

PAULDING AREA CHAMBER ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST



Pictured above is the Grounded's window's artist, Natalie Stoller.

By: Erica Noggle

Paulding, OH: The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce the winners of this year's highly anticipated Holiday Window Decorating Contest, which brought joy, creativity, and festive cheer to the community.

Limitless by PC Workshop

captured the hearts of the community, earning the coveted People's Choice Award with its imaginative and dazzling display. Meanwhile, Grounded Coffee & Crumbs impressed the judges with its artistic flair and holiday spirit, claiming the prestigious Judge's Choice Award.

The Chamber congratu-

lates both winners on their outstanding achievements and extends its heartfelt gratitude to all participating businesses for helping to create a magical holiday atmosphere in Paulding County. Events like this showcase the creativity, collaboration, and community pride that make our area so

(Continued on Page 7)

PEVS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR 2025 ACADEMIC HALL OF FAME

The Paulding Exempted Village Schools Academic Hall of Fame was created to recognize graduates of any

high school currently within the boundaries of the Paulding Exempted Village School District who have achieved a significant degree of success in their professional careers. The first class was inducted in May 2010 and thirty-six individuals are currently in the Academic Hall of Fame. These individuals provide outstanding role models for the students in the PEVS District.

Current members of the Academic Hall of Fame have many traits in common. Each person has achieved success at high levels of education, including advanced degrees such as MD, PhD, DO, DDS, JD, DVM, MA, or MS. In ad-

dition, these individuals have great career and/or societal accomplishments. Many have pursued a military career, while others have become outstanding teachers in their field. Others have served the public through careers such as medicine, law and dentistry, or education. No matter the educational or career path, each inductee has one thing in common... they have provided outstanding role models for the students in the PEVS District.

Do you know someone who graduated from one of the high schools within the current Paulding Exempted Village School District prior to 2010, who would be an excellent candidate to join this elite group? Nomination forms are currently available on the PEVS website at www.pauldingschools.org under the 'Academic' tab or can be picked up in the Administration office. Complete qualifications are listed on the website, along with the bios of previous inductees. The deadline to apply for the Class of 2024 is March 3, 2025.

DEFIANCE LIBRARY UPCOMING HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Please note Defiance Public Library System's (DPLS) upcoming holiday closures: Defiance Public Library System will be closed December 24-26, 2024.

All DPLS libraries will close at noon on December 31, 2024.

All DPLS libraries will be closed January 1, 2025.

This includes Defiance Public, Sherwood Branch, and Hicksville's Johnson Memorial libraries.

PAULDING VFW DONATION TO FRANKLIN B WALTER SCHOLARSHIP



Pictured: Paulding VFW Quartermaster Dan Wilder is presenting the check to the WBESC Superintendent, Thomas Taylor.

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

Locally, each high school in Paulding and Van Wert counties nominates a student to represent their district. From the district nomina-

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

The Western Buckeye ESC (WBESC) will host a recognition program for this scholarship in March. The WBESC would like to thank the John Paulding VFW Post #587 who recently donated \$500 toward this year's scholarship program.

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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

Local Advertisers appreciating local news

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United Edge Young	10
WCCB	12
Oberlin-Turnbull FH Headley	2

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 16

- DPLS Board Finance Committee meeting, 3:30pm

December 17

- PC Library Board meeting @ Paulding Library, 5:30pm
- Ohio's 56th Electoral College @ OH Senate Chamber, 12p

December 18

- DC PERI meeting @ Delaware Twp Fire Dept., 1pm
- WBESC board meeting @ Paulding Conf Rm, 4:30pm

December 19

- Antwerp Comm Band Holiday Concert @ the Huber, 7:30pm

December 20

- Trans Siberian Orchestra Tribute @ Gathering Place, Defiance, 7pm

December 24

- Christmas Trolley, Waynedale, FW, 1-4pm

January 14-16

- FW Farm Show @ Allen Co Coliseum, 9a-5p,9a-8p,9a-4p



Add your event to the calendar
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The West Bend Printing office will be closed December 24th & 25th so our employees may enjoy some much needed family time for the Christmas Holiday.

We will resume regular business hours on December 26th.

PLEASE NOTE: There will be NO newspaper published the week of December 30, 2024.

Deadline for ads and news for the January 6th, 2025 edition is THURSDAY, JANUARY 2nd!

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OBITUARIES

Kelly Jean Vail, 47, formerly of Antwerp, Ohio passed away November 16, 2024 at her home in Danville, California surrounded by her husband, John and her family.

Kelly was born on August 2, 1977 to Pat and Dixie (Cromley) Vail. She graduated from Antwerp High School in 1995 and from the University of Dayton in 2000.

Kelly worked at several organizations in Ohio before moving to California in 2006 to pursue her dreams.

Kelly will be buried November 25, 2024 at the Bethel Cemetery in Bremen, Ohio.



HICKSVILLE, OH:
Gregory "Chuckie" Headley, 71 years of Hicksville, passed away Thursday, December 12, 2024, at The Laurels of DeKalb, Butler, Indiana. Greg was born May 2, 1953, in Hicksville, Ohio, the son of the late Leo and Gwen (Limpert) Headley. He was a 1972 graduate of Hicksville High School, attending Four County Joint Vocational School. He then attended Northwest State Community College where he received his associate's degree. He was a very talented machinist, running the machine shop of H & W Automotive for nearly 50 years, retiring in 2022. He married Christine Hilbert on June 3, 1998, at Bally's Wedding Chapel in Las Vegas, Nevada, and she survives. Greg was a member of the Hicksville Masonic Lodge, Hicksville Rotary Club, Hicksville Eagles Aerie, and the Hicksville Sons of the American Legion. Greg was a member of the Wall of Fame at Northwest State Community College. Greg enjoyed drag racing, driving a dragster for several years. He also enjoyed golfing at every opportunity, walking on the beach in Florida, collecting seashells, spending time working in his yard and creating memories by spending time with friends and family.

Surviving is his wife Christine of Hicksville; son, Brandon (Alisha) Headley of Cecil, Ohio, and stepson, Shaun (Nancy) Andrews of Claremont, Florida; grandson, Harrison; two step-granddaughters, Mallory, and Anna; three brothers, Michael (Roxanne) Headley of Hicksville, Mitchel (Marie) Headley of Hicksville and Randy (Beth) Headley of Hicksville along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Visitation for Greg Headley will be held Friday, December 20, 2024, from 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Oberlin-Turnbull Funeral Home, 706 North Main Street, Hicksville. Funeral services for

Greg will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, December 21, 2024, in the funeral home. Interment will be private.

Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to direct memorial contributions to the Alzheimer's Association or Fort Defiance Humane Society.

Condolences may be sent to the family or memories may be shared at www.oberlinturnbull.com.

HICKSVILLE'S ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNOUNCES ADVENT & HOLIDAY EVENTS

St John Lutheran Church, 812 East High Street, Hicksville is offering an Advent series entitled THE WORD MADE FLESH. Week 1: Bread of Life, Week 2: Salt of the Earth, Week 3: Rock of Ages and Week 4: Light of the World. They will be having mid-week services on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. held in our Fireplace Room down stairs. Our Sunday service are at 10:15 a.m. Our traditional candlelight service will be on Christmas Eve at 6:30 p.m. Our sister church, Holy Trinity, Harlan will have a 9:00 p.m. service.

The church will host the Siberian Solstice on December 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the Huber Opera House. On December 29 the Church will again do another tradition when they will do the service of Lessons and Carols at our regular 10:15 a.m. time.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT COMES TO THE RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

On December 5th, the Red Cross bloodmobile came to Hicksville once again. Volunteers showed up to donate, giving 43 units of the gift of life. And, in the spirit of the season, the Red Cross gave back - gifting everyone who turned out with "Friends" socks - a pair to wear and a pair to share! Drive coordinator and Red Cross Ambassador Zelda Zimmermann was pleased with the turnout and expressed her gratitude for everyone who participated. In addition to the donors, the drive was supported by the First Church of Christ, site for the event, and members of the Rotary Club for assistance with setup and tear-down. Rotary also footed the bill for sandwich ingredients. Alice Breidenbaugh, Marilyn Guilford, and Sara Green prepared food for the canteen, with cookies provided by First Church of Christ.

Registration was done by Connie Adams and Colleen Richter. As always, whatever the season, blood is urgently needed! In this season of giving, remember that blood can only come from one

JOHN PAULDING VFW POST 587 SUPPORTS PAULDING COUNTY TRAILS PROJECT WITH GENEROUS DONATION



Pictured (l-r): John Daeger, Erica Noggle, and Dan Wilder.

By: Erica Noggle

Paulding, OH - The Paulding County Trails Project is thrilled to announce a generous donation of \$500 from the John Paulding VFW Post 587. This marks the first in a series of contributions from the VFW, demonstrating their commitment to supporting community development and recreational opportunities in Paulding County.

"We are deeply grateful to the John Paulding VFW for their generosity and support of the trails project," said Erica Noggle, representative of

the Paulding County Trails Project. "Their contribution helps us move closer to making this vision a reality for our community."

Donations to the Paulding County Trails Project can be made through the Friends of the Paulding Park District, Inc. at <https://pauldingohparks.com/donate/>.

For more information about the Paulding County Trails Project, please contact Erica Noggle at the Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce or Anna Gurney at the Paulding Soil & Water Conservation District.

place - and that is YOU!!!

Plan to give the gift of life to someone who desperately needs it! Be sure to make an appointment for the next blood drive, which will be held on February 20th in Hicksville, from 1 - 6 pm. Sign up online at redcross-blood.org.

SEE SANTA IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD THIS CHRISTMAS EVE!

In what has become a popular annual event for the last 5 years, Waynedale's streets will again come alive with laughter, jingling bells, and holiday cheer this Christmas Eve as Santa Claus makes his grand return on a uniquely festive Christmas Trolley. From 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM on December 24th, Santa, joined by Mrs. Claus and his trusty elves, will tour the neighborhoods in a heartwarming tradition that celebrates the magic of the season.

Each year, hundreds of families gather in their neighborhoods to catch a glimpse of Santa and his jolly crew and to enjoy a brief interaction with them.

This year's event isn't just a drive-by; it's a moving tapestry of Christmas spirit. Imagine Santa waving from his brightly lit trolley, his hearty "Ho, ho, ho!" mingling with carolers' songs and the joyful cheers of children. The scene is like something out of a holiday movie—only it's happening right here in Waynedale.

