa.ohio.gov/about/media-center/news/statewide-firefighting-foam-takeback-program-provides-collection-in-wood-county>

ami, Florida was driving a 2021 Freightliner Cascadia semi westbound on I-80 with a passenger, Wilson Jeune, age 59, of Indianapolis, Indiana. Mr. Moise crossed the median and struck Mr. Dempsey head

on. Both semis traveled off the south side of I-80.

Mr. Jeune was pronounced deceased on scene. Mr. Dempsey was transported by Mercy Health Life Flight to The University of Toledo



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\$10,000 GRANT GIVEN TO LILY CREEK FARMS



The Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) would like to congratulate Lily Creek Farms for receiving a \$10,000 grant during our last grant cycle. This grant will be used for capital improvements including security and safety cameras, rewiring, ADA compli-

ant bathrooms and heating/cooling upgrades.

Pictured above representing the grant are (l-r) Jami Young, Lily Creek Farms Executive Director and Chelsie Schroeder, DAF Marketing Director.

Jonathan P. Garcia, Holgate, OH; Driving under suspension/operator license forfeiture, Case dismissed; Seat belt/drive, Pled no contest, found guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Colin P. Kauffman, Fort Wayne, IN; Driving under non FRA suspension; Pled no contest, found guilty; Half of fine may be suspended if defendant provides proof of license issues being cleared by 12/20/24

Andriel T. Cardoso, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Moise S. Armbruster, Defiance, OH; FRA suspension; Case dismissed at defendant's cost; Proof of insurance provided

Tina Peterson, Paulding, OH; Improper backing;

Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Trevor Speice, Paulding, OH; Deer par no tag; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Modou Faye, Indianapolis, IN; Failure to control; Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

James D. Florence, Cecil, OH; Criminal damage; Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs to defendant

Cori M. Johnston, Monroeville, IN; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Oleksandr Buriak, Brooklyn, NY; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Justin A. Roller, Paulding, OH; No operator license/expired; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant Courtney J. Kupfersmith, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Quinton R. Stabler, Paulding, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Keyona R. Dashkovitz, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Guilty; 30 days jail, 29 suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Placed on standard probation; Evaluation at Westwood and complete counseling; 20hrs community service; Risk assessment; Repay Ct. appt atty fees

Antonio Gonzalez Velazquez, Fort Wayne, IN; No operator license; Guilty; If the defendant is found to be driving in Paulding County; The vehicle will be held until further order of the court

Miryam Soto Araujo, Paulding, OH; No operator's license; Guilty; If the defendant is found to be driving in Paulding County the vehicle shall be held until further notice of the court

Lucas G. Hall, Paulding, OH; Criminal damage; Guilty; 60 days jail, 60 days suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Pay restitution of \$922 through the clerks office; Placed on standard probation; Complete 20 of community service; Maintain employment

Joshua L. Stewart, Antwerp, OH; Violation/brake req; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Jose A. Aguirr, Celina, OH; No operator license; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Diego J. Garcia, Indianapolis, IN; No operator license; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

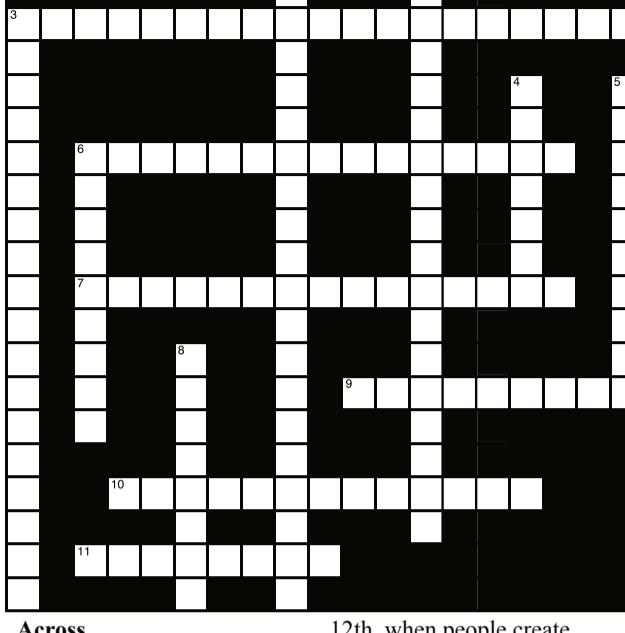
Israel S. Rodriguez, Tampa, FL; Marked lanes, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs; No operators license, Guilty, Defendant to pay all fines and costs

