

Add your event to the calendar
info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES

HARLAN, IN:
Daniel E. Miller, 73, of Harlan, Indiana, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on June 8, 2026, at his son's home in Auburn. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

HARLAN, IN:
SANDRA KAY KOCH, 82, of Harlan, died peacefully at home with her loved ones at her side on June 13, 2026. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

MORROW, OH:
Villa June Hale, 90, of Morrow, Ohio passed away on June 14, 2026. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

PAYNE, OH:
Rosalie Sue Gasser, 79, of Payne passed away Monday, June 15, 2026 at Vancrest of Payne. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

PAULDING, OH:
Darris "Duke" Olen Albert, 80, of Paulding, passed away Friday, June 19, 2026 at Defiance Inpatient Hospice. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

PAYNE, OH:
Larry Lynn Overmyer, 74, of Payne, passed away at home on Sunday, June 21st, 2026. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.

PAYNE, OH:
Keith Edward Carter, 91, of Payne, passed away Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at his home. Arr. by Dooley Funeral Homes of Antwerp and Payne.



ANTWERP, OH:
Keith E. Derck, 59, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away suddenly on Sunday, June 28, 2026.

Keith was born in Hicksville, Ohio on March 28, 1967, a son of the late Rose Ann (Schmidt) and Gerald Jerome Derck.

Being raised on the family farm, Keith honored his father's legacy by farming with his brother. Keith also owned Derck's Landscaping Supply. He served the Antwerp Community as an EMT for 10 years. Keith's greatest joy was his family. He rarely missed a grandchild's sporting event and always called to check the results if he was unable to attend. The trips he took to Alaska, Hawaii and Florida will always be cherished by his family. Keith will always be remembered as a kind and

lovable man who was never too shy to share his sense of humor with a stranger and for the love of his famous tomato and peanut butter sandwiches!

Keith will be sadly missed by his wife, Beth (Sensabaugh), to whom he was married December 12, 1997; daughters, Candace (Josh) Feehan and Casey (Nando) Jasso; siblings, Ken (Nancy) Derck, Gary (Pat) Derck and Diane (Tony)

Green; grandchildren, Aubree and Jaxon Feehan and Adalyn, Gavyn, RaeLynn and Daxtyn Jasso and his beloved dogs, Bear and Urban.

Viewing is Tuesday, July 7th, 4 PM to 7 PM at Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W. River Street, Antwerp.

His funeral service is 10:30 AM, with viewing one hour prior on Wednesday, July 8th at Dooley Funeral Home, Antwerp.

He will be laid to rest in Bethel Cemetery, Cecil, Ohio.

Memorials are to Hicksville Schools for the FFA Program, 958 E High St, Hicksville, Ohio 43526 or Antwerp Local Schools Ag. Science Program, 303 S. Harrmann Road, Antwerp, Ohio 45813.

Fond memories may be shared at dooleyfuneralhome.com

NORTHWEST STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION PRESENTS \$1,182,805 CHECK TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Pictured above are (l-r) NSCC President Dr. Todd Hernandez, NSCC Foundation Board Chair Peter Beck, NSCC Executive Director of Foundation and Alumni Relations Robbin Wilcox, NSCC Board of Trustees Chair Mickey Schwarzbek

The Northwest State Community College Board of Trustees met in regular session on Thursday, June 25th at the Archbold campus. After roll call, Robbin Wilcox, NSCC Executive Director for Development & NSCC Foundation, and Foundation Board Chair Peter Beck presented the Board with a check in the amount of \$1,182,805. This eclipses last year's impressive mark, which was \$1,051,000. The money is designated for student scholarships, equipment, outreach programs and student support efforts.

Over \$10 million has been provided through the generosity of businesses and individuals who have supported the Foundation over the past ten years. Peter Beck, NSCC Foundation Board Chair, applauded the generosity of individuals and businesses who have donated to the NSCC Foundation, for helping make this presentation possible. Beck also praised Robbin Wilcox for her tireless efforts to raise needed funds for Northwest State scholarships and strategic initiatives. The NSCC Foundation awarded over \$1,000,000 in scholarships at the spring 2026 Scholarship Awards Ceremony.

Another highlight of the Board meeting was the passage of the FY 2026-2027 budget. The total budget is just north of \$50M, which represents an increase of ap-

proximately \$3M from FY 2025-2026. As part of the approved FY27 budget, the College will begin the process of migrating to a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform. NSCC President Dr. Todd Hernandez noted, "The new budget allocates funds for strategic initiatives that will continue to allow Northwest State Community College to elevate northwest Ohio through increased education, training and services."

In other Board action:

- Approved the employment of Elisia Rosales (2nd Shift Custodian), and Jennifer Croft (Faculty-Natural Sciences / Biology).
- Approved the 2026-2028 ODHE Completion Plan for NSCC.
- Rescinded Resolution 25-65 (Suspension of the Institutional / General Learning Outcomes), and approved amended Policy 14-5-07 (Institutional / General Learning Outcomes).
- Approved miscellaneous curriculum changes, including new courses, course in-activations, etc.
- Approved increasing part-time faculty pay rates by 2% beginning Fall 2026 semester.
- Approved amended Sexual Misconduct Policy.
- Approved miscellaneous employment contracts, two resignations and one retirement.

PARKVIEW HEALTH REGISTERED NURSE BROOKE RANDOL NAMED

Brooke Randol, a clinical nurse specialist at Parkview Health, was awarded the Douglas J. Leonard Indiana Caregiver of the Year Award by the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) at the 20th annual Indiana Quality and Safety Summit, held June 18 at the Forum Events Center in Fishers, Indiana.

The award recognizes an individual in the healthcare industry whose performance in the delivery of care is considered exemplary by patients and peers. It was



Brooke Randol, clinical nurse specialist for Parkview Health.

named in honor of IHA's fourth president, Doug Leonard, who led IHA from 2007 to 2017 after a 30-year career working for Columbus Regional Health, where he served as CEO.