Santa's sleigh may be parked at the North Pole, but the Christmas Trolley will carry him on a carefully planned route that allows every family to feel the joy of the season: Indian Village (1:00 PM), Sand Point & Belle Vista (1:20 PM), Old Trail (1:35 PM), Southwest Waynedale (1:50 PM), Avalon (2:30 PM), Lake Shores West & Lakewood



(2:50 PM), and Lakeshores East & Winterset (3:15 PM). This enchanting journey is mapped out for optimal viewing, so families can step outside or peek from their windows to catch a glimpse of the Christmas magic.

For organizers Alex Cornwell and Camille Garrison, Santa's trolley tour is about more than candy canes and waves. "It's about hope," says Cornwell. "In a world that's often noisy and overwhelming, this event reminds us of the simple, joyful moments that make the holidays special." The event has also become a beacon of nostalgia, rekindling childhood memories of holidays gone by. "Santa is a symbol of wonder and connection," Garrison adds. "We're honored to bring this experience to our neighbors."

As the Christmas Trolley winds through Waynedale, participants are advised to dress appropriately for the winter weather and ensure safety at all times, especially for children. The organizers emphasize the importance of adult supervision, staying on sidewalks, and being cautious of road traffic. And to also take note that the times listed for Santa's trolley are approximate, a 15-20 minute window should be considered. Similar to previous years, there will be signs along the route to mark Santa's path.

This Christmas Eve, don't miss the chance to witness

Scripture of the Week

"As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him."

— Psalm 18:30

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO ARE STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTIONS



Dear Lord, you are our delivered. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us...but we need your strength to take the first step. We need your help. Please help us. Please give us a strong desire to change. We ask that you remove all negative outside influences that hinder us. We ask in Jesus's name that you bind the enemy and surround us with legions of war-

ring angels to protect and shield us from the sin and temptation that so easily be-sets us, and waits to drag us down. Lord, I ask that you remove the pain in our lives caused by sin and past hurts. Please overthrow our will and our propensity for evil. For once and for all, please cleanse us so we can be the person you've called us to be. Free us from the bondage of sin. We ask for healing in families torn apart by addiction. We ask for protection for the children who are in harm's way because of their loved one's addictions. Please pour out your grace, mercy, and healing power on each person affected by someone else's addiction. Lord, you were born this Christmas season to set the captives free. Thank you, Lord, for setting us free and breaking every chain. May our lives be changed forever. Thank you for this Christmas miracle. In Jesus' name Amen. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Peace and Love,

—Pastor Dwayne

Santa's joyful journey through Waynedale. It's not just a trolley ride; it's a celebration of what makes the holidays truly special—community, connection, and a little bit of magic. Let's make this a Christmas to remember!

CITY OF WOODBURN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 11/4/24

Minutes for the City Council Meeting - November 4, 2024
Call to Order-
The meeting commenced at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.
Attendance-
Present were Mayor Kelsey, Clerk-Treasurer Hileman, Superintendent Walls and Chief Parker. As well as Council Members Graber, Gentz, Gerig, and Sarrazine.
Chief's Report-
Chief Parker reported the following:
Board of Works approved new Police vehicle
Superintendent's Report-
Superintendent Walls had nothing to report.
Mayor's Report-
Mayor Kelsey reported the following:
Board of Works approved Utilities studies to be done by FSG
Monica Kelsey, the founder of Safe Haven Baby Boxes, has been awarded a Sagamore of the Wabash by Indiana Governor Eric Holcomb
Discussions of the City's trail study. After discussions, Council Member Sarrazine moved to accept the Trail Study Agreement, with
Council Member Graber providing a Second. The motion carried unanimously.
Discussions of the Annexation Fiscal Plan. After discussions, Council Member Sarrazine moved to accept the Annexation Fiscal Plan Proposal, with Council Member Gentz providing a Second. The motion carried unanimously.
Clerk-Treasurer's Report-
The minutes from the November 4, 2024 meeting were presented.
Council Member Sarrazine moved to approve the minutes as presented, with Council Member Graber providing a second. The motion carried unanimously.
The warrants were presented. Council Member Gerig moved to approve payment of the warrants, with Council Member Graber providing a second. The motion carried unanimously.
Clerk-Treasurer Hileman present a quote for new iPads and computers for members of the Council and Board of Works in the amount of \$9,955.89.

Council Member Gentz Moved to approve the purchase of the equipment, with Council Member Sarrazine providing a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Member Gentz moved to join the NewAllen Interlocal Agreement pending it is approved the City's attorney, with Council Member Gerig providing a second. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Members' Report-
Council Members reported the following:

Lynwood Apartment's dumpster have been cleaned up
No stop sign at Becker Road and Travertine Run
Audience-

New owner of the (former Bob's) restaurant present to provide the Council with information and timeline of new restaurant opening

Herb Anderson present to receive information on the NewAllen Interlocal Agreement

Citizen providing Council information on the County Monument delivery date and unveiling ceremony

Adjournment-
Council Member Sarrazine moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Graber. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

The next Common Council Meeting is scheduled to take place November 18th, 2024 at 7:00pm

For previously approved minutes and recent community news, please visit cityofwoodburn.org
All Board of Works and City Council meetings are live streamed at youtube.com/CityofWoodburnIN

Pastor Dwayne Richardson

will be preaching at Paulding 1st Presbyterian Church at 10:15am

Dec 15th 22nd 24th and 29th

Please come join us for a wonderful service.

Visit Youtube channel, Predest Richardson Peace & Love,

— Pastor Dwayne Richardson

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HEADLIGHTS DIMMED

Penny For Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker
Getting old is not fun. It's good to be alive but I think the headlights on my (car) body have gone out. My headlights on this old body are my eyes.

Yes those nasty little growths that dim the eyes of a lot of us seniors have made their home in my eyes.

I was never too concerned about my eyes until my vision got blurry in my right eye. Oh my I panicked and got into an eye Dr. later that night. After testing my eyes, they discovered a cataract on my eye that apparently had been there for a while.

I had noticed my eyesight getting worse but attributed it to old age. I was referred to an

eye surgeon in Lima who scheduled me to get the right eye done on Dec 17 and then the left one on Dec 19. I do all of my writing on my phone and I can see some out of the right eye.

Thank God for His mercy. My sweetie Denny has been taking me to appointments but I hollar at his driving saying, "Watch out for that car coming, I can't see." Luckily he replies, "Umm Well I can."



The things I enjoy doing are limited right now but I can see the TV and see some on my phone.

So remember me in your prayers and hopefully i will be back with A Penny For Your Thoughts soon.

YEARS AGO IN PAULDING COUNTY

By: PAULDING COUNTY HISTORY MUSEUM

20 Years Ago
From the Paulding County Process of Dec. 17, 2004:
Wayne Trace Local School Board welcomed Lori Davis as the district's new treasurer.

A credit union in Antwerp was the target of a second armed robbery in less than two months. No one was injured during the robbery.

Probate Judge John DeMuth is to rule on a possible county park board dissolution within the next week. The county commissioners say the board has been inactive for several years, while several community leaders object to the dissolution.

Former Ohio State University running back Maurice Claret visited with the 21st Century after school program at Wayne Trace Jr./Sr. High.

Auglaize Brown Local School's Class of 1969 recently held its 45th year class reunion.

60 Years Ago
From the Paulding Progress of Dec. 17, 1964:

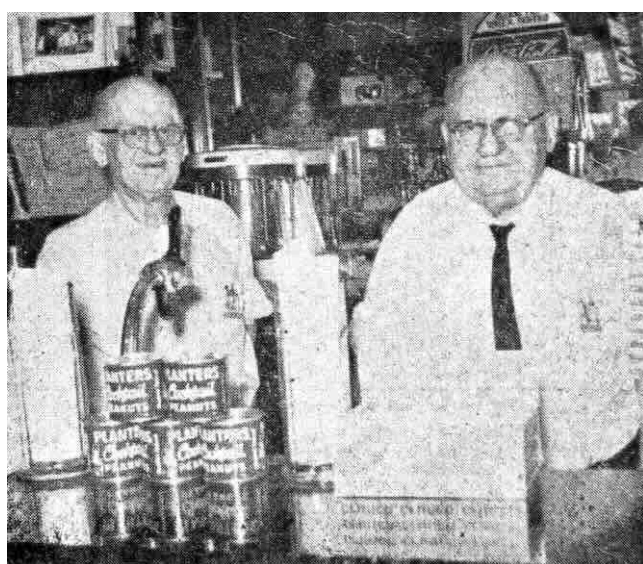
This week, Greer's Drug Store announced a going out of business sale, starting Saturday this week. L.A. "Doc" Greer, a prominent civic and business leader in Paulding

for the past 47 years, announced his plans of retirement. He came to Paulding in 1917 and started to work for the H.G. Ramage Drug Store as a pharmacist, and purchased the businesses in 1918. The corner building has been occupied by a drug store ever since the building was built.

Doc, whose "heart of gold" is known to all the residents of the area, can be considered as one of the remaining pioneers in business in Paulding. He remembers each and every business in downtown, when the hitching racks were around the courthouse square. The faces of Doc and his son, Kenny, behind the soda fountain in the drug store on the corner will always be prominent to Paulding area residents.

The fun of attending a free movie at the Paulding Theatre the day before Christmas has become an annual treat for the school children of this area. Kenny Bryan, proprietor of Kenny's Pastime, is the person to thank for this extra holiday treat. There will be one showing only, at 10 a.m. Dec. 24. No tickets will be necessary. The main feature will be "Mighty Ursus" in color with added color cartoons.

85 Years Ago
From the Paulding County Republican of Dec. 14, 1939:
New Attorney: J. Gareth Hitchcock has opened a law



December 1964: Greer's Drug Store announced a going out of business sale. L.A. "Doc" Greer (left), pictured with his son Kenneth, had operated the store for 47 years at the corner of Williams and Jackson streets on the northwest corner of the square. The site is now part of the Limitless store.



December 1964: "Santa Claus without the whiskers" - A capacity crowd of kids attended a free movie and cartoons at the Paulding Theatre the day before Christmas, sponsored by businessman Kenny Bryan (left).

office on the second floor of the National Bank Building in Paulding. He passed the June Bar Examination and was admitted to practice last August. From September to Dec. 9, he was employed as time keeper at the factory of the Paulding Sugar Company.

Orth Shimp is appointed new fire chief after the resignation of Frank Wallar, who served for six years.

An informal dinner will be given for the Latty High School alumni and their friends on Friday at the Latty School. Later in the evening, two games will be played between the high school and alumni, so bring your suits.

The doctors of Paulding County Academy of Medicine wish to thank the people who donated to the Hospital Tag Week, also the superintendents and teachers of the various schools of Paulding County. Schools donating included Antwerp, Huntsville, Cecil, Grover Hill, Haviland, Junction, Melrose, McCabe, Oakwood, Paulding and Payne.