Joshua R. Williams, Payne, OH; Driving/texting, Case dismissed at defendant's cost; Proof of insurance provided

Miryam Soto Araujo, Paulding, OH; No operator's license; Guilty; If the defendant is found to be driving in Paulding County; The vehicle will be held until further order of the court

Antonio Gonzalez Velazquez, Fort Wayne, IN; No operator license; Guilty; If the defendant is found to be driving in Paulding County the vehicle shall be held until further notice of the court

WEST BEND NEWS CROSSWORD PUZZLE HOLIDAYS IN DECEMBER



Across

- Recognized in December for lovers of cold treats, despite the winter chill.
- A day celebrated on December 15th to honor the adoption of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
- A fun celebration on December 8th to enjoy brownies.
- A holiday that celebrates African-American culture, starting on December 26th.
- A Hispanic tradition celebrated in the U.S. from December 16th to 24th, reenacting Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.
- Observed on December 26th, primarily by people of British heritage in the U.S.
- The Jewish holiday often celebrated in December, lasting for eight days.

Down

- Celebrated on December 12th, when people create gingerbread houses.
- Observed on December 17th to honor the first successful flight by the Wright brothers.
- A day celebrated on December 15th to honor the adoption of the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution.
- A holiday on December 2nd to celebrate mixed-breed dogs.
- Celebrated on December 25th to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ.
- Celebrated on December 12th, honoring the holiday plant named after Joel Poinsett.
- Celebrated on December 26th, primarily by people of British heritage in the U.S.
- A parody holiday from the show Seinfeld, celebrated on December 23rd.

solution on page 11

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Oakwood Medical Center • 109 N. First Street • Oakwood, OH 45873
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LEGAL NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CHILLER AND BOILER INSTALLATION FOR THE PAULDING COUNTY JAIL

Notice is hereby given that Request for Proposals will be received at the office of the Board of County Commissioners of Paulding County, Ohio, 451 McDonald Pike Suite E Paulding, OH 45879, Until Monday, December 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m., at which time and place, RFP's will be opened and read for Chiller and Boiler Installation and Manufacturer's Recommended Maintenance for The Paulding County Jail.

The Paulding County Board of Commissioners is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide and install a new Chiller and Boiler System at the Paulding County Jail located at 500 E Perry St. Paulding, OH 45879:

SCOPE OVERVIEW:

- Install a Heat recovery unit that will capture the exhausted air and reuse it as applicable for the outside air intake on the air handlers;
- Install new chilled water air handlers in place of existing package rooftop units. These units should have hot water coils as well;
- Install air cooled water chiller on the ground with tertiary tan;
- Install a high-efficiency boiler for heating the hot water loop;
- Upgrade controls for the entire facility. Facilitate energy application/analysis software which will use AI to keep the system in optimum tune and provide building analytics for current and projected energy usage and analysis.

The bidder awarded the contract must provide a performance bond executed by a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Ohio, in an amount equal to the bid. Said performance bond will be required upon signing the contract for this project.

Bids may be hand delivered or mailed in a sealed envelope to: Paulding County Commissioners, 451 McDonald Pike Suite E Paulding, OH 45879, and bearing the Bidder's name and address and marked "RFP for Chiller and Boiler Installation for the Paulding County Jail". The Board of County Commissioners office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Should you have any questions, please contact the Paulding County Commissioners office at 419-399-8215.