"Brooke does amazing things every day for our patients, whether it's providing care in our clinics, meeting with patients virtually or working with our physicians and nurses to educate them in best practices," said Juli Johnson, chief nursing and healthcare markets executive at Parkview Health. "She's a tireless educator and advocate in wound care, and her leadership, innovation and drive directly and indirectly ensure patients are receiving the best quality care possible."

Randol, MSN, RN, AGCNS-BC, CMSRN, CWS, received her Bachelor of Science in nursing from Purdue University Fort Wayne and received a Master of Science in nursing from Indiana University Indianapolis in 2022. She started with Parkview in 2013 as a medical/surgical nurse before moving into wound care in 2017. She advanced to the role of clinical nurse specialist in 2022 and now focuses on improving systemwide patient outcomes in wound care.

Through her leadership in wound care, she has advanced patient outcomes

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

LET US NOT FORGET



We live in one of the greatest countries in the world. Some would even consider it to be the promise land. America was created on the premises of a brand-new start. Our flag (Old Glory) was intricately weaved through the faith and courage of our colonial ancestors. (Black and white) Crispus Attucks a black patriot, was the first man to die for the America's freedom. (On mar 5th 1770 at the Boston massacre).

The bible tells us that faith without works is dead. (James 2:26). The same thing it took to obtain our freedom is the same thing that it will take to keep it. (Black and White). Freedom is not free!

Blood Sweat and tears, it costs us all something. Let us not forget. Jesus Christ, the author and the finisher of our faith. Let us not forget, freedom is not free. It was prepaid for you.

This is a day that the Lord has made! It's a brand-new day! Yesterday is gone, never to be seen again! God made it a new day for a reason: that

you may have a brand-new start.

Psalms 118:24 (NIV) - "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it."

Psalms 118:24 is a profound verse that encapsulates a powerful perspective on life and gratitude. This verse invites believers to recognize the significance of each day as a divine gift from God. The declaration, "This is the day that the Lord has made," emphasizes that every single day is crafted by God, filled with opportunities, challenges, and moments that can lead to growth and joy. So, get out of the Past! Let it go! Let God!

The command to "rejoice and be glad in it" reflects an attitude of gratitude and joy, despite our circumstances. It stresses the importance of choosing joy as a response to each day we are given. Life is too short! I encourage you to acknowledge the beauty and potential in every day. God's presence accompanies us through every moment.

In a world often overwhelmed by negativity and stress, this verse offers a gentle reminder to pause, reflect, and give thanks. It invites us to celebrate life, appreciate God's blessings, and find joy in the smallest things. By embracing this mindset, we cultivate resilience and a hopeful spirit, empowering us to face the day with courage and a heart full of praise. So, no more stinking thinking! Enjoy this beautiful day. America The Beautiful! Happy 4th of July.

Peace & Love,

—Pastor Dwayne

across Parkview Health by expanding access to specialized services, implementing evidence-based practices, championing innovative technologies to identify patients at risk for pressure injuries, and helping standardize care across hospitals, clinics and virtual settings.

"Brooke does so many things for our wound care service line from delivering patient care to overseeing clinical research to presenting at regional and national meetings and more," said Dr. James Edlund, wound care medical director for Parkview Health. "She is a caregiver, connector, teacher and facilitator. We could not ask for a better or more effective clinical nurse specialist in wound care."

Her unwavering commitment to putting patients first, combined with her ability to drive systemwide improvements that benefit communities across Indiana and northwest Ohio, exemplifies the highest standards of nursing and healthcare excellence.

"Brooke has earned the

admiration of patients and colleagues alike through her dedication, expertise and relentless pursuit of better outcomes," said IHA President Scott B. Tittle. "Her work demonstrates how one caregiver can make a lasting difference—not only in the lives of individual patients, but across an entire health system. Brooke's leadership and commitment to excellence make her a highly deserving recipient of the Douglas J. Leonard Indiana Caregiver of the Year Award."



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IN MY ERA

Penny for Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker

"Long ago and far away, In a land that time forgot, Before the days of Dylan, Or the dawn of Camelot. There lived a race of innocents, And they were you and me, Long ago and far away "In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"Oh, there was truth and goodness In that land where we were born

"Where navels were for oranges, And Peyton Place was porn.

"For Ike was in the White House, And Hoss was on TV, and God was in His heaven n the Land That Made Me, Me

"We learned to gut a muffler, We washed our hair at dawn, We spread our crinolines to dry In circles on the lawn.

"And they could hear us coming

"All the way to Tennessee, All starched and sprayed and rumbling In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"We longed for love and romance, And waited for the prince, And Eddie Fisher married Liz, And no one's seen him since.

"We danced to "Little Darlin", And Sang to "Stagger Lee" And cried for Buddy Holly In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"Only girls wore earrings then, And three was one too many, And only boys wore flat-top cuts, Except for Jean McKinney.

"And only in our wildest dreams

"Did we expect to see?

"A boy named George with Lipstick, In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"We fell for Frankie Avalon, Annette was oh, so nice, and when they made a movie they never made it twice.

"We didn't have a Star Trek Five, Or Psycho Two and Three, Or Rocky-Rambo Twenty In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"Miss Kitty had a heart of gold, And Chester had a limp, And Reagan was a Democrat Whose co-star was a chimp.



"We had a Mr. Wizard, But not a Mr. T, And Oprah couldn't talk, yet In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"We had our share of heroes, We never thought they'd go, At least not Bobby Darin, Or Marilyn Monroe.

"For youth was still eternal, And life was yet to be, And Elvis was forever,

"In the Land That Made Me, Me.

"We'd never seen the rock band That was Grateful to be Dead,

"And Airplanes weren't named Jefferson, And Zeppelins weren't Led.

"And Beatles lived in gardens then, And Monkees in a tree, Madonna was a virgin.