110 Years Ago
From the Paulding Democrat of December 17, 1914:

Horse thieves are still busy in this locality, and they accomplish some very daring raids. Last Saturday evening a horse and buggy owned by W.J. Reinhart, a farmer of the west part of this township, and driven by his son, was standing hitched to the rack on the

south side of the courthouse square. About 9 o'clock the rig stood there all right and the driver went to the moving picture show. When he got around to look after the rig, the outfit was missing and no trace of its whereabouts could be learned.

Sheriff Zuber is getting tired of the tramp nuisance. The vags have grown might numerous of late, and they are impudent and insolent to housewives and others as they appear at back doors pleading for food. The sheriff says he's going to make it so interesting for them they will want to stay away from here.

Some winter weather here in the fore part of this week. Tuesday morning early the thermometer registered 10 degrees below zero.

The basketball season in Paulding will open by the Paulding High School boys team in a contest with the Ada High School boys at the Armory Friday evening. A preliminary game between two Paulding H.S. girl teams will start the evening's program.

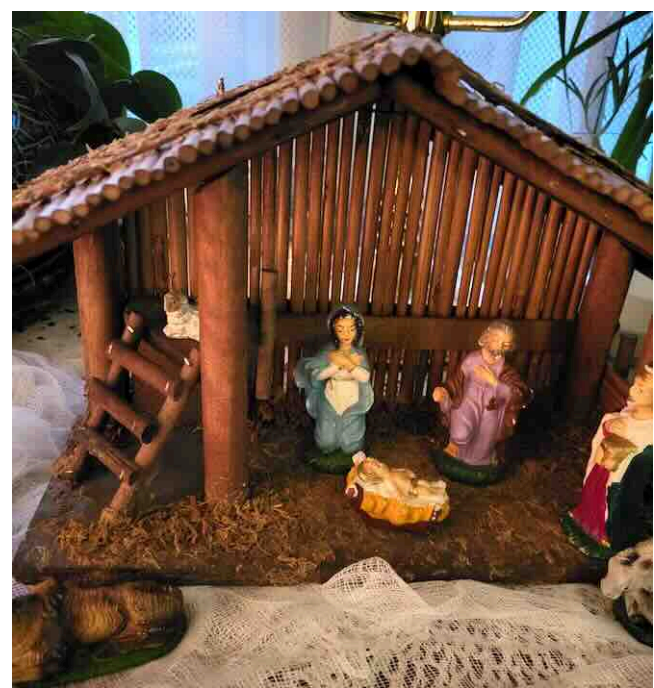
The Paulding County History Museum's mission is "Preserving the Past For Future Generations." The museum closed for the winter on Dec. 10 and will reopen to the public on Feb. 18. For special events and announcements, see our Facebook page at facebook.com/jphsmuseum.

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.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS



"And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, everyone to his own city."

The old familiar story that we marvel at this time of year. When we were children in school and in church we acted out this story. A boy and girl took the part of Mary and Joseph, and the rest of us were shepherds or wise men.

Such a simple story but it seems that every time you read the Bible you see something new.

"And Joseph also went up from Nazareth unto the city of David which is called Bethlehem. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child." Google says this is 90 miles to the South. It should take 2 hours and 26 minutes via highway 6 so we hop into our Chevy, but wait a minute. In those days it probably took at least a week or more.

I will always wonder how they took their food, the hay for the donkey, and their suitcase. It could not have been easy traveling with a young woman, about to give birth, riding on a donkey. They probably followed the Jordan River, which afforded fresh water. Their trip would have taken them through Jerusalem. I imagine they slept outdoors sometimes and every town along the way probably had an inn.

Luke doesn't talk about there being no room in the inn, but he does say that when Jesus was born they wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger. Swaddling a baby, wrapping them

very tight, was practiced for thousands of years. I have heard that these were strips of cloth set aside to wrap a deceased body.

As a lad I remember leaving the cow stable on Christmas Eve, and what a contented place it was. The barn was always warm, and the cows were contentedly chewing their cud. You would take a few seconds to marvel at what miracle is going to take place in the stable tonight.

If I could observe any moment of History it would be the angels coming to the shepherds:

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, for unto you is born this day in the city of David a savior, which is Christ the Lord." Other books talk about the star that stood above the stable. That night the shepherds came and found the baby. It turned out to be quite a night, and Luke says Mary kept these things and pondered them in her heart.

Other books talk about wise men coming from the East and following the star. This was probably at a later date when they were living in a house. They probably were Magi, astrologers come from Babylon, which would have been a trip of 900 miles. Traveling at the dizzying speed of 10 miles per day this would have taken 90 days. They knew the scriptures and knew that there would be an unusual star.

When you are gathered with your loved ones this Christmas take two or three minutes to read aloud Luke 2:1-20, the beautiful story that never grows old.

—James Neuhouser

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DEFIANCE CITY PARKS RECEIVES \$15,000 GRANT FOR LATTY'S GROVE PARK REHABILITATION



Amy Daeger, a member of the Defiance Area Foundation Grants Committee, presented the grant check to Rob Cereghin, the Defiance City Parks and Cemetery Director. This contribution marks an exciting step forward in revitalizing the park for residents and visitors alike.

The Defiance Area Foundation has awarded a \$15,000 grant to the City of Defiance for the rehabilitation project at Latty's Grove Park. This significant funding will support upgrades, including new sidewalks, updated shelters, court resurfacing, and equipment enhancements, ensuring the

park continues to be a cherished community resource.

The rehabilitation project reflects a commitment to improving recreational spaces and fostering community engagement through enhanced facilities. Congratulations to the City of Defiance on this impactful grant!

THE STATE BANK AND TRUST COMPANY SPONSORS DAF GALA WITH \$2,000 CONTRIBUTION



Jennifer Mason, Chief Wealth Management Officer at The State Bank, Chris Yoder, Ex. Dir. DAF, and Mark Klein, Chairman, President, and CEO of The State Bank.

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Entertainment Sponsor for its upcoming Gala. The bank has generously contributed \$2,000 to support the event, which will take place on October 4, 2025.

The Gala promises to be a memorable evening of celebration and philanthropy, with support from key community partners like The State Bank. For more details about the event and its sponsors, visit www.defianceareafoundation.org/gala.

PPEC RETURNS \$2 MILLION TO MEMBERS IN CAPITAL CREDITS

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

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

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

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

This month's payment will go to those who used PPEC's service from 1990-2023.

Including this year's capital credits return, PPEC has returned more than \$36 million to its members.

"This patronage cash back demonstrates that PPEC members are not just customers; they are members and part-owners of their electric cooperative," said Board Chairman Joseph Kohnen. "Paulding Putnam Electric Co-op belongs to the communities we serve. Members have equity ownership in our physical assets — and receive a financial return on those assets, unlike customers of other utilities."

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

DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY HITS GROUND RUNNING IN ALLEN COUNTY

The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) has officially launched Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program dedicated to fostering early childhood literacy by providing free, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five. Following a successful fundraising campaign, the library began signing up children who had already expressed interest via the Imagination Library website. According to officials from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Indiana, in its first month of operation, Allen County experienced the second highest registration numbers in the

PCBW THIS WEEK: RECLAIMED LIVING



This week, we dive into a new endeavor in Paulding County. We talk with board members Doug Schlatter, Jane Nice, and Dave Nice about the new Reclaimed Living Sober Transitional House and how it

will benefit Paulding County. Big thank you to OhioMeansJobs for sponsoring this program. You can tune in on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 5 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

PAULDING STUDENTS AND STAFF VOLUNTEER AT CARING AND SHARING FOOD PANTRY



On Saturday, December 7, students and staff from Paulding Exempted Village Schools dedicated their time to volunteer at the Caring and Sharing Food Pantry in Paulding, Ohio. This community effort highlighted the importance of giving back and supporting local

families in need.

The team included Kyle Kramer, an 8th Grade Math Teacher, alongside students Carly Font, Parker Bates, Trinity Gerbers, Brynley Manz, and Aaron Horstman, another 8th Grade Math Teacher. Their collaborative work embodies the spirit of

service that strengthens community bonds.

The Caring and Sharing Food Pantry continues to provide essential support to the Paulding community, and the contributions from these volunteers are a testament to the positive impact of local involvement.

country! To date, the ACPL has registered 2349 children – and counting!

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are encouraged to sign up any child up to 5 years of age for the program at www.acpl.info/dolly.

There is no cost to the families and the child will receive a personalized book each month until they turn 5 years old. It takes approximately 8-12 weeks from enrollment until the child receives their first book in the mail.

"Every day someone in the community mentions Imagination Library to me. It has been a thrill to watch the community rally around the program and give generously to make it a reality," said ACPL Executive Director Susan P. Baier. "A strong early literacy foundation is absolutely critical to academic, social, and economic success. When we couple a vibrant library system with high quality books in the home – we're building that strong foundation for the children of Allen County. Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the ingenuity of Dolly Parton, that work is officially underway!"

The launch now makes the internationally renowned Dolly Parton's Imagination Library available in one of Indiana's largest counties and marks the accomplishment of a key ACPL strategic goal from its

2024-28 Strategic Plan "Allen County's Window to Lifelong Learning and Discovery." In that plan, the ACPL announced its intention to celebrate reading and learning by "exploring partnerships and offering support to increase in-home access to books, including...Imagination Library."

The project is funded by community donations led by the ACPL Foundation's fundraising efforts. In June of 2024, the Foundation launched a campaign with an initial goal of \$100,000 to fund the first two years of

the program. The goal was met in October through donations from individuals, family foundations, social and civic organizations, businesses, library employees, and members of the Friends of the Library. The State of Indiana's Next Level Agenda will match all funds raised, doubling the impact of the program.

The fund currently has raised \$132,000 but requires continued support for the years to come. The community is invited to make donations at acpl.info/imagination-library or by visiting any ACPL branch.

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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.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Stop Our Liberal Cancer
I realize many of you liberals don't agree with what I write. I don't believe you ever learned enough to make this kind of decision. Just look at how many can't make change without a computer or taking 5 to 10 times as long as those of mine from the 1950's and before.

You can only blame your predecessor Democrat representatives. It was Democrats

in power (and wanting to be the only power) that forbid God and prayer in school and changed what was taught and how it was taught. Democrats were deathly afraid of God and intelligence. Why do you think America's school ranking has gone downhill since 1960?

Later in time you under educated Democrats elected our first anti-Christian, anti-American President, that was Obama. I know he is very intelligent and gave us a good economy but that is as far as you Democrats can see. He verbally put America down to the world. I believe he would do anything to remove Christianity from America and the world.