The Board of County Commissioners of Paulding County, Ohio, reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids received.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY

COMMISSIONERS PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

Heather Barnhouse, Clerk

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

OF APPLICATION TO PROBATE WILL

PROBATE COURT OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

HARVEY D. HYMAN, JUDGE

ESTATE OF DONALD ROY KANABLE, DECEASED

Case No. 20241092

TO: Michael Kanable, Next-of-Kin of Donald Roy Kanable, Deceased, whose address is unknown

You are notified as a next of kin of Donald Roy Kanable, deceased, that an Application to Probate Will has been filed with the Paulding County Probate Court on October 8, 2024, being Case No. 20241092.

A hearing on said Application will

be held on Monday, February 3, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. at the Paulding County Probate Court, 115 N. Williams Street, Suite 202, Paulding, OH 45879.

Upon the admission of decedent's Last Will and Testament, any action to contest the validity of said Will must be filed within three months after the fiduciary has filed a certificate with the Court that notice has been given to all next of kin and beneficiaries of decedent's Will.

John D. Kanable, Executor
c/o Glenn H. Troth, Esq.
(#0008420)
125 N. Water St., P.O. Box 84
Paulding, OH 45879

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

LOU ANN WANNEMACHER, Plaintiff

vs.

RODNEY C. DIX, ET AL., DEFENDANTS,

Case No. CI-24-175

Judge Tiffany R. Beckman

TO: Rodney C. Dix; Unknown Spouse of Rodney C. Dix; Unknown heirs, administrators, executors and assigns of Rodney C. Dix; Michael T. Nicely, Cherie S. Nicely, Deep Green Bank

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: of Rodney Dix at 741 Tom Tim Drive, Paulding, Ohio; of Michael & Cherie Nicely at 15939 SR 66, Defiance, Ohio 43512; and of Deep Green Bank of PO Box 31548 Seven Hills, Ohio 44131

Please take notice that a complaint has been filed in the above-captioned action against you seeking a foreclosure of tax liens and a public sale of real property owned by Rodney C. Dix to pay delinquent real estate taxes owed on said real estate recorded in Volume 168 Page 212; Volume 282, Page 539 of the Paulding County Records.

The real property in question is situated as follows:

FILED
PAULDING COUNTY
ANN E. PEASE
CLERK OF COURTS

2024 NOV 21 PM 2:18

Auditor's Parcel #23-46S-033-00

Property address: 741 Tom Tim

Drive, Paulding, Ohio 45879

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

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

By *Rodney C. Dix*
Deputy

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph R. Burkard
Joseph R. Burkard, (#0059106)

Paulding County, Ohio
Prosecuting Attorney

120 S. Walnut Street

Paulding, Ohio 45879

419-399-8215

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Barnhouse
Heather Barnhouse, Clerk

ON-LINE SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, Plaintiff, vs.

LAUREN FAVORITE, ET AL., Defendants,

Case No. CI 24 089

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

418 E Baldwin Ave, Paulding

Parcel Number: 30-01S-034-00

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

Said premises appraised at Seventy-Five Thousand (\$75,000.00) and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of that amount on the first sale date.

The first sale date will be on the December 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

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

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

In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on December 19, 2024 at 10:00a.m. On this date, there will be no minimum bid. However, the purchaser will be responsible for any costs, allowances, and taxes which the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

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

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

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

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

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

Sheriff Jason K. Landers

Paulding County, Ohio

www.pauldingohiosheriff.com

James L. Sassano & Maureen Zink Delaney, Attorney for Plaintiff

DEFIANCE AREA YMCA RECEIVES \$1,250 DONATION



The Keith Hubbard Family Fund, under the DAF umbrella, has generously donated \$1,250 to the Defiance Area YMCA. This gift will be used for the Keith Hubbard Business Luncheon which is part of the Festival of Trees.

Pictured above with the check donation are (l-r) Katie Groff - VP of YMCA board and Tom Hubbard.

WINTER CLOSURES FOR OHIO'S STATE FOREST BRIDLE TRAILS & APV AREAS



December 9, 2024.

State forest APV trails (L) and bridle trails (R) close for a time during the winter for maintenance.

State forest APV areas remain open during regular deer gun season to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to have greater access to the state forests with APV trails. Bridle trail use can be requested during the closed season by completing a Spe-

cial Use Permit (SUP) application and submitting it to the local forest manager at least 14 days prior to the event.