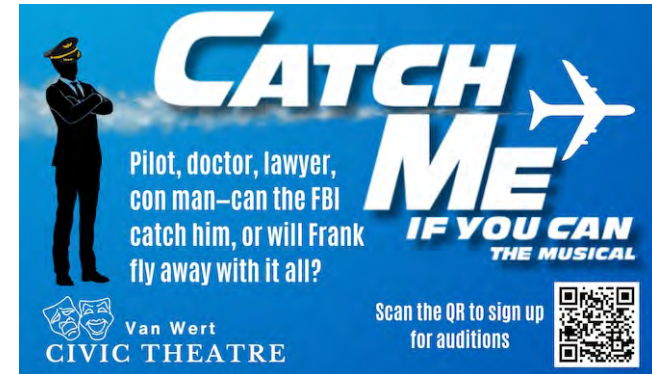
"In the Land That Made Me."

I ran into this poem and really liked it. There will be a Part 2 next week. Enjoy this poem and I will give you a Penny For Your Thoughts.

1983.

Although writing was never his profession, Bailey's path to becoming an author began during his years as a Wildlife Officer. Local newspapers often contacted him after hunting seasons for interviews. After finding that some published accounts didn't accurately reflect what he had said, Bailey began preparing written summaries himself. Those reports eventually evolved into the popular "Paulding County Outdoors" column, which later expanded into a full outdoor page featuring conservation

VWCT ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR "CATCH ME IF YOU CAN"



Ready to chase your dreams across the globe? The beat goes on at Van Wert Civic Theatre as open auditions are called for the spectacular musical comedy *Catch Me If You Can*. Featuring a book by Terrence McNally and a swinging 60s score by Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, this show is presented through a special arrangement with Music Theatre International and is directed by Jerry Zimmerman.

Fly high with Frank Abagnale, Jr. in this high-energy musical comedy based on the hit film and incredible true story. From pilot to doctor to lawyer, follow the world's most charming con artist as he out runs the FBI in a globe-trotting chase filled with glamorous sets, spectacular dance numbers, and a swinging 60s score. Can the law catch him, or will Frank fly away with it all?

Casting for this big, bright spectacle requires a large multi-generational cast of strong singers, exceptional dancers, and sharp comedic actors. Key principal roles include Frank Abagnale, Jr., a charismatic teenager with a massive vocal range; Carl

Hanratty, a seasoned, straight-laced FBI agent with great comic timing; Frank Abagnale, Sr. and Paula Abagnale, Frank's smooth-talking father and glamorous French mother; and Brenda Strong, a sweet, young nurse with a powerhouse vocal solo. Additionally, a highly energetic ensemble of singers and dancers is needed to play pilots, flight attendants, doctors, nurses, and agents who carry the swinging 60s show-stopping production numbers. High school performers are highly encouraged to try out as they are an ideal age match for many of the roles. More character information can be found by scanning the QR code:

Auditions will be held on July 12 and July 13, 2026, starting promptly at 7:00 p.m.. Show dates are September 17, 18, 19, 20, 24, 25, 26, and 27, 2026. All hopeful actors should report to the Van Wert Civic Theatre at 118 S. Race Street in Van Wert.

Antwerp, *The Rings of Saturn: A Game Warden's View of the Universe* is available now by calling or stopping in the West Bend Printing office to place your order. The book offers readers an authentic glimpse into the life of an Ohio Wildlife Officer and the people, places, and experiences that shaped a remarkable career.

CARING & SHARING 127 YARD SALE DONATIONS

For those eagerly awaiting a chance to donate items to the Caring & Sharing Food Pantry 127 Yard Sale, donation times and locations have now been set. The event runs August 5-8 with monies raised going to support the pantry's services.

Where to donate:
First Presbyterian Church
114 W Caroline St, Paulding, OH 45879
(yellow brick church, side door in parking lot)

The current schedule for drop-offs is:

Thursdays, July 9, 16, 23, 30 — 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Saturdays, July 11, 18, 25 — 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Friday, July 31 — 12:00-6:00 p.m.

Saturday Aug 1 — 10:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Aug 2 — 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Monday, Aug 3 — 10:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

Tue, Aug 4 — 10:00 — 7:00 p.m. LAST MINUTE DONATIONS ONLY. This is the last day of setup, as the sale starts Wednesday. Please donate before this if possible.

You may also donate items

news and local outdoor topics.

"I wasn't really a writer," Bailey admitted. "My training was in technical writing." The turning point came when someone offered simple advice: write the story the same way you would tell it to someone sitting across from you. That approach became the foundation of his writing style.

Fellow officers frequently encouraged Bailey to preserve the memorable events from his career in a book. He began organizing stories shortly before retirement but set the project aside for several years while enjoying retired life with Sharon. Today, the couple stays busy with their five great-granddaughters, who live in Paulding and Payne, and continue to enjoy the outdoors together.

Faith also plays an important role in Bailey's life. While he appreciates traditions from both Protestant and Catholic backgrounds, he says he feels closest to God when surrounded by nature. A pocket copy of the Gospel of John, received years ago from Pilots for Christ during an aviation gathering in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, accompanied him throughout much of his career.

Now complete, *The Rings of Saturn* brings together decades of memorable encounters, thoughtful reflections, and lessons learned in the outdoors. Bailey hopes readers will enjoy the stories as much as he enjoyed living them.

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

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

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

MILITARY HISTORY IN PAULDING COUNTY



By: Mark Holtsberry

Elyehue Lee Underwood

This fella was born May 25, 1898, in Paulding County. The son of Orlando Addison Underwood, born June 9, 1878, in Paulding, and Mary Jane (Lee) Underwood, born May 12, 1880, in Harlan County, Kentucky.