Obama didn't want Christians in the White House and forbid any mention of Christmas there and of any greeting mentioning Merry Christmas from anyone. Are you beginning to see what he meant when he said he wanted to change America? He is a full blooded Muslim and I believe he wants to have God and Christianity removed from our world. President Obama was he one making Christianity a crime in our military. All he wanted was a killing machine.

Since the liberal media is also undereducated they have made up for it by honing the art of lying. They have gotten so accomplished at lying that many of you have accepted Satan's evil ways believing it is ok. Here are just two examples of Satan's evil that you have accepted. Abortion is nothing more than premeditated murder. Transgenderism is a lie that only destroys, plus only God can make a boy or girl. Man can

only destroy.

I don't listen to "pig pen" liberal media because I consider it in the same category as swearing, not fit for anything. This next example is from MSNBC and came to me from a very prominent man that millions know and trust.

It is none other than politico reporter Heidi Przybyla. Her voice when saying this was plain disgust. She spoke with great disdain, "Christians in America actually believe our rights came from God, not congress, not from the Supreme Court." She sounds like a liberal who knows little but spouts a lot. I doubt that she tries speaking to God and doesn't listen.

I can vouch that this next bit is 100% true because it happened to me. Anyone that really knows me also knows I don't lie and have never sworn in my life. I accepted Jesus around 1950 and that means a lot to me.

After a 45 ½ year marriage and with my wife being sick for 43 ½ of those years, she died in bed one night in Feb. 2003. I lived in rural Defiance back then. I also had a 27 ft. travel trailer ready to spend the winter in Titusville, FL.

I went to Hicksville funeral home on November 1, 2003 to pay respects to two sisters I knew from church that had just lost a sister. Only one and no one else was there at the time. We got to talk 10-15 minutes before hearing anyone else. As I turned to leave a fourth sister was 8-10 ft behind me. At that instant I heard the words, "she is the one."

We knew who each other was since about 1950 and that we were both Christians. Sandy was a year ahead of me in school but we never spoke to each other. But, if you ever hear God like I did that day, you had better pay attention.

I called Sandy about ten days after the funeral and asked if she would like to go out some place to eat. She wanted to say no because she had not gone on a date in seventeen years. She had two teenage granddaughters with her that day and couldn't say no to a date. She asked if I could call back in a week.

I made that call and we had our first date at Bob Evans. We were engaged before Christmas. We don't recommend most couples moving that fast. You need time to know each other. We were in our 60's, only lived four miles apart and ran into each other over a period of about four years.

Now for you stupid, unedu-

cated and impatient ones out there, please absorb this. If you are thinking sex, please seek marriage first. If you go for sex first, you are following Satan's desire for you. Then if you stay and live together without marriage you might find yourself connected to Satan for life. Think about that and your life _____ God or Satan.

Sandy and I are both Christians and have been for a long, long time. Even at our age, that means no sex without marriage. Come March 6th we will celebrate 21 happy years of marriage. We're both in good health and I think that's saying a lot for being 88 and 89.

—Richard Martin
Hicksville, OH

ROHRS LEADS ARCHERS TO WIN OVER TIGERS

Caroline Rohrs scored a game high 35 points and the Antwerp Lady Archers cruised to a 45-32 victory over Holgate in a battle of former Green Meadows Conference girls basketball foes.

Rohrs finished the night with nine two-point field goals, a quartet of three-point field goals and five free throws in the contest to pace all scorers.

Clara Rohrs added eight markers for the Lady Archers with Briley Bagley picking up the final Antwerp basket of the night.

Holgate was paced by Isabelle Blaker with ten points and Jilian Eis contributed seven markers.

Other Lady Tiger scorers were Markee Wilhelm (six), Delaney Meyer (five) and Mya Tijerina (four).

Antwerp led at every stop in the contest, opening a 13-9 advantage at the end of eight minutes of action.

The blue and white extended the lead to 27-13 at the intermission after outscoring Holgate 14-4 in the second period.

The Henry County squad did win the third quarter, picking up ten markers compared to nine for the Archers as Antwerp was on top 36-23 entering the final period.

Both squads then finished the game out with nine-point fourth quarters to set the final margin at 45-32.

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT RMDs?

You may spend many decades contributing to your IRA and 401(k), but eventually you will likely need to take the money out — in fact, you must take the money out or face penalties. What should you know about these mandatory withdrawals?

Here are some of the basics:

- What are they called? Mandatory withdrawals are technically called required minimum distributions, or RMDs.

- When must I take RMDs? If you were born before 1951, you've probably already begun taking RMDs. If you were born between 1951 and 1959, your RMD age is 73. And if you were born in 1960 or later, your RMD age is 75. You can postpone accepting your first RMD until April 1 of the year after you reach your RMD age, but this will result in two RMDs for the year. After you take your first RMD, you must take subsequent ones by December 31 of each year.

- What penalties will be assessed if I don't take all my RMDs? For every dollar not withdrawn, the IRS will charge a 25% penalty, but this can drop to 10% if you subsequently withdraw the correct amount within two years.

- Which accounts have RMDs? RMDs apply to traditional IRAs, as well as other types of IRAs, including SIMPLE and SEP IRAs. RMDs don't apply to Roth IRAs. RMDs also apply to traditional 401(k)s, but not Roth 401(k)s.

- Can I withdraw more than the RMD for any given year? Yes, you are free to take out as much as you want. However, if you take out more than the RMD for one year, you can't apply the excess to the RMD for the next year.

- How are RMDs calculated? Typically, your RMDs are determined by dividing your account balance from the prior December 31 by a life expectancy factor published by the IRS. Your financial professional should be able to

perform this calculation for you.

- If I have multiple accounts, do I have to take an RMD from each one? If you are taking RMDs from a traditional IRA, you must calculate each RMD individually, but you can take the total amount from one or more IRAs. If you're taking RMDs from a 401(k) or similar plan, you must take the RMD from each of your accounts.

- How are RMDs taxed? You are typically taxed at your income tax rate on the amount of the withdrawn RMD. You may be able to avoid taxes in a particular year if you transfer your RMDs to a qualified charity in what's known as a qualified charitable distribution.

- If I inherit an IRA or 401(k), am I subject to RMDs? Yes. When you take RMDs from an inherited account, you generally must withdraw all the funds within 10 years, as opposed to over your lifetime, which is the RMD window that applies to your own accounts. The rules are somewhat different if you inherit an IRA or 401(k) from your spouse. In any case, though, you'll want to consult with your tax advisor about how to take RMDs from an inherited account.

If you're already subject to RMDs, be sure you've taken them before the year ends. And if you haven't yet started taking RMDs, learn as much as you can about them — because the more you know, the more likely you'll make the right moves at the right time.

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



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READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: H2O Water Store, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Small Town Bliss, Dollar General

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, Dollar General (Clinton St), Junction Dollar General, Senior Center, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Marathon Main Stop, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library

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

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

Hicksville: Sailors, Vancress, Shell Station, Citgo, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library, Red Angel Pizza, McDonalds

Ney: Marathon

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

Paulding: Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Bargain Bin, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros, Courthouse, VFW Post 587, PC Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, PCH, Kwik Mart,

PC Carnegie Library

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

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

Scott: Scott Post Office

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

INDIANA LOCATIONS

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

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

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

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BULLDOGS TAKE ON PANTHERS IN HS BOYS BASKETBALL



Junior Blake Rhonehouse, while heavily guarded by Logan Hutcheson and Jordyn Wright, gets a shot off and scores in the 1st quarter! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Paulding, OH - The Defiance Bulldogs secured a hard-fought victory over the Paulding Panthers on December 6, escaping The Jungle with a 58-49 win. Both teams displayed grit and determination in a game that remained competitive until the final quarter.

Defiance leaned on their top scorer, Josiah Schlatter, who delivered a stellar performance with 26 points.

Schlatter's offensive outburst, which included six made free throws and four two-pointers, proved pivotal in keeping the Bulldogs ahead. Teammates Matthew Walter (15 points) and Logan Hutcheson (11 points) added crucial baskets to round out the Bulldogs' scoring attack.

The Panthers didn't go quietly. Jordan Manz led Paulding with 13 points, showing poise on both ends

of the floor. Meanwhile, Xander Kuckuck contributed 15 points, including a pair of critical three-pointers that kept the Panthers in the game during the second half. Grady Barton added a strong showing with 17 points, displaying his knack for scoring both inside and beyond the arc.

Despite a close first quarter, where Defiance led by only two points, the Bulldogs began to pull away in the second half. Defiance's defense came alive, forcing key turnovers and holding Paulding to just nine points in the final quarter. The Bulldogs capitalized on their opportunities, outscoring the Panthers 18-11 in the fourth to seal the win.

The game's physicality was evident, with both teams racking up fouls. Paulding's struggles from the free-throw line hurt their chances, while Defiance capitalized on theirs to maintain their lead.

Coach Bryn Lehman of Defiance credited his team's resilience, saying, "This was a great road win for us. The Jungle is a tough place to play, but our guys stuck together, especially in the second half."

On the other side, Coach Logan Stoller of Paulding remained optimistic despite the loss. "We fought hard against a tough team. Our players left it all on the floor, and I'm proud of their effort," Stoller said.

With the victory, Defiance improves to 3-2 on the season, while Paulding falls to 2-4. The Bulldogs will look to extend their winning streak in their next matchup, while the Panthers aim to regroup and protect their home court in upcoming games.

WILDCATS CRUISE TO WIN OVER ARCHERS

The Antwerp Lady Archers hit the road Monday night to Putnam County where host Miller City cruised to a 66-37 win over the blue and white.

The Lady Wildcats took control in the opening stanza, scoring 25 first quarter points in opening a 25-9 advantage after eight minutes of play.

Miller City added to the lead in the second quarter, picking up 18 markers compared to the Archers' eleven as the Wildcats recorded a 43-20 halftime lead.

In the third quarter, the Putnam County added fifteen markers with Antwerp getting seven to give Miller City a 58-27 margin entering the final stanza.

Caroline Rohrs led all scorers in the contest, bucketing twenty-two points to pace the Lady Archers.

Raeley Franklin and Madisyn Peters both contributed five markers for Antwerp while Briley Bagley totaled three and Mara Philpot had two.

Elizabeth Erford topped Miller City with 16 points with Hailey Warnimont adding 11 and Anna Lamers contributed ten.

Kiera Ruhe (seven), Andrea Pfau (six), Lou Michel (six), Anna Schnipke (four), Kiera Warnimont (four) and Teegan Barlage (two) completed the list of Miller City scorers.