"Bridle trails and APV areas experience heavy traffic each year due to their popularity," said ODNR Division of Forestry Assistant Chief Dave Lane. "To avoid long-term negative impacts to these areas, the Division of Forestry implements seasonal closures."

During this winter closure period, forest staff and organizations with approved volunteer agreements will be able to maintain trails. Signage will be installed at parking areas and trailheads, and the trails will be designated as closed.

Bridle trails will reopen for riding on Monday, March 31, 2025, and APV areas will reopen on Friday, April 4, 2025.

Maumee State Forest's bridle trails and APV areas are unaffected by seasonal closures and will remain open year-round. The seasonal closures have been proposed in annual state forest work plans and have received public input.

The Ohio Division of Forestry promotes the wise use and sustainable management of Ohio's public and private woodlands. To learn more about Ohio's woodlands, visit forestry.ohiodnr.gov (<https://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/>). Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/odnr-forestry>) and on Instagram ([@odnrforestry](https://instagram.com/odnr-forestry)).

In 2024, join ODNR as we celebrate 75 years of protecting Ohio's natural resources and providing outstanding and award-winning recreational opportunities.

DEFIANCE COUNTY PERI DECEMBER MEETING

The Defiance County PERI District 1, Chapter 30 meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Delaware Township Fire Hall. Fire Hall is located at Route 18 east of Sherwood.

Speaker for this meeting will be a Consumer Protection Agency Representative from Columbus, OH. All retired teachers are welcome to attend.

VAN WERT POST INVESTIGATING INJURY CRASH ON COUNTY ROAD 209 IN PAULDING COUNTY

The Van Wert Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is investigating a two-vehicle injury crash involving a pedestrian and a school bus. The

crash occurred November 25 at 7:33 a.m. on County Road 209 near Township Road 184 in Auglaize Township in Paulding County.

The preliminary investigation revealed a Paulding Exempted Village Schools bus, operated by David E. Parrish, 65, Oakwood, was stopped in the southbound lane with its red lights flashing while picking up students. A Jeep Patriot traveling northbound, operated by Jennifer R. Burgei, 26, Cloverdale, failed to yield to the stopped school bus and struck a student crossing the roadway. The Patriot then struck the school bus, before driving off the left side of the roadway.

Burgei, a juvenile student who was crossing the roadway and two students on the school bus all sustained non-life-threatening injuries and were transported by ground ambulance to ProMedica Defiance Regional Hospital.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol was assisted on scene by the Paulding County Sheriff's Office, Auglaize Township Fire Department, Ayersville Fire Department, Defiance Fire and Rescue Division, Oakwood Volunteer Fire Department, Paulding Exempted Village Schools and R & O Services.

The crash remains under investigation.

ODOT ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

ODOT construction update for the week of November 25, 2024 for Defiance, Paulding, Putnam and Van Wert Counties

Due to the Thanksgiving Day holiday, no work is planned for ODOT crews on Thursday, Nov. 28, 2024.

DEFIANCE COUNTY:

U.S. 24 pavement repair: U.S. 24 between the Paulding County line and just east of the Baltimore Street interchange will be restricted to one lane the week of November 25 for pavement repair and berthing operations.

State Route 2/State Route 18/State Route 49 railroad crossing repair, Hicksville: State Route 2 (High Street) between Defiance Avenue and Maple Street in the village of Hicksville is closed for railroad repairs.

UPDATE

The closure that began on October 28 has been extended from 36 to 39 days, with a new completion date of December 6.

TRAFFIC IMPACT

Detour: SR 49 to U.S. 24 to U.S. 127 to SR 18, back to SR 2.

State Route 18 and State Route 281 traffic signal: The Dommerville Road and E. Second Street intersection in the city of Defiance, will have traffic impacts for traffic signal work. Traffic will be maintained; flaggers may be necessary.

Paused for Winter

U.S. 24 pavement rehabilitation: The U.S. 24 pavement rehabilitation project began in May 2024 and is expected to continue through September 2025. The project will not have traffic impacts November 1 – April 1 for winter.