This couple was married July 24, 1898, in Paulding. By 1900, a son, Elyehue, was born. This family was living in Blue Creek Township, Paulding County. Orlando was farming. On January 28, 1901, a son, Ora Edward, was born. In 1903, a son, Olen Aaron, was born. A daughter, Cleo Belle, was born in 1904. By 1910, this family was still living and farming in Blue Creek Township. The children were in school. In 1914, Elyehue left home at the age of fifteen. On March 5, 1914, Elyehue arrived in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. He lived in Cottom, Ontario, Canada. On May 28, 1917, Elyehue came home to Van Wert and joined Company D, 2nd Ohio National Guard, out of Van Wert. This unit was consolidated into the 145th United States Infantry. This occurred November 17, 1917. He served in Company C. He was transferred to Headquarters Company March 27, 1919. He served in the Meuse-Argonne defensive sector. Slightly wounded October 16, 1918. On March 20,

1919, he boarded the ship "Great Northern" at Brest, France. On March 27, 1919, the ship landed in Hoboken, New Jersey.

On April 16, 1919, he was honorably discharged. In 1920, Elyehue stayed in the military. He was stationed at the Aviation Field, Riverside, California. Also in 1920, he married Helen Ruth (Mumy), born September 9, 1901, in Kansas. On January 25, 1921, a son, Vernon Lee, was born, followed by Helen Louise, August 19, 1922, and Donald Charles, October 24, 1925. He served in World War Two as a radioman second class.

He retired from the California State Highway Patrol. By 1930, Elyehue, Ruth, and family had moved to Dearborn, Wayne County, Michigan. He was working for a construction company. He was living with his brother, Olen, and his wife, Violet. By 1934, Elyehue was working as a construction engineer-foreman for the Victorville County Water District. He was running a W.P.A. (Works Progress Administration) crew. They were working on a new water supply system for Victorville County. Elyehue and his wife, Ruth, were living at 4485 Riverside, California. On December 5, 1937, Elyehue was going home to Riverside for the weekend to spend time with family. He was traveling down Cajon Pass and, apparently, he did not see the truck in front of him in time. He hit the brakes and slid 32', and his sedan struck the truck from behind. Elyehue was killed instantly. Tuesday, December 7, at 2:00 p.m., funeral services were held in the chapel of the Simmons Mortuary at Riverside, California. The #1726 V.F.W., Odd Fellows, and American Legion were present. Burial was in the Legion Post plot at the Riverside Cemetery. His wife, Ruth, passed away June 14, 1955. She was buried beside Elyehue.

...Until Then!

during church office hours from 9:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. Please call the church first 419-399-2438 to ensure there is someone available. Please do not leave items outside in the parking lot. Please contact Event Co-Ordinator Brent

Fishbaugh at 419-378-2068 with questions or concerns.

Parking lot spaces are also still available for rent. Community participation is what has made this event so successful since its inception. Thank you all.

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The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:

- 1 — EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE — Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.
- 2 — CLAIMS ASSISTANCE — Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.

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

Our office hours are Tuesday thru Friday, 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Arrangements can be made for after office hours appointments
Any questions, please call 419-399-8285

SCARLET STRUTTERS RECEIVE \$1,000 GRANT



Congratulations to the Scarlet Strutters Baton Corp for receiving a \$1,000 grant from the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094. The Moose Lodge holds a fund under the umbrella of the Defiance Area Foundation, and this grant given will be used for

the Strutters Washington DC parade.

Pictured with the grant are (l-r) Stacy McCartney - Moose Lodge Administrator and Ron Smith - Founder and Director of Scarlet Strutters Baton Corps.



OH WHAT I'D GIVE...

By: James Neuhouser

To dance with my father again. When Luther Vandross met Richard Marx they became instant friends and began to work together. Richard would write songs and Luther would sing them. But still Richard's life long dream of writing a song for his father remained.

It turned out that Richard's father had recently died in a car accident so this would be a joint effort. This would be a love letter to both of their dads.

Luther is remembering how fair his dad was in discipline. When his mother asked him to do something he didn't want to do he would run to his dad. But in the end his dad supported his mother.

"If I could steal one final glance

"I'd play a song that would never end

"Oh how I'd love to

"Dance with my father again."

But the real tragedy for an 8-year-old boy was to see the grief of his mother. It would tear his heart out and it is something that he would never forget.

"Sometimes I listened outside her door. And I'd hear how mama cried for him. I pray for her even more than me."

"I know I'm praying for much too much. Could you send back the only man she ever loved? But, dear Lord, she's dying..."

"To dance with my father again

"Every night I fall asleep and this is all I ever dream

"To dance with my father again."

Luther died at the age of 54, just 10 days after he recorded the song. He left the legacy that he had worked on his entire life. There's just something about this song. His mother lost all four of her sons during her lifetime.

As one gets older you seem to have more time to contemplate. There are very few things in life that I regret, yet in the back of my mind, did I do enough? Was I around when my folks needed help? As I look back, my sister and brother-in-law did everything for them, but could I have stepped in and helped more?

"If I could steal one final glance."

We are in contact with a



Defiance Christian Academy families and staff gather for a "get to know you" potluck before the school year begins in August 2026.

(Continued from Page 1)

families. The kids are running around having a great time, and it's been fun getting to know parents and students in a more relaxed setting. There's a real sense of community here that feels very welcoming" said M. Hogan, parent. "I love getting to know the other families and seeing how much we have in common and the excitement we all have for this opportunity for our children," noted B. Stoller, parent.

When asked about what they are looking forward to this year, here were some responses: "I am most excited to see DCA officially becoming a part of the greater Defiance community. Launching the school has been a labor of love

for many and has rested in God's sovereignty. To know my child will have an enriching education with a foundation on God in Defiance..there are no words!" said K. Hogan, a parent to an attending student. Another mom, M. Nielsen, said "I am looking forward to the opportunity for my kids to have other adults in their lives; whether its teachers or volunteers, to speak God's truths to them, help them sort out a Christian worldview and encourage them in their growth as a Christian. I am also excited for them to make friends with other kids who are being raised in Christian households." J. Hotmire, board president commented that he "is most looking forward to see-

ing children grow and learn in a Christian school and see discipleship happen as our great teachers get an opportunity to teach the next generation."