LADY ARCHERS GET WIN OVER STRYKER

Antwerp made the trip into Williams County Tuesday night for non-league girls basketball action where the Lady Archers posted a 44-38 victory over Stryker.

The two squads were even at eight points apiece at the end of one period before the Lady Archers outscored the Panthers 13-11 in the second stanza for a 21-19 halftime advantage.

Antwerp extended the lead in the third quarter, doubling up the hosts 14-7 in the quarter for a 35-26 margin entering the final period.

Stryker made things interesting in the fourth quarter, scoring a dozen points compared to nine for Antwerp but the Archers went on to record the 44-38 victory.

The Lady Archers were paced by Caroline Rohrs with 21 points on the night while Briley Bagley and Clara Rohrs bucketed seven markers apiece.

Madisyn Peters (five), Raeley Franklin (three) and Mara Philpot (one) completed the scoring for Antwerp.

Stryker was led by Grace Froelich with 13 points and Reiss Creighton chipped in nine markers.

Other scorers for the Panthers were Addalee Fulk (six), Anna Donovan (four), Abby Oberlin (four) and Aubrey Clemens (two).

QUICK START PROPELS PANTHERS OVER BEARS

Host Paulding used a fast start and then held off a late rally by visiting Bryan for a 47-40 victory over the Golden Bears in non-conference girls basketball play

HORNETS WIN THRILLER OVER WARRIORS



Woodlan's Trey Yoder drives in under the basket to score for the Warriors! More pictures at westbendnews.net

WOODBURN - On a night that saw a triple overtime battle in varsity boys basketball action, it was visiting Angola who outlasted host Woodlan 81-72 recently in non-league play.

The host Warriors opened a 16-10 lead at the end of one quarter before the visiting Hornets cut into the deficit and pulled within 25-21 entering the halfway point of the contest.

Angola picked up 14 markers in the third quarter compared to a dozen for Woodlan as the Warriors held a slim 37-35 margin going into the fourth period.

In the final stanza of regulation, the Steuben County squad picked up 16 points while the Warriors bucketed 14 to knot the contest at 51-51 entering the first overtime.

Both teams then scored nine points in the first extra session to keep it tied at 60-60 before each squad picked up seven markers in the second overtime for a 67-67 contest.

The third overtime proved

to be the difference as Angola added 14 points compared to just five for Woodlan in giving the Hornets an 81-72 decision.

Tyler Ruple paced the Hornets with 20 points in the contest, leading a quartet of Angola players in double figures.

Niles Knox bucketed 15 points to aid the Hornet cause with Cru Weber chipping in a dozen and Ryan Stuckey contributed ten.

Ben Thomas and Tommy Caswell each totaled eight points for Angola with Landon Leach finishing with six and Kyler Huscher picked up two.

Trey Yoder topped all scorers in the contest with 26 points for Woodlan and Oliver Adams picked up 16 for the Warriors.

Mason Moore also reached twin digits for Woodlan with 11 points.

Other scorers for the Warriors were Keaton Delagrang (eight), Jordan Halsey (six), Ashtin Jacquay (two) and Zach Scheiderer (two).

Thursday evening.

The maroon and white put up eighteen points in the opening stanza of the contest while limiting Bryan to eleven as Paulding posted a seven-point lead at the end of one period.

Quarter number two saw the Lady Panthers pick up eleven markers compared to ten for the Golden Bears, giving the maroon and white a 29-21 halftime lead.

Paulding added to the margin in the third quarter,

It's Beginning To Look A Lot Like Christmas!



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PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic

Disposition Report

On December 4, 2024 **Hamdan, Sam**, of Springfield, MI, was found guilty of traveling at 94/65 MPH. He was fined \$100 and incurred \$105 in court costs. **Flores-Chavez, Richard**, of Michigan City, IN, pleaded guilty to driving at 73/60 MPH. He was fined \$300 and incurred \$100 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Beauprez, Justen R.**, of Defiance, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 65/55

MPH. He was fined \$35 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Hockenberry, Laurie J.**, of Defiance, OH, was found guilty of traveling at 69/55 MPH. She was fined \$35 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Boroff, Dale A.**, of Paulding, OH, was found guilty of improper backing. He was fined \$55 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Baranski, William**, of Fraser, MI, pleaded guilty to speeding at 85/65 MPH. He was fined \$45

and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Kelly, Eldon J.**, of Antwerp, OH, pleaded guilty to a seat belt violation. He was fined \$30 and incurred \$57 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Hoff, Bethany C.**, of Butler, IN, was found guilty of driving at 72/55 MPH. She was fined \$45 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant.

On December 5, 2024, **King, Anthony A.**, of Toledo, OH, had a charge of a non-moving violation dismissed. Special Condition: Count dismissed. In addition he was found guilty of traveling at 81/65 MPH. He was fined \$150 and incurred \$165 in court costs. Special Condition: Forfeiture can be released when the case is paid in full. **Tumblin, Caden A.**, of Payne, OH, pleaded guilty to a passing violation. He was fined \$55 and incurred \$132 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Vickery, Garry E.**, of Charlestown, IN, pleaded guilty to driving while texting. He incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Laghals, Mary L.**, of Cloverdale, OH, was found guilty of speeding at 65/55 MPH. She was fined \$35 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Ligas, Helenmarie H.**, of Van Wert, OH, pleaded guilty to a stop sign violation. She was fined \$55 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Brzozowski, Terica A.**, of Paulding, OH, pleaded guilty to a traffic device/sign violation. She was fined \$55 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Ceballos, Benjamin**, of Defiance, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 73/55 MPH. He was fined \$45 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Sharp, Aaron L.**, of Cloverdale, OH, pleaded guilty to a seat belt violation. She was fined \$30 and incurred \$57 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant.

On December 6, 2024, **Bauer, Amanda K.**, of Payne, OH, pleaded guilty to driving while texting and was charged \$95 in court costs. In a separate case, Bauer was also found guilty of child restraint violations, fined \$70, and charged \$90 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Prowant, Darin W.**, of Continental, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 74/55 MPH. He was fined \$45 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Gettel, Aaron R.**, of Hagerstown, MD, pleaded guilty to speeding at 88/65 MPH. He was fined \$45 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Hanenkratt, Jonathan E.**, of Paulding, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 45/35 MPH. He was fined \$35 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Krenkel,**

Timothy S., of Butler, IN, was found guilty of speeding at 68/55 MPH. He was fined \$35 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Slane, Sara N.**, of Antwerp, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 71/55 MPH. She was fined \$45 and incurred \$98 in court costs. **Peda, Edgardo**, of Defiance, OH, pleaded guilty to speeding at 79/55 MPH. He was fined \$45 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant.

On December 9, 2024, **Strawser, Brett A.**, of Van Wert, OH, was found guilty of operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He was fined \$375, incurred \$105 in court costs, and served 30 days in jail, also his operator license is suspended 8/17/24 to 8/17/25. Special Condition: Suspension may be reduced to 6 months if the defendant has an IID installed successfully for 6 months. **Ward, Lori A.**, of Continental, OH, was found guilty of reckless operation, fined \$250, and charged \$105 in court costs. She served 30 days in jail with 27 days suspended. Special Condition: Defendant may attend a DIP in lieu of 3 days jail; driving privileges are extended and unlimited privileges are granted. In separate cases, Ward pleaded guilty to a marked lanes violation and was fined \$50. Her charges of OVI refusal, left-of-center violation, and open container were dismissed.

On December 10, 2024, **Ingle, Joyce A.**, of Defiance, OH, had her case for menacing dismissed without prejudice. Costs were waived. **McGough, Rebecca C.**, of Paulding, OH, pleaded no contest to domestic violence, receiving a \$200 fine and \$205 in court costs. She was placed on probation, required to complete treatment, and prohibited from contact with the victim, and received 100 days jail with 90 suspended. **Mendez, Abraham**, of Fort Wayne, IN, was found guilty of speeding at 79/65 MPH. He was fined \$35 and incurred \$100 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Wolff, Alex M.**, of Lima, OH, pleaded guilty to a stop sign violation. He was fined \$55 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Altheide, Richard C.**, of Oakwood, OH, pleaded guilty to driving while texting. He was charged \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant. **Weible, Jeffery D.**, of Oakwood, OH, was found guilty of a stop sign violation. He was fined \$55 and incurred \$95 in court costs. Special Condition: Case was waived by the defendant.

SINN, GERBER LEAD WT OVER VW

Visiting Van Wert scored the first eleven points of the annual boys basketball rivalry matchup with Wayne Trace Saturday night at the 'Palace.'

However, it was the host Raiders that finished strong as Wayne Trace put up 33 points in the second half to rally for a 47-39 victory over the visiting Cougars.

After opening the game with an 11-0 run, Van Wert settled on a 16-9 advantage at the end of one quarter.

A low scoring second quarter saw the Raiders score

LAPHAM-HICKEY STEEL DONATES TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF PAULDING COUNTY



Ryan Whitaker, General Manager of Lapham-Hickey Steel, has presented a generous donation to Habitat for Humanity of Paulding County. Laurie Lucas, the executive director of Habitat for Humanity, accepted the check, which will go toward funding the next home build in Paulding County.

This contribution under-

scores the strong community partnerships and commitment to providing housing assistance to families in need. Habitat for Humanity continues to make strides in creating affordable housing solutions, and this donation will help further its mission to improve lives in the Paulding County area.

five points while the Cougars picked up four, pulling Wayne Trace within 20-14 at the intermission.

The red, white and blue then dominated the third quarter, totaling 16 points in the stanza to go along with limiting Van Wert to six as the local squad recorded a 30-26 lead entering the final quarter.

Wayne Trace then put the game away with a 17-point final stanza to finish off the 47-39 victory.

Zac Crummey and Grif-

fin McCracken paced the visiting Cougars with 15 and 12 points, respectively, while Keaten Welch, Caden Collins, Micah Cowan and Cohen Bragg all had three markers.

Caden Sinn topped all scorers with 17 points for Wayne Trace and Tyson Gerber chipped in ten markers.

Carter Clemens and Tanner Laukhuf both contributed nine points for the red, white and blue while Brady Miller posted two free throws.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING HICKSVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

The Hicksville Planning Commission will hold a public hearing for an application for a LOT SPLIT on Thursday December 19, 2024 at 6:00pm, In the Zoning Office, located at 108 North Main Street, Hicksville, Ohio.

The application, submitted by Headley Enterprises, is a request to split lot 27 of Edgerton's 1st Addition, with a physical address of 120 East Smith Street. The request is to split .149 acres, more or less.