The project will crack and seal the concrete pavement and resurface with asphalt on U.S. 24 in both directions between U.S. 127 and Baltimore Street. The project includes a slope erosion repair along the U.S. 127 eastbound entrance ramp that was completed in

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MOUNT VERNON NAZARENE UNIVERSITY RECEIVES EPA GRANT FOR WATER BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS



MVNU Director of Facilities, Ben Cook, stands in front of a newly installed water bottle fill station in Hyson Campus Center made possible by the 2024 Ohio EPA Recycling and Litter Prevention grant. (Photo courtesy of Mount Vernon Nazarene University)

Mount Vernon Nazarene University is excited to announce that it's a proud 2024 recipient of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Recycling and Litter Prevention Grant. This grant is part of Ohio EPA's waste management initiative in keeping America beautiful.

MVNU echoes the goal of the initiative with an ongoing commitment to eliminate unnecessary waste on campus. The addition of water bottle fill stations will encourage sustainability practices and promote the use of reusable water bottles for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

"We are thrilled to receive this grant from the EPA," said Ben Cook, Director of Facilities Operations and Campus Safety at MVNU. "Installing these water bottle fill stations is a significant step towards

fostering a more sustainable campus environment. We hope to inspire our community to make eco-conscious choices that benefit both our health and the planet."

The award has allowed the university to strategically place nine of the water bottle fill stations in high-traffic areas, provide unlimited cold drinking water and reduce the use of single-use plastic bottles.

"We are grateful to the Ohio EPA for its support and excellence in providing sustainable program opportunities for non-profits like MVNU," said Stephanie Gribble, MVNU Grants Development Specialist. "Together we can make a difference by reducing waste for a cleaner Ohio."

For more about MVNU, visit mvnu.edu.

Van Wert County line and Road 162 just north of the village of Paulding will have lane restrictions through early November for utility re-

the 2024 construction season.

PAULDING COUNTY:

U.S. 127 utility relocation: U.S. 127 between the



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COMBINE HEADS: Case IH 2162 35' draper head, Unverferth HT-25 header cart, J&M HT-8 header cart, Case IH 2208 8-row corn head, **PLANTING EQUIP:** Case IH 1250 16-row planter, Case IH 5400 20' drill w/ markers & no-till coulter cart, **TRUCKS/TRLERS/WAGONS:** 1992 International 4900 grain truck, 2009 International Prostar day cab, 1990 Ford L8000 dump truck, 45' drop deck trailer w/ nurse tank, flat rack wagons, Killbros 350 gravity wagon. **TILLAGE:** Krause 32' X-fold packer, Glencoe 13 shank soil saver, Eversman 3212 land leveler, John Deere rotary hoe, Int. 10-ft disk, Case IH 330 true tandem 31' Turbo Till, Unverferth 130 5-shank zone builder, **OTHER:** Woods 180 batwing mower, Rhino 2160 boom mower, Int. 10' rear blade, DMI 3100 7-shank anhydrous bar, Tarter 3-pt fertilizer spreader, 40' grain elevator w/electric motor, Brent 472 grain cart, Mayrath 10-61 roll away grain auger, New Idea tandem axle manure spreader, poly fert. tanks & MORE!

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Owner: Ronald N. Keil Estate
Auctioneer: Darren Bok

"OH DEER!" – COLLABORATIVE DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM TO TACKLE GROWING WILDLIFE CHALLENGE

As deer populations continue to grow across Central Ohio, communities are facing increasing challenges in managing their impact on local environments and human safety. To address these issues, the Environmental Professionals Network (EPN) will host a breakfast on Dec. 2 to explore how local communities are collaborating to manage deer populations and reduce wildlife conflicts.

The event will feature representatives from Worthington and Gahanna, Ohio, along with wildlife officers, who will share research and strategies for managing deer across jurisdictional boundaries. Attendees will learn about successful management approaches, best practices, and key lessons from communities working together to address this ongoing challenge.