Defiance Christian Academy will open this year as a K-6 school with plans to expand grade offerings in the near future. The school will be hosted at Defiance Christian Church, but its board is made up of Christians from varying Protestant Evangelical denominations. The school will use a classically influenced curriculum and will be mostly tech-free as the students will not be paired with a technology device. All subjects will be taught from a biblical worldview and the teacher-student ratios will be small compared to area schools. The principal

on staff is a retired administrator from Ottoville Local School District.

The school has thus far been privately funded, but will apply for the state charter once the doors open. Ohio's Ed-Choice Scholarship should make the school affordable for all interested in sending children to the school. With some recent donations and grants, Defiance Christian Academy is excited to also offer scholarships for people of differing income levels to welcome more students through its doors this year. The school is still accepting applications for student enrollment. For more information visit their website defiancechristianacademy.com or call (419) 770 - 4874.

lady, whose children just seem to be devoted to her. This family took a week or two weeks vacation each summer and they planned all year for it. Did this make a difference, I don't know.

But the big thing I worry about, have I been the husband that I should have been? Did I cause pain by focusing too much on things that I want?

One thing that comes to mind as I watch this morning's sermon, did I put enough effort into my grandchildren? Do my children respect me as they should, will their children respect them? Seems like the only thing we have to give is our time, and we should give this generously.

We can't go back, time only moves in one direction, all we can do is resolve to your best in the future.

MALIA WITTWER AWARDED DEGREE FROM MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Malia Wittwer of Payne, OH was among over 4,500 students from Miami University who received degrees during the spring commencement on May 16, 2026.

A total of 4,519 degrees were conferred during the ceremony. That includes 3,718 bachelor's degrees, 493 master's degrees, 217 certificates, 59 associate degrees, and 32 doctorates.

The top 10 undergraduate degrees expected to be conferred this year are: Finance (341), Marketing (289), Psychology (213), Biology (200), Kinesiology (156), Nursing (144), Accountancy (115), Computer Science (115), Strategic Communications (95), and Emerging Technology in Business and Design and Primary Education PK-5 (both 94).

Wittwer graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Mathematics.

The most recent complete candidates for graduation lists are always available for downloading at commencement, dean's and president's lists.

Nationally recognized as

one of the most outstanding undergraduate institutions, Miami University is a public university located in Oxford, Ohio. With a student body of over 22,000, Miami effectively combines a wide range of strong academic programs with faculty who love to teach and the personal attention ordinarily found only at much smaller institutions.

Established in 1809, Miami University is consistently ranked among the top 50 national public universities by the U.S. News & World Report for providing students with an Ivy League-quality education at a public school price. Located in quintessential college town Oxford, Ohio-with regional campuses in Hamilton and Middletown, a learning center in West Chester, and a European study center in Luxembourg-Miami serves more than 22,600 undergraduates across more than 100 areas of study, and more than 2,200 graduate students through 78 master's and doctoral degree programs. At this comprehensive research university, students engage and conduct research with premiere teacher-scholars. Miami adds \$2.3 billion each year to Ohio's economy through innovative partnerships and job creation. Miami is an NCAA Division I school, serving more than 500 student-athletes across 19 varsity sports. For more information, visit MiamiOH.edu.

UNEARTH A STORY: DPL'S DINO-THEMED EVENTS BRING PREHISTORIC FUN

[DEFIANCE] - Defiance Public Library System's (DPLS) Summer Reading Challenge is now underway, bringing with it a packed schedule of fun, free, and educational events for the whole family.

All ages can track their reading for a chance to win prizes by registering for the Summer Reading Challenge at

defiancelibrary.beanstack.org.

Here are just a few events taking place at the DPLS libraries in the coming weeks.

See the rest and read more details at defiancelibrary.org/calendar.

Defiance Public Library

Dino-soaring into Storytime: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, June 16 - July 15, 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon. Stories, songs, and rhymes for ages 0-6.

Criminals, Convicts, and Outlaws: How to Find Your Black Sheep Ancestors: July 13, 5:30 p.m. Using local, state, and federal records to find unsavory characters in your family tree. Open to adults.

True Crime on the Great Lakes: July 16, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Christopher Gillcrist, Director Emeritus of the National Museum of the Great Lakes, presents on the region's crime stories. Open to adults.

Uncovering Hidden Histories: July 22, 3 p.m. Use artifacts to learn about the Hopewell people. Presented by Wendy Baker of Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District. Geared to children and families.

Sherwood Branch Library

Summer Storytime Tribe: Thursdays at 1:00 p.m. now through July 23. Stories, rhymes, and songs for children ages 0-8.

Dinos and Donuts: July 11,

10:00 a.m. Donuts, plus dinosaur-themed games and crafts. Registration is required. Register at defiancelibrary.org/calendar or by calling 419-899-4343.

Diggin' Day: July 21, 1:00 p.m. A digging program with Wendy Baker of Defiance Soil and Water Conservation District. Geared to school-aged children.

Johnson Memorial Library (Hicksville):

Storytime at the Park: June 17, July 29, & August 12, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Hicksville Rotary Pavilion.

Dino Christmas Party: July 6, 11:00 a.m. Games, crafts, a story, and frozen hot chocolate.

Let's Ride: July 15, 12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m. Ride stuffed animal karts, play large inflatable games, and take pictures in a free photo booth.

Dino Art: July 21, 1:00 p.m. Make a dino watercolor and button. Registration is required. Register at defiancelibrary.org/calendar or by calling 419-542-6200.

Northwest Ohio's Castles, Churches, and Courthouses: July 27, 5:00 p.m. Author visit with Paul Plassman. Open to adults.

Saturday, July 11th, 2026

Open 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY, VFW HELP CREATE OUTDOOR READING SPACE AT ANTWERP BRANCH LIBRARY



Pictured are Sue Fowler, president of the Friends of the Library, and Shelly Murlin, representing VFW Post 5087.

The Antwerp Branch Library has a new outdoor reading area thanks to the generosity of local organizations working together to support literacy and community engagement.

For several years, librarians at the Antwerp Branch Library have envisioned creating an inviting outdoor space where children and families could enjoy reading during the warm summer months.