The 2nd lot in the request is Lot 28 of Edgerton's 1st Addition, with a physical address of 122 East Smith Street.

The 3rd lot in the request is to split Lot 29 of Edgerton's 1st Addition, with a physical address of 117 North Maple Street. The request is to split .579 acres, more or less.

—Jared Radford,
Zoning Official
Village of Hicksville

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

FROM:

1.01 THE Village of Hicksville (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS Owner):

A. Village of Hicksville
B. Address:
111 South Main Street
Hicksville, Ohio 43526

1.02 AND THE Architect (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS Architect):

A. Sixmo Architecture
B. Address:
1101 Auburn Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

1.03 DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2024

1.04 TO: POTENTIAL BIDDERS

- Your firm is invited to submit an offer under seal to Owner for construction of a facility located at the address below before 4:00pm local standard time on the 9th day of January 2025 for: **Village of Hicksville - Phase 1 Pool** located at 598 North Bryan Street, Hicksville, Ohio 43526
- Project: Village of Hicksville - Phase 1 Pool
- Architect's Project Number: 5179 02 23.
- Project Description: New recreation pool and seasonal 1-story masonry pool house.
- Documents may be obtained by interested Bidders via email request to the Architect, online at PlanCycle and BXOhio, or at the office of the Owner.
- Bidders will be required to provide Bid security in the form of a Bid Bond of a sum no less than 5 percent of the Bid Amount.
- Refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00 2113 - Instructions to Bidders and Document 00 3100 - Available Project Information.
- Submit your offer on the Bid Form provided. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate.
- Your offer will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.
- The successful bidder will be required to pay laborers on the job in accordance with the State of Ohio Prevailing Wage determination.
- Request for Information acceptable via email only to Cory Wann (VILADMIN@DEFNET.COM) and Jim Clarke (jclarke@sixmoarchitecture.com). Request for Information Due: 12-18-2024.
- Substantial Completion Date: 5-01-2026.
- The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers.

1.05 POSTINGS:

A. West Bend News: 12/9 & 12/16

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

on behalf of Defendants Gary L. Flint and Randy L. Flint

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

PAULDING COUNTY TREASURER

Plaintiff,

vs.

BERNARD FLINT, ET.AL.

DEFENDANTS,

Case No. CI-20-139

Judge Tiffany R. Beckman

PPN: 12-03S-022-00

TO: Michael R. Flint, Deceased, NKA Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of Michael R. Flint; the Unknown Spouse of Michael R. Flint; Sharon A. Nelson, Deceased, NKA Unknown heirs, administrators, executors or assigns of Sharon A. Nelson; and the Unknown Spouse of Sharon A. Nelson (Collectively "the Estate of Defendant Michael R. Flint, Deceased and the Estate of Defendant Sharon A. Nelson, Deceased").

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:

UNKNOWN

Please take notice that an Excess Funds Hearing was virtually heard on October 21, 2024 in the above-captioned action upon the August 19, 2024 Supplemental Motion for Distribution of Excess funds with respect to the remaining proceeds from the Sheriff's Sale and/or Private Sale associated with the above-captioned foreclosure matter ("Defendants' Motion"), filed on behalf of Defendant Gary L. Flint and Defendant Randy L. Flint (hereinafter referred to as "Defendants"), and whereby Defendants by and through their undersigned legal counsel, respectfully requested an Order compelling the Clerk of Courts to distribute an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of any and all excess funds in favor of Defendants (1/4th to each Defendant) and/or an Order requiring that an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of any and all funds held by the Paulding County Treasurer, Auditor, and/or any private party, the aggregate amount is believed to be Twenty Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Three and 31/100ths Dollars (\$20,493.31) (the "Excess Funds"), be returned to the Paulding County Clerk of Courts for distribution to Defendants. Further, this Notice is hereby provided so as to provide the Estate of Defendant Michael R. Flint, Deceased and the Estate of Defendant Sharon A. Nelson, Deceased, respectively, to appear before this Court and/or to respond to Defendants' Motion.

Further, Defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby state that the final "Entry Confirming Sale and Distribution of Proceeds of Sale" was issued by this Honorable Court on June 8, 2021. Thus, pursuant to the pleadings and motions as reflected in the Docket, together with the Final Confirmation Entry, and upon information and belief, Defendants respectfully sets forth that all other proceeds due and owing have since been distributed as set forth therein, and al that remains is the above-referenced amount in Excess Funds for the benefit of Claimants/Defendants and the Estate of Defendant Michael R. Flint, Deceased and the Estate of Defendant Sharon A. Nelson, Deceased, respectively.

Defendants pray the Estate of Defendant Michael R. Flint, Deceased and the Estate of Defendant Sharon A. Nelson, Deceased, respectively, be required to respond to Defendant's Motion and set up their interest in said Excess Funds stemming from said real estate. Further, Defendants, by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby respectfully request that this Court

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PAULDING COUNTY
ANN E. PEASE
CLERK OF COURTS

2024 DEC 12 AM 11:56

grant the underlying Defendants' Motion and issue an Order compelling the Paulding County Clerk of Courts to distribute an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the underlying Excess Funds in favor of Defendants and/or an Order requiring that an amount equal to one-half (1/2) of the underlying Excess Funds held by the Paulding County Treasurer and/or the Paulding County Auditor and/or any third party, including, but not limited to, any private selling officer, be returned to the Paulding County Clerk of Courts for distribution to Defendants, as the same relates to one-half (1/2) of the underlying Excess Funds remaining from the Sheriff's Sale and/or Private Sale associated with the above-captioned foreclosure matter, which amount is believed to be Ten Thousand Two Hundred Forty-Six and 66/100ths Dollars (\$10,246.66), in favor of Defendants, and specifically as follows:

- Five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Three and 33/100ths Dollars (\$5,123.33), in favor of Defendant Gary A. Flint and that the amount be made payable to Defendant as follows: "BKD Legal LLC, IOLTA and/or Gary A. Flint", and delivered to BKD Legal LLC, c/o Brian K. Duncan, Esq., 119 E. Granville St, Sunbury, OH 43074;
- Five Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Three and 33/100ths Dollars (\$5,123.33), in favor of Defendant Randy A. Flint and that the amount be made payable to Defendant as follows: "BKD Legal LLC, IOLTA and/or Rand: A. Flint", and delivered to BKD Legal LLC, c/o Brian K. Duncan, Esq., 119 E. Granville St., Sunbury, OH 43074.

The real property in question is further described as follows:

Situated in the Village of Broughton, and the State of Ohio and more fully described as follows:

A part of the West Half (1/2) of the Northeast Quarter (1/4) of the Northeast Quarter (1/4) of Section Thirty-two (32), Town Two (2) North, Range Three (3) East, and more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point 726.15 feet West of the Northeast corner of Section 32, Town 2 North, Range 3 East, Paulding County, Ohio, on the Section line between Sections 29 and 32; thence West a distance of 216.50 feet; thence

South a distance of 201.20 feet; thence East a distance of 216.50 feet; thence North a distance of 201.20 feet to the place of beginning, containing One (1) acre of land, more or less. Also known as being part of Outlot 12 and Outlot 13, Section 32, in the Village of Broughton, County of Paulding, and State of Ohio.

Auditor's Parcel #: 12-03S-022-00
Property Address: 14850 SR 613, Paulding, Ohio (Broughton)

The Defendants named above are required to respond to Defendants' Motion within fourteen (14) days after the last date of publication of this notice. In the event that the Defendants fails to respond in the allotted time, judgment can be entered in favor of Defendants for the relief request in Defendants' Motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Brian K. Duncan
Brian K. Duncan, Esq. (0080751)
BKD LEGAL LLC
119 E. Granville St.
Sunbury, Ohio 43215
Telephone: 740.965.1347
Facsimile: 614.386.0410
E-mail: bduncan@bkdlegal.com
Attorney for Defendants Gary L. Flint and Randy L. Flint

PAYNE ELEMENTARY ANNOUNCES NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



Payne Elementary is thrilled to celebrate its November Students of the Month. These exceptional students were recognized for embodying the character trait of "Understanding," which was the focus for the month.

Payne Elementary takes

pride in fostering such admirable character traits in its students and applauds their achievements. Congratulations to all!

Pictured above are (front row) Paisley Coutts, Mary Gerardot, Kinley Mortensen, Kyla Barajas, Trace Rosswurm,

Emmett Litzenberg, Hailee Burkhard, Jayce Linder, Hannah Mawer, and Monroe Taylor; (back row) Gracelynn Coutts, Atlas Allenbaugh, Sam Wilson, Landon Sherry, Silas Dempsey, Zoie Rogers, Thayer Zartman, Annaleigh Walker, Jeremy Seibert.

JOHNSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY RECEIVES \$10,000 GRANT FOR RENOVATION AND REMODELING



The Johnson Memorial Library in Hicksville has been awarded a generous \$10,000 grant to support the second phase of its renovation and remodeling project. This grant underscores the commitment to improving community facilities and enhancing services for local residents.

The funding will assist in continuing updates to the library, providing a more modern and accessible environ-

ment. Dawn Hostetler, President of the Johnson Memorial Library Friends, and Don Hange, a Defiance Area Foundation Grants Committee Member, were present for the announcement, along with board members Mary Kay Shimko, Beth Headley, and Susan Mack, who expressed gratitude for the support.

This grant is part of the ongoing efforts to revitalize the library, ensuring it con-

tinues to serve as a vital resource and gathering place for the community.

RAIDERS SUFFER FIRST LOSS AT BRYAN

The Bryan Golden Bears controlled the first three quarters of Friday night's non-league boys basketball game with Wayne Trace and then held on in the final stanza for a 55-49 victory.

Bryan opened the contest with a thirteen-point first quarter while the Raiders were held to ten markers in the stanza, putting the Williams County squad on top after 8 minutes of action.

The Golden Bears added 14 markers in the second stanza and held the red, white and blue to a dozen points as Bryan extended the lead to

27-22 at the intermission.

In the third period, the Williams County squad posted 16 points to twelve for Wayne Trace in pushing the margin to 43-34 entering the final period.

Wayne Trace won the 4th quarter with a 15-12 margin but it was the Golden Bears who held on for 55-49 victory.

Gavin Jassing led a trio of Golden Bears in double digits with 18 points with Kingston Sito adding 14 and Landon Bassett chipped in 13.

Jack Kennedy (four), Masen Welling (two), Carter Dominique (two) and Tucker Watson (two) completed the scoring for Bryan.

Wayne Trace was paced by Carter Clemens with 19 markers and Caden Sinn chipped in a dozen points.

Brady Miller (seven), Tyson Gerber (six), Tanner Laukhuf (three) and Zach Stoller (two) rounded out the point scorers for the red, white and blue.