This talk highlights the importance of coordination across communities to address shared environmental challenges, said Harrison Fried, director of the EPN

"This is our last program of 2024, and like all EPN events, we strive to create opportunities for environmental professionals across and between communities, cities, and counties to learn from each other and collaborate," he said. "By showcasing deer management strategies from several Columbus suburbs and underscoring the need for cross-boundary coordination between cities, we hope to inspire attendees to think about ways they can apply these strategies in their own areas to reduce human-wildlife conflicts and manage deer populations more effectively."

The event is open to city managers, wildlife officers, public safety officials, and anyone interested in effective deer management strategies. The program will explore how collaboration can enhance deer management efforts and benefit communities throughout Ohio.

To register and learn more, visit go.osu.edu/epnDec24.

location work.

Paused for Winter

U.S. 24 pavement rehabilitation: The U.S. 24 pavement rehabilitation project began in May 2024 and is expected to continue through September 2025. The project will not have traffic impacts November 1 – April 1 for winter.

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tween U.S. 127 and Baltimore Street. The project includes a slope erosion repair along the U.S. 127 eastbound entrance ramp that was completed in the 2024 construction season.

PUTNAM COUNTY:

Sycamore Street, Columbus Grove, intersection improvement: Sycamore St. at State Route 65, on the east side of the intersection, closed September 12 for approximately 60 days to add a

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non Street (State Route 118) to Rose Drive in the city of Van Wert, began in February. The project includes the replacement of curb and gutter, upgrades to the storm sewer, and the installation of a multi-use path on the north side of the roadway

Project Update: The project timeline has been extended into 2025 due to material shortages, resulting in delays. Construction will continue until the weather no longer permits, and resume in the spring.

Seasonal Wrap-up

As we enter the winter season, this will be our final weekly construction report for the year. Updates on area projects will be provided on an as-needed basis during the winter hiatus and resume our regular weekly schedule in April.

ANTWERP BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

The Antwerp Board of Education met Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. in the BOE Room

The meeting began with the introduction of guest.

Treasurer Kristine Stuart presented her monthly financial and fiscal year report including the Five-Year Forecast. The forecast indicated that the district will remain in a positive cash balance throughout the next five years. Mrs. Stuart also shared a thank you to our district residents for their support of our recent (5) year .75% Income Tax Renewal ballot issue. Passage of the ballot issue was necessary in order to maintain the district's current services and programs for our students.

MS/HS Principal Jessie Arnold reported that we are half way through the 2nd grading period. Ms. Arnold also shared that our winter sport teams are ready to go with their season schedules and band and choir concerts will take place in mid-December. Looking ahead, students are preparing for our spring musical; Sponge Bob. Ms. Arnold also noted that nearly \$10,000 in sales took place with our recent Book Fair.

Elementary Principal Doug Billman shared with the Board that the elementary student council recently complete a book drive for Kate's Kart and is heading up a food drive for the Paulding County Caring and Sharing Food Pantry. Mr. Billman also shared that our 1st grade students will be Caroling at the Antwerp Manor December 9th and our 2nd and 3rd grade winter music concert will take place December 12th. Mr. Billman thanked school staff for their efforts with our recent Veteran's Day Assembly honoring our veterans and those currently serving in the military. Mr. Billman also thanked the elementary PTO for their organization of Bingo Night and bowling party.

Jennifer Snyder; Director of Pre-School and Special Education, presented to the Board the Ohio Special Education Rating for Antwerp Local Schools that indicated the district met all the requirements set forth by the state of Ohio. The Board and fellow administrators were very appreciative.

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Crossword solution from page 9

ciative of the work completed by Mrs. Snyder and her staff to meet the rigorous standards.

Dr. Miller reported that 180 arborvitae trees have been planted around the baseball/softball complex and wellness center. The trees and labor to install them were paid for by a \$15,000 grant from the Paulding County Water and Conservation District Tree Program. Dr. Miller also noted recent donations and grants received by the district including a \$1000 donation from the Paulding Putnam Operation Round Up to be used to purchase furnishings for our Special Education classrooms, a \$5000 donation from the Paulding Eagles organization to purchase an XTool laser cutter and engraver, a \$3150 grant from the Education Purchasing Council for equipment associated with the district wellness program, and a book donation to our library from the Paulding County Retired Teachers Association in memory of Laura Glancy, a former teacher in the district who passed away recently.