The area is designed to serve as a place for story time, independent reading, and family reading, while also providing a small play area adjacent to the library.

To help make that vision a reality, the Friends of the Library stepped forward to coordinate the project. Using funds donated by the Antwerp

High School Class of 1969, the Friends purchased an adult-sized picnic table that will be placed within the new reading area.

The project was completed with the help of a generous donation from Antwerp VFW Post 5087, which provided funding to finish the outdoor space. Creative Landscapes and Chris Banks also assisted with the project by helping prepare the area.

A large section of artificial turf was installed, creating a comfortable, low-maintenance surface that can be easily cleaned and maintained throughout the summer season.

Library officials expressed their appreciation to everyone who helped bring the project to life, noting that the new

outdoor reading area will provide a welcoming space for children and families to enjoy books and library programs outside.

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. Nevertheless, we do not necessarily concur with the content that has been printed. We are just the messengers. However, any letters that attack a person, or attempt to justify a physical attack that took place will not be considered. Keep your opinion to the discussion only. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article along with the town of residence. To be considered for publication, you must live in our readership area. Letters must be no longer than 1000 words, and you must provide your legal name along with a phone number and address. You can submit a letter in person at our office, by email, mail or fax.

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

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

When the time comes, as it surely will, when we face that awesome moment, the final judgment, I've often thought, as Fulton Sheen wrote, that it is a terrible moment of loneliness. You have no advocates; you are there alone standing before God — and a terror will rip your soul like nothing you can imagine.

But I really think that those in the pro-life movement will not be alone. I think there'll be a chorus of voices that have never been heard in this world but are heard beautifully and clearly in the next world — and they will plead for everyone who has been in this movement. They will say to God, 'Spare him, because he loved us.'

Pray for an end to abortion and euthanasia!

Blessings to All,
—Judy McCalla
Hicksville

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER JULY MENU

7/6 - Pork Cutlet/Gravy, Sweet Potato Casserole, Corn,

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

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Pears, WW Bread, Peanut Butter Cookie

7/7 - Ham & Scalloped Potatoes, Capri Blend Vegetables, Fresh Fruit, Cornbread, Sherbet

7/8 - Liver & Onions (Alt: Swiss Steak), Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Fruit Cocktail, WW Bread, Fruit & Grain Bar

7/9 - Shredded Beef Sandwich, Coleslaw, 3 Bean Salad, Pineapple, Fruit Snacks

7/10 - Oven Roasted Turkey, Parsley Potatoes, Spanish Green Beans, Pineapple & Strawberries, Dinner Roll

7/13 - Roasted Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Stewed Tomatoes, Capri Blend Vegetables, Tropical Fruit, W.W. Bread

7/14 - Beef Goulash, Wax Beans, Banana, Apple Juice, Garlic Bread

7/15 - Tuna Salad with Lettuce & Tomato, Cheesy Potato Soup, Fresh Melon, Pudding, Dinner Roll/Crackers

7/16 - Smoked Sausage Sandwich, Oven Browned Potatoes, California Blend, Apricots

7/17 - Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes, Creamed Peas, Grape Juice, Dinner Roll, Cookie

7/20 - Beef Pepper Steak, Rice, Scandinavian Blend, Fruit Compote, Dinner Roll

7/21 - Baked Ham, Red-skin Potatoes, Spinach, Applesauce, Cornbread

7/22 - Baked Potato with Beef, Beans, Cheese, California Blend, Cinnamon Peaches, Goldfish Crackers, Muffin

7/23 - Chicken Salad, Shredded Lettuce, Vegetable & Rice Soup, Fresh Melon, Dinner Roll, Cookie/Crackers

7/24 - Baked Fish, Cheesy Potatoes, Green Beans, Peaches, WW Bread, Cookie

7/27 - Chicken & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Pineapple, Dinner Roll

7/28 - Swiss Steak, Hash brown Bake, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, Tapioca Pudding, Dinner Roll

7/29 - Chicken Patty Sandwich w/lettuce, tomato, onion, Pea Salad, Mixed Fruit, Oatmeal Raisin Bar

7/30 - Hot Dog w/ Cheese, Vegetable, Macaroni Salad, Baked Beans, Hot Cinnamon Apples, Tomato Juice

7/31 - Pork Roast, Sweet Potatoes, Green Beans, Peaches, WW Bread, Cookie

SMALL HABITS HELP SHAPE A STRONGER FINANCIAL FUTURE

Financial security doesn't have to come from a big salary, a lucky investment or some dramatic turning point. For most people, wealth is built more simply, through small habits repeated many times over.

If you're like many young people, you may feel you don't have enough money to start investing. The reality is that you're in a great position to build the small habits that will help you create lasting wealth. Here are five tips to help you get started.

1. Automate savings before you spend. One of the most powerful financial habits you can build is among the easiest. Set up an automatic transfer such as by contributing to an employer retirement plan or exploring if you can direct part of your paycheck to a savings or investment account.

This helps remove the temptation to spend that money instead of saving it. Even setting aside 1% to 5% of your income can help build momentum over time.

2. Watch the small stuff. It's easy to dismiss a \$15-a-month streaming service or a \$6 coffee twice a week. But those small purchases add up. Forgotten subscriptions, food delivery fees and impulse buys can quietly drain your bank account.

"Just \$25 a week, if invested well, can grow into the thousands in a few short years." Scan your recurring charges regularly, cancel what you don't use and put that money to work instead.

3. Don't let your lifestyle outpace your income. When you get a raise or bonus, it's tempting to upgrade your apartment, car or everyday spending. This "lifestyle creep" can be a significant hindrance to building wealth.

Here's an alternate approach: Every time your income goes up, increase your savings rate before anything else. Even saving half of a

raise while spending the rest puts you ahead.

4. Start now, even imperfectly. Don't wait to start investing. Even if you can only set aside a small amount each month, do it. Starting just five to 10 years earlier can result in significantly more wealth down the line, even if the early contributions are small, thanks to compounding.

Compounding means your contributions earn interest, and even that interest earns interest. Over decades, that snowball effect can make a world of difference.