WAYNE TRACE IMPROVES TO 4-0

Lexi Moore scored fifteen points and grabbed fifteen rebounds to lead the Wayne Trace Lady Raiders to a 60-38 victory over Bryan in non-conference girls basketball play Tuesday evening.

Careen Winans added a dozen markers for the red, white and blue with Harper Myers bucketing eleven and Caroline Winans finished with ten points as the Lady Raiders put four players in double digits.

Also scoring for Wayne Trace were Tianna Sinn (eight), Kathleen Stoller (two) and Amber Stoller (two).

Caroline Winans picked up six boards, two assists and four steals with Careen Winans totaling 5 rebounds, five assists and four steals.

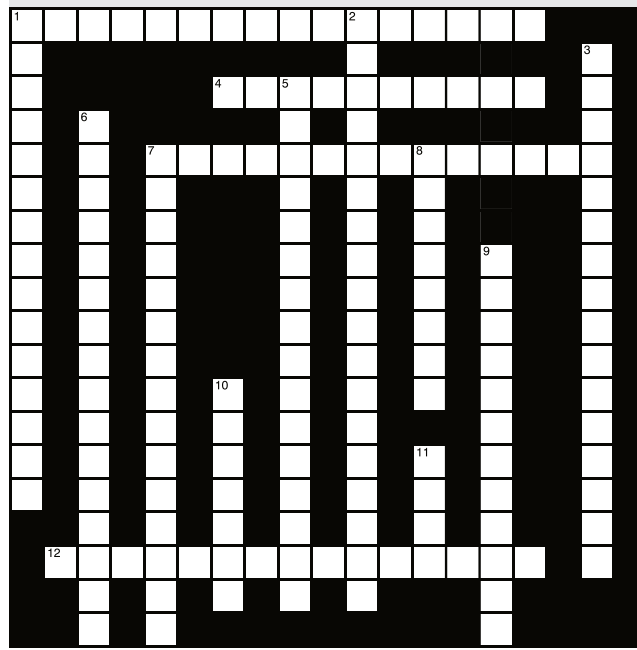
Sinn finished with two assists and two steals and Myers picked up three boards and two steals. Amber Stoller and Kathleen Stoller had three boards apiece as well for Wayne Trace.

Bryan was paced by Josey Arnold with thirteen points followed by Amiyah Langham (seven), Averyann Fisher (four), Piper Hanna (four), Ava Zimmerman (four), Gabby Mossburg (three) and Mylie Vollmer (three).

Arnold and Fisher recorded seven and six rebounds, respectively, with Zimmerman, Langham and Mossburg posting two steals apiece. Arnold recorded two assists as well for the Golden Bears.

Crossword Puzzle

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS



Across

- The second day of Christmas, honoring the first Christian martyr, celebrated on December 26th.
- The tradition of giving gifts throughout the Twelve Days, inspired by the song and the Magi's gifts.
- Represents the Old and New Testaments, signifying the foundation of Christian faith.
- Refers to the first five books of the Old Testament, also called the Pentateuch.

Down

- Symbolizes the six days of creation, as described in the Book of Genesis.
- Symbolizes the eight Beatitudes taught by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount.
- Celebrated on December

27th, during the Twelve Days of Christmas.

- Represents the four Gospels
- Symbolizes the Ten Commandments given to Moses.
- Symbolizes faith, hope, and charity, which are the three theological virtues.
- Celebrated on January 6th, marking the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus.
- The night of January 5th, marking the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas celebrations.
- A traditional Christmas fire that burns throughout the Twelve Days as a symbol of warmth and light.
- The Wise Men who brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus on the Epiphany.

solution on page 11

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



The Union Bank Co.

Your Local Bank in Paulding

103 South Main St. • Paulding, OH 45879

419.567.1075

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 30, 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 OF PUBLICATION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

Judge Tiffany R. Beckman

LOU ANN WANNEMACHER, TREASURER
PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO, Plaintiff,

VS.

Leslie J. Guelde, deceased, et.al., Defendants

Case No. CI 24-174
TO: Unknown Spouse of Leslie J. Guelde; The CITI/Group Finance, Inc.
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: of Unknown Spouse of Leslie J. Guelde 13607 Helen Street, Paulding, Ohio 45879; of The CITI/Group Finance, Inc. 525 Metro Place North, Suite 275, Dublin, Ohio 43017

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 Leslie J. Guelde to pay delinquent real estate taxes owed on said real estate recorded in Volume 257 Page 327; Volume 252, Page 307 of the Paulding County Records.

The real property in question is situated as follows:

Auditor's Parcel #23-51B-071-00

Property Address: 13607 Helen Street, 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: *Ann E. Pease*
Deputy

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Joseph R. Burkard, (#0059106)

Paulding County, Ohio

Prosecuting Attorney

120 S. Walnut Street

Paulding, Ohio 45879

419-399-8270

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

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:

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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: *[Signature]*
Deputy

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Joseph R. Burkard, (#0059106)

Paulding County, Ohio

Prosecuting Attorney

120 S. Walnut Street

Paulding, Ohio 45879

419-399-8270

NEW HAVEN HIGH STUDENT RECEIVES FULL RIDE LILLY ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP



Alanya Bretlinger, a senior at New Haven High School was surprised by Community Foundation representatives and presented with a Lilly Endowment Scholarship award! Alanya will receive full tuition, required fees, and a book stipend for four years to attend University of Saint Francis. She will study to become a Radiation Technologist. Congratulations Alanya!

LEO HIGH STUDENT LILLY ENDOWMENT FULL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Hayden Couey, a senior at Leo High School was surprised by Community Foundation representatives and presented with a Lilly Endowment Scholarship award! Hayden will receive full tuition, required fees, and a book stipend for four years to attend Butler University. He plans to major in Finance. Congratulations Kayden!

PAULDING COUNTY BAC HOSTS INFORMATIVE IN 4TH QUARTER MEETING

The Paulding County Economic Development (PCED) office hosted the fourth quarter Business Advisory Council (BAC) Committee meeting this week. The meeting was held in the newly remodeled OSU Extension building on the campus of the Paulding County Fairgrounds.

Twenty-one business leaders and educators introduced themselves so participants understood where and how each attendee fits into Paulding County growth. The event

was moderated by PCED Director Tim Copsey. Copsey shared how the council is stronger with participation and how it can benefit school, student and business relationships around the county, for the future.

Guests heard a summary of recent BAC Steering Committee activity. The committee meets quarterly on months just prior to full council meetings. This committee digs deeper into the details of how to develop collaboration between businesses and educators and helps guide future development within the BAC. For the 2024-25 school year

BAC template submission to the Ohio Education Association, 28 programs were identified and reported that were taking place between business and educators in the county. This committee is now reviewing each of these programs individually to see if they remain viable, are relevant to business today, and if we can emulate them at other schools or businesses within the county. Review will continue throughout the year.

As they started out in the past, this group was mentored by other high performing BAC groups around the state. The Ottawa County BAC has

offered an invite for the Paulding County members to join in one of their upcoming meetings to see how they run their BAC and if anything could be learned for the future. The group will look at the date and see if there might be an opportunity to participate in a collaborative meeting soon.

Discussion also took place in regard to trying to connect with last year's high school graduates. It would be of interest to the BAC to be able to share open employment opportunities, from around the county, with graduates and with current college students. This would allow students to see employment opportunities, within their field of study, as they determine their employment future.

One highlighted area, for possible improvement from the committee, is with the OhioMeansJobs employment portal. It was noted that this seems cumbersome for students. A meeting has been scheduled to see if there may be an opportunity to walk through this portal with students and OMJ state leadership to see how training may help, or if there needs to be some tweaking to the portal itself. Results will be shared with the committee at a future meeting.

All three county high schools addressed the group sharing new and exciting things taking place with each of them. Superintendent Rick Turner shared updates from Vantage Career Center and Northwest State Community College Van Wert campus Dean of Students Jon Tomlinson shared information in regard to the college.

Copsey closed out the meeting sharing information about potential opportunities that have taken place in other nearby counties that the BAC should consider. This included a business breakfast at Patrick Henry High School and an elementary business expo at Holgate Elementary. Also shared were dates of April 2 for the Paulding County Business, College and Career Showcase and June 2-5 & 9 for the 2025 Paulding County Teacher Bootcamp. The bootcamp is provided by the State of Ohio to offer local high school administrators and educators the opportunity go out to tour and meet local businesses professionals while receiving continuing college credit.

The PC BAC will convene again in February with a Steering Committee meeting and a full membership meeting in March

LADY PANTHERS HOLD OFF LANCERS

Host Paulding jumped in front after one quarter before holding off a rally by visiting Lincolnview for a 56-49 victory in non-league girls basketball action last week.

The maroon and white poured in twenty-three points in the opening stanza of the contest while limiting the Lancers to thirteen.

In the second stanza, the Lady Panthers added nine markers compared to seven for the Lancers in giving Paulding a 32-20 halftime advantage.

Lincolnview cut into the deficit in the third quarter, outscoring Paulding 13-10 to trim the Panther lead to 42-33 entering the final period.

The visitors from Van Wert won the fourth quarter

FOUR FLAGS FOR FREEDOM INITIATIVE RECEIVES \$1,000 MOOSE GRANT



The Defiance County Economic Development office is celebrating a generous \$1,000 grant awarded by the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094 to support the Four Flags for Freedom Initiative. This initiative proudly showcases four flags that now fly prominently in the community, symbolizing unity and patriotism.

The grant presentation featured Paige Wesche, Assistant

Executive Director of Defiance County Economic Development, alongside Stacy McCartney, Administrator of the Defiance Moose Lodge. Their collaboration highlights the impact of community partnerships in enhancing local projects.

For more information about the Four Flags for Freedom Initiative, visit www.fourflagsforfreedom.com.

16-14 but it was the host maroon and white that held on for the 56-49 victory.

Tori Schlatter topped the Paulding effort with twenty points on the night with Kayleigh Dunham chipping in ten markers.

Also finding the scoring column for the Lady Panthers were Addison Pease (six), Brooklynn Bakle (five), Brooklynn Schlatter (five), Kate Manz (four), Ameah Carr (three), Estie Pease (two) and Lucy Breier (one).

Keira Breese bucketed twenty-two points for Lincolnview to lead all scorers on the night and Emerson Walker chipped in eight markers.

Quinlyn Walker (seven), Ella Elling (six), Brooklyn Byrne (four) and Annabel Horstman (two) all found the scoring column for the Lady Lancers.