Dr. Miller also shared with the Board the need to change the current school calendar for an In-Service Day Friday, February 28th in order that the staff can participate in professional development focused on curriculum matters.

Dr. Miller also shared with the Board that he has been invited to the Tech & Learning Innovation Summit in Jersey City, New Jersey December 5-6 celebrating the nation's top innovators. (I received the Tech & Learning Innovative Leader Award in 2022). Dr. Miller will facilitate a discussion at the event on "Rethinking Learning Spaces" and share how the Innovation and Aquaponics Center is being utilized by our students and staff.

The Tech & Learning's Innovation Summit is a celebration of the school district leaders and companies who are driving innovation and success in today's schools.

The event kicks off with an awards celebration December 5th, at the beautiful Liberty Science Center outside of New York City, where all of the winners of Tech & Learning's Innovative Leader Awards and the T&L Awards of Excellence program will join together for an awards reception and dinner.

The next day December 6th, attendees will have the chance to take a deep dive into the work of these winners through small-group discussions and "playgrounds" where we'll showcase the winning T&L Awards of Excellence.

Highlights and takeaways from this event will be captured in an "Innovation in Action Playbook" that will be published in a special issue of Tech & Learning that is distributed to our audience of 90,000 district leaders.

Consent Items: See attached Board Agenda. All items were approved.

The December Board of Education meeting will take place Thursday, December 19th at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Education Room.

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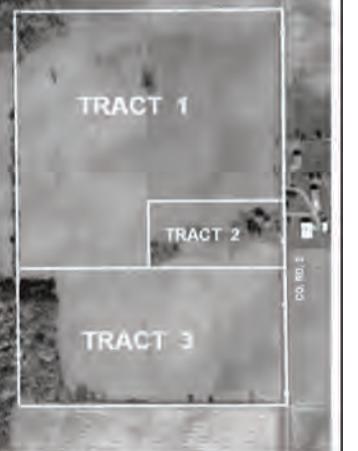
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The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:

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

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

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

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

Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments

Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

PC TRAILS PROJECT RECEIVES DONATION FROM PAULDING EAGLES



Pictured above are (front row): Erica Noggle, Executive Director, Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce, Anna Gurney, Paulding County Park District Board member, Fraternal Order of Eagles members, Harold Gottke (Front); Back row: JJ Flint, Colby Orthman, Ron Garrity, Jeff Clark John Guiterez, Chris Moyer, and Joe Sukup.

The Paulding Fraternal Order of Eagles members donated \$5,000 to the Paulding County Trails Project on Monday, November 25th, 2024.

The donation will be used to help bring recreational trails to Paulding County.

The Paulding County Trail Project, when complete, will provide users safe access to destination points, outdoor experiences, and space for recreation. The trail will be a paved, multi-use pathway that

will provide a safe place for walking, jogging, cycling, strolling, and wheelchair use.

The Paulding County Trails Committee has a vision for connection and building a better quality of life for people in the area, and is working to make this trail system a reality and is thankful to have the support of the Fraternal Order of Eagles to help make this project a reality. The Fraternal Order of Eagles is a celebrated organization dedicated to

serving the community through leadership, charity, and civic pride. To learn more about the F.O.E. please visit: <https://www.foe.com/>.

To learn more about the Paulding County Trail Project please visit: <https://pauldingohparks.com/paulding-county-trails/>

The first phase of the Trail will connect the Black Swamp Nature Center to Lelia McGuire-Jeffery Park. Construction is slated to begin in 2027.

TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONS FLAG AHEAD OF BICENTENNIAL



Trustees with township flag From left to right: Joe Sukup, Trustee; Mike Meyer, Trustee; Carol Razo, Fiscal Officer; Kevin Stuart, Trustee; Anna Wells, Designer of Flag.