5. Stay aware, not obsessed. You don't necessarily need to track every dollar you spend. But you do need to be aware of your money habits. A quick weekly or monthly check-in on your accounts, spending patterns and progress toward savings goals can help you catch problems early.

Financial awareness also means protecting what you build. An emergency fund covering three to six months of total expenses keeps one bad month from becoming a financial crisis. Avoiding high-interest debt does the same. These defensive habits make everything else possible.

Your financial future likely won't be shaped by one big decision. Instead, it will probably be built by small choices you make every day. And the best time to start making good choices is now.

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

Edward Jones, Member SIPC

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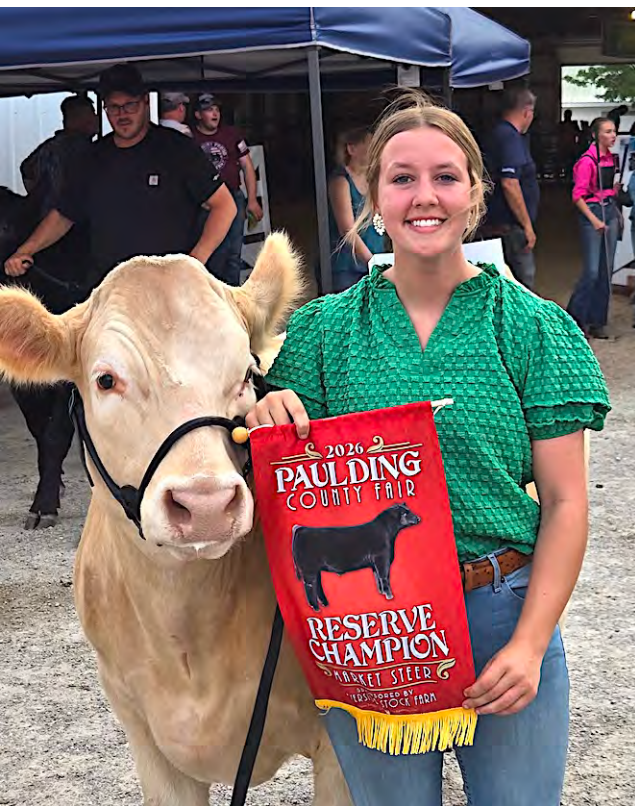


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PAULDING FFA CHAPTER HAS A SUCCESSFUL FAIR WEEK



Pictured here is Addy Halter with her Reserve Champion Market Steer named Pepperjack. The raised him from a small calf, so it was very special for him to win 2 years in a row.

By: Makenna Manz,
Paulding FFA Reporter

This year's Paulding County Fair was held from June 6th to June 13th and our members were more than happy to be active participants. The Paulding FFA Chapter always looks forward to our county fair. On

Monday, several members participated in the annual Jr. Fair King and Queen contest. Tori Schlatter was declared Fair Queen. Second runner-up for Fair Queen was Kendall Kohart. Owen Workman was named Fair King.

Every Paulding FFA member had at least one project at the fair this year.

This year there were over 50 animal projects and many won awards. The Grand Champions from Paulding FFA were: Karlee Kohart for Pygmy Goats, Avery Cooper for Market Turkey Meat Pen and Market Tom Turkey, Luciana Martinez for Meat Pen of Rabbits and Mackenzie Leatherman for Market Dairy Steer and Market Dairy Beef Cross Steer. The Reserve Champions for their respective categories were Kendall Kohart with Pygmy Goats, Avery Cooper for Market Turkey Meat Pen, Harley Troyer for Meat Pen of Rabbits, Alayna White for Sheep, Tori Schlatter for Dairy Feeder, Mackenzie Leatherman with her Market Dairy Beef Cross Steer and Addalynne Halter with her Market Beef Steer.

There were over one-hundred still projects made by our members this year that included picture frames, cornhole boards, drone pictures, and metal boot scrapers. Best metal working project went to Nolan Schlatter, Best SAE poster went to Darcy Taylor, Best Carpentry Project went to Anabel Martinez and Best miscellaneous FFA project went to Miguel Martinez.

Our members also received a large variety of other awards. We had several members win their classes and showmanship with Avery Cooper, and Hopeful Rose competing in the showman of showmen contest. Harley Troyer won best of class for breeding rabbits. Delaney Johanns won several trophies with her horse projects. She won Hunter Horse showmanship, Senior Ranch showmanship, Champion of Champion pleasure, Reserve Champion of Champion performance, and Champion Versatility. She then earned the High Points Belt Buckle for Pleasure Horses.

ANTWERP VFW POST 5087 AWARDS SENIOR SCHOLARSHIPS



Pictured above are (front): Harlee Walk, Leigha Doster, Estee Lichty, Taylor Stebling, Lilly McKay, and Ella Hughes; (back) Raelynne Zuber, Bobby Phillips (VFW representative), Haydyn Lengacher, Hampton Rogge, and Zaine McMichael

The members of Antwerp VFW Post 5087 are proud to invest in the future of their community by awarding several \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors in 2026.

These scholarships recognize students who have

demonstrated academic achievement, leadership, community involvement, and a commitment to making a positive difference.

By supporting local graduates, Antwerp VFW Post 5087 continues its tradition of honoring those who serve

while encouraging the next generation to pursue their educational goals.

For scholarship requirements, application information, and deadlines, please contact Antwerp VFW Post 5087 or your high school guidance office.

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START TIME:
10:00 AM
Ceremony begins at 10:00 AM and will conclude by 11:00 AM



ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

CEREMONY HIGHLIGHTS:

- ★ 1. Presentation of colors
- ★ 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- ★ 3. Community gathering in remembrance and gratitude

Join neighbors, families, and Veterans as we come together to honor and remember those who have served our nation.

For more information: John Daeger @ 419-989-0548



TEN EQUINE EXHIBITORS TO REPRESENT PAULDING COUNTY AT THE OHIO STATE FAIR



Raeley Franklin



Mara Philpot

This year's Paulding County Fair equine exhibitors showcased outstanding dedication, sportsmanship, and skill both inside and outside the arena. Ten riders have earned the opportunity to compete at the Ohio State

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE HELD IN HICKSVILLE

Recently, the Red Cross came to Hicksville for their blood collection effort. Even though the number of donors was down, drive coordinator and Red Cross Ambassador Zelda Zimmerman expressed her gratitude for everyone who participated.

Held at The First Church of Christ, the drive was supported by members of the Rotary Club who assisted with setup and teardown. Rotary also footed the bill for sandwich ingredients. Alice Breidenbaugh, Marilyn Guilford and Sara Green prepared food for the canteen, with cookies provided by members of the First Church of Christ. Registration was done by Connie Adams and Colleen Richter.

As always, blood is urgently needed! The Red Cross reported recently that the national blood supply was down 35%. Severe weather last winter caused the cancellation of more than 400 blood drives across the country. Coupled with the worst flu season in nearly 20 years, thousands of potential donors were unable to give. Now, summer vacations are taking donors away from home and local donation centers.

Please donate! Make an appointment for the next blood drive, which will be held on August 6th in Hicksville, from 1 - 6 pm. Sign up online at redcrossblood.org. Give the gift of life to someone who desperately needs it. Remember that blood can only come from one place - and that is YOU!!!



Abby Elkins

Congratulations to the following exhibitors: Mara Philpot, Raeley Franklin, Abby Elkins, Gracelyn Elkins, Jessa Elkins, Haven Wagner, Henley Wagner, Gabrielle Gurney, Delaney Johanns and Katelynn Hurd.

A special recognition goes to Mara Philpot, Raeley Franklin, and Abby Elkins, who are senior exhibitors. As they prepare for their final Ohio State Fair experience as 4-H members, we congratu-

late them on this outstanding accomplishment and thank them for their years of dedication to the Paulding County equine program.

This year marks one of the largest groups of equine exhibitors from Paulding County ever to qualify for the Ohio State Fair. Best of luck to these outstanding representatives as they compete at the state level, and congratulations again on this remarkable achievement!

SPRING 2026 PRESIDENT'S LIST AT MIAMI UNIVERSITY

Miami University students ranked in the top 3% of undergraduate students within each division for the spring

2026 semester have been named to the President's List, recognizing academic excellence.

Malia Wittwer of Payne, OH

Elli Barton of Oakwood, OH

Established in 1809, Miami University is consistently ranked among the top 50 national public universities by the U.S. News & World Report for providing students with an Ivy League-quality education at a public school price. Located in quintessential college town Oxford, Ohio-with regional campuses in Hamilton and Middletown, a learning center in West Chester, and a European study center in Lux-

embourg-Miami serves more than 22,600 undergraduates across more than 100 areas of study, and more than 2,200 graduate students through 78 master's and doctoral degree programs. At this comprehensive research university, students engage and conduct research with premiere teacherscholars. Miami adds \$2.3 billion each year to Ohio's economy through innovative partnerships and job creation. Miami is an NCAA Division I school, serving more than 500 student-athletes across 19 varsity sports. For more information, visit MiamiOH.edu.

SHULTZ HUBER & ASSOCIATES, INC. ACQUIRES STROH, JOHNSON & COMPANY, LLP

Shultz Huber & Associates, a certified public accounting firm with locations throughout northwest Ohio, has recently expanded. On July 1, 2026, SH&A acquired Stroh, Johnson & Company, LLP, with offices in Lima, Minster and Wapakoneta.

Stroh, Johnson & Company was founded in 1979 and specializes in accounting, auditing and tax services. The company's team members continue to serve clients as part of the Shultz Huber team,

and SJC's three offices are now operating under the Shultz Huber & Associates name.

"Stroh, Johnson & Company has always aimed to serve our clients as a true partner, offering honest guidance and customized solutions. Shultz Huber & Associates' values and mission align with our own, making this an excellent opportunity for sustainable, long-term growth for our clients and our team," said Stephanie Shutt-Steinke, partner at Stroh, Johnson & Company.

"Stroh Johnson's team, locations and expertise are a great fit for us," said Tyson Stuckey, managing partner at Shultz Huber & Associates. "This addition will allow us to serve SJC's existing client base with a wider range of services, while strengthening the team available for all of our clients."

Shultz Huber & Associates, Inc. is a full-service accounting, tax and business consulting CPA firm specializing in assisting businesses and their owners plan for their future and achieve their goals in an ever-changing financial and regulatory environment. Offices are located in Archbold, Bryan, Defiance, Lima, Minster, St. Marys, Van Wert and Wapakoneta, Ohio.

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THE LEFT TURN



Macenko Wins At Winchester and Earns A NASCAR Ride.
Photo by Christopher Pedersen

By: Ron Burt

Tuesday, June 30, Indianapolis Motor Speedway. It was a big night as expected at The Dirt Track at IMS on night one of the BC39 NOS Energy Drink National Midgits. How big is this event? Drivers from 4 different countries were represented in qualifying for tonight's Stoops Star Spangled Showdown. After qualifying, cars were put into 8, 8 lap heat races and the top two from each race advanced into the feature.

Box Score:
Fast Time: Steven Snyder Jr. 12.565

Heat Race Winners: 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Jacob Denney, 3. Kale Drake, 4. Bradley Cox, 5. Steven Snyder Jr., 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Cale Coons and 8. Justin Peck.
C Main Winner: Brandon Carr, Semi Feature 2 Zach Daum, Semi Feature 1 J.J. Yeley.

Stoops Star Spangled Showdown Feature Top 5, 1st Drake Edwards, 2nd Kevin Thomas Jr., 3rd Gavin Miller, 4th Zach Wigal, and 5th Jake Swanson.

Winchester Speedway (IN) Sunday, June 28th, on the world's steepest, and fastest high banked asphalt track in the country, it was the 2nd Annual Tom Bigelow Showdown for the 500 Sprint Car Series. Jackson Macenko