WARRIORS GET HOME WIN

The Woodlan Lady Warriors improved to 5-3 overall and 2-0 in the ACAC with a 60-43 victory over Adams Central Saturday outside of Woodburn.

After playing to a 9-9 tie at the end of one quarter, the host Lady Warriors took control in the second stanza with a 23-point period that put Woodlan on top 32-22 at the intermission.

Woodlan then followed that up with a 20-point third quarter while limiting the Flying Jets to a dozen markers, giving the Lady Warriors a 52-34 advantage entering the final period.

Adams Central outscored Woodlan 9-8 in the fourth quarter but it wasn't enough as the Lady Warriors cruised to the 60-43 victory.

Alyssa Anderson was

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COLLINS & GUILFORD WEALTH ADVISORS SPONSORS DAF GALA COCKTAIL HOUR



The Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) is thrilled to announce that Collins & Guilford Wealth Advisors, LLC, has committed \$2,500 to sponsor the Cocktail Hour for the upcoming DAF Gala. The event is scheduled to take place on October 4, 2025, and promises to be an evening filled with celebration and community engagement.

Representing the sponsorship are Kirk Collins and Matthew Guilford of Collins & Guilford Wealth Advisors.

They were joined by Chris Yoder, Executive Director of the Defiance Area Foundation, during the sponsorship presentation. This generous contribution highlights the firm's dedication to supporting local initiatives and strengthening community ties.

For more information about the gala and sponsorship opportunities, visit the Defiance Area Foundation's website at www.defianceareafoundation.org/gala.

dominant for Woodlan, posting a double-double with 18 points and 20 rebounds in the contest while adding three steals.

Brooke Kneubuhler also recorded a double-double for the Lady Warriors, totaling 13 points and ten boards to go along with nine assists.

Reagan Widenhoefer chipped in 11 points, two rebounds, six assists and two steals with Savannah Scheumann adding five points, four rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Emma McDaniel, Alix Jacquay and McKenna Goble

all had three points for Woodlan with Mariah Thullner and Layla Hodson posting two markers apiece.

Kara Fisher topped the Flying Jets with 18 points and two assists while Ava Stafford and Ellie Ogg both chipped in nine markers for Adams Central. Ogg and Stafford also grabbed six and five rebounds, respectively, for the visiting squad.

Myla Ellenberger contributed three points while Tenley Hendricks and Cali Dairymple picked up two points apiece.

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WARRIORS OPEN ACAC PLAY WITH WIN

The Woodlan Warriors opened ACAC boys basketball play on Friday with a 56-40 victory over Jay County outside of Woodburn.

The Warriors took a 15-10 lead at the end of one quarter and dominated the second stanza, outscoring the Patriots 15-2 in the period for a 30-12 halftime advantage.

Woodlan continued to expand the gap in the third quarter, picking up 17 points compared to 14 for Jay County as the Warriors posted a 47-26 lead entering the final stanza.

Trey Yoder led all scorers in the contest with 30 points for Woodlan, which evened its overall record at 2-2 on the season.

Oliver Adams contributed 14 markers for the Warriors while Mason Moore chipped in six and Drew Fleek posted four points. Keaton Delagrang had the remaining two points for Woodlan.

Tucker Griffin led the way for Jay County with 16 points on the night and Christopher Comer posted ten markers.

Gradin Swoveland chipped in eight points for the Patriots with Kade Sommers, Cole Forthofer and Aiden Phillips posting two markers apiece.

ANTWERP WRESTLING SHINES AT HICKSVILLE INVITATIONAL

The Antwerp Archers wrestling team displayed great determination and skill at the recent Hicksville Invitational. The team achieved notable individual performances across several weight classes, showcasing the athletes' hard work and competitive spirit.

Results:
• 126 lbs: Dominic Laker went 1-2 with one pin.
• 132 lbs: Kamren Johnson secured 2nd place with a 3-1 record and three pins.
• 138 lbs: Braxton Peters finished 1-4 with one pin.

(Continued from Page 7)

making.
Miller City Highlights:
• Miller City's offense was spearheaded by Elizabeth Erford, who racked up 16 points, and Kiera Ruhe, who added 7 points. Hailey Warnimont showcased her versatility, scoring 11 points and making key defensive plays. Contributions from Anna Schnipke

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• 144 lbs: Gage Clevinger claimed 3rd place with a strong 4-1 record and four pins.

• 150 lbs: Zac Salas also took 3rd place, achieving a 4-1 record with three pins.

• 157 lbs: Skyler Octaviano earned 3rd place with a 3-1 record and one pin.

• 165 lbs: Griffin Kosch recorded a 2-3 record with two pins.

• 215 lbs: Aiden Dunderman ended with an 0-2 record.

• 285 lbs: Jarod Traxler claimed 3rd place with a 4-1 record and two pins.

The team demonstrated resilience and strength on the mat, and several Archers stood out with top-three finishes. Congratulations to the team and coaching staff for their efforts and achievements!

BIG GREEN COAST TO WIN OVER ARCHERS

Visiting Ottoville opened a big lead after one quarter and the Big Green never looked back in coasting to a 58-41 win over host Antwerp Tuesday in non-conference boys basketball play.

The Putnam County squad led 18-7 at the end of eight minutes of action and expanded that margin to 37-13 at the midway point of the contest.

Ottoville pushed the advantage to 49-22 at the end of three periods before settling on the 58-41 victory.

Landon Horstman and Brandon Calvelage led the way for the Big Green with 14 and 11 points, respectively.

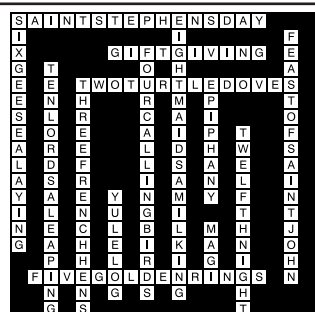
Matthew Horstman (nine), Ashton Miller (nine), Garrett Trentman (eight), Nick Quartana (three), Joe Leis (two) and Alex Leis (two) completed the scoring for the Putnam County squad.

Zaine McMichael bucketed 14 points to top the Archers and Tavin Sholl chipped in ten markers.

and Anna Lammers further cemented the team's commanding performance.

The game showcased Miller City's cohesive teamwork and execution, while Antwerp will look to regroup and build on individual performances for upcoming games. Congratulations to Miller City on a well-deserved victory!

Others finding the scoring column for the blue and white were Keegan Gray-Wyckoff (nine), Weston Rhonehouse (four), Drew Eaken (two), Aiden Lichty (one) and Hampton Rogge (one).



Crossword solution from page 9

OPERATION CLEAN DUDS RECEIVES \$1,000 MOOSE GRANT



Operation Clean Duds, a local initiative supporting laundry needs in Defiance and surrounding communities, has been awarded a \$1,000 grant by the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094. This funding will be used to assist individuals and families with laundry services, promoting cleanliness and dignity within the community.

The grant presentation included representatives from

the Moose Lodge, featuring Jasmin Conley and Melvina Smith, alongside members of Operation Clean Duds. This partnership highlights the lodge's ongoing commitment to supporting community-focused initiatives.

The Moose Lodge's generosity continues to make a significant impact in the Defiance area, ensuring essential services are accessible to those in need.

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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,
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Glory to the Newborn King! MERRY CHRISTMAS

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

Dear WCCH Family,

The wonderment of God's love and care is best seen through the eyes of a child. At WCCH, houseparents, staff and volunteers see this truth while ministering to the children. The following reflection is from Karlee, a young lady who helps us see what children see.

"WCCH has its ups and downs, but it is a wonderful place if you let it be. One of my favorite memories is from Church Camp when I went repelling and my hair got stuck in the harness while going down

the cliff a third time. It was a scary moment for me – my life flashed before my eyes, but Jim [instructor] helped me by cutting a little bit of my hair off to free up the harness.

This was scary, but when I got out it was a funny experience. That was my first time ever repelling or doing anything like that, and I am looking forward to doing it again. Another favorite memory at WCCH is Christmas, especially when we walk into the new building and see all the presents. What got me the most last year

was seeing one of the little kids and how her presents seemed to tower two times over her head. It was funny seeing her standing next to it. All in all, we have a lot of fun here even the times when your life flashes before your eyes."

I hope you enjoyed reading Karlee's description of Christmas at WCCH. As adults, we know it is hard to live at WCCH during the holidays. Thankfully, Karlee sees the wonderment of God's generosity far more than the problems that brought her to WCCH. Just like the trouble she en-

countered repelling, Karlee knows God will always send someone to help. God's love is always greater than our problems, especially when we see His gifts compared to a child.

The WCCH children are thankful for your generosity. For the kids, your prayers and donations of food and money are seen as Hope and Love. May God bless you this season as we celebrate Jesus the Christ, the Son of the Living God.

—In Service to Him,
Joe Heins Executive Director

BIG NEWS: WCCH is debt free!

The WCCH Strong & Courageous Strategic Vision was launched in March 2021, a vision that expands how we care for children and the number of children in our care.

The vision was launched from a foundation of faith and unceasing prayer, careful planning, and belief in God's faithfulness. To realize the vision, we first needed to build a 13,000 SF learning and counseling center and expand the homes with bedrooms for relief house parents. Both projects were completed in April 2023.

Now, we are excited to announce the associated capital campaign is 100% funded! The campaign received 1,436 unique donations totaling \$2,555,250, including a recent donation of \$500,000. Your faithful support allows WCCH to remain debt free!



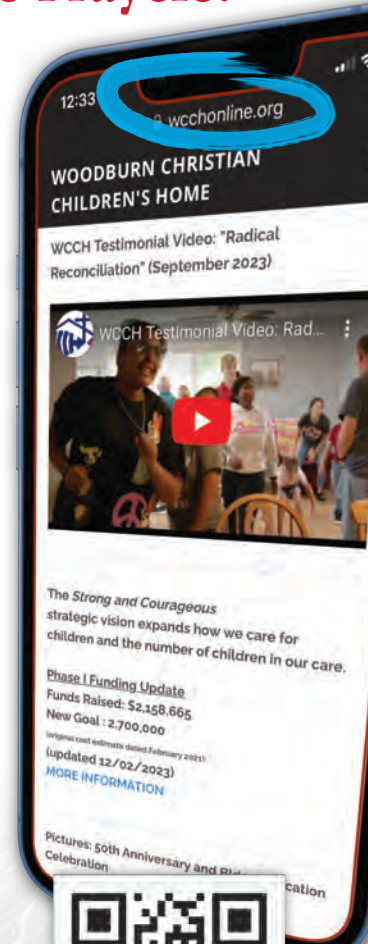
God Answers Prayers!

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

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

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

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



Scan the QR code to view our website for more information!

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