Crane Township will celebrate its bicentennial next year in August 2025. As part of the bicentennial celebration, the Trustees commissioned a flag to honor the township's rich history. Designed by Anna Wells, niece of Trustee Kevin Stuart, and officially approved by the Trustees in August 2024, the flag's elements are filled with symbolism that reflects the township's past and present.

The top section of the flag is blue, symbolizing the

Maumee River that flows through the township. This river was once a crucial waterway for early settlers and played a significant role in the township's founding and development.

A gold band runs horizontally across the center, representing the transition from the township's early days to its modern era. This band pays tribute to key historical events such as the construction of the canal system, the 1887 Reservoir War, and the expansion of

the railroads, all of which were pivotal to the township's growth and progress.

The bottom section is green, highlighting Crane Township's strong agricultural heritage and its deep roots in the fertile lands of the Great Black Swamp. At the center of the flag, a silhouette of a wheat stalk stands proudly, symbolizing agriculture as the primary industry of Crane Township and a cornerstone of its community.

PC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB COMPETE IN OHIO PARKS ON THE AIR

In September of this year, the Paulding County Ohio Amateur Radio Club com-

peted in a statewide contest known as "Ohio Parks on the Air". The club, along with the Defiance club, set up and operated from the Independence Dam State Park. Fifty amateur radio clubs from all over the

state set up their equipment in 62 of the 75 different Ohio parks, with over 232 radio operators participating.

The goal was to make as many contacts from anywhere in the world with the state parks being used as a multiplier. These numbers were recorded in logs which were then scored.

After the results were tallied, the Paulding club placed 4th in the state in their category, and the Defiance club placed 2nd in the state in their category.

For more information about Amateur radio in Paulding County, contact Fred Pieper at 419-670-2980.

FIVE SAFETY TIPS TO KICK OFF YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON

The holidays are here, and while it's a time of joy and celebration, we can't ignore the unique safety risks this time of year can also bring.

"We're all busy, but it's worth taking a few moments to prepare, so you can fully enjoy the season," said FEMA Region 5 Regional Administrator Tom Sivak. "Reducing the risk of emergencies through smart traveling, cooking and heating practices can be simple, yet effective for keeping your celebrations safe during the weeks ahead."

- Be a prepared traveler. Know the risk of inclement weather for your trip before you leave home. Listen to the radio or television for the latest weather forecasts and road conditions. If bad weather is forecast, drive only if necessary and always keep your gas tank at least half full. Talk with family about who to call and where to meet in an emergency. Visit www.ready.gov/plan for tips to get started.

- Pack an emergency supply kit. If you're driving, keep an emergency supply kit in your vehicle with necessities you may need in case you're stranded somewhere. If you're packing for a flight or train ride, consider a small kit in case of emergency: flashlight, batteries, & a spare USB power bank.

- Protect against home fire risks. Put working smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms on every level of your home and in-

- Practice smart cooking. Did you know Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires? Stay in the kitchen when you are frying, grilling, broiling, or boiling food and turn pot handles toward the back of the stove so they won't get bumped. Clean cooking equipment after each use—crumbs in a toaster or grease on the stove can catch on fire.

- Heat your home safely.

Listen to our next Paulding County Business Weekly episode as we meet our new Paulding County Recorder Elect, Sarah Shuherk. Sarah shares what takes place in the Recorder office and how it is an important piece of the county's history and future. We can't thank OhioMeansJobs enough for sponsoring this program and the team at

My102.7FM for making it happen. You can tune in on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or listen online at www.my1027.org/paulding-county-business-weekly/. Paulding County Business Weekly is also available in podcast form through Apple, Google & Spotify. #pauldingcountystrong

Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from fireplaces, wood stoves, portable heaters and radiators. Always plug space heaters directly into an outlet, and make sure its cord isn't damaged or frayed. When you leave a room or go to bed, turn heaters off or unplug them.

Learn more about fire safety by visiting the U.S. Fire Administration's website Prevent Home Fires. You can find even more tips to be #WInterReady this season by visiting our website #WinterReady | Ready.gov.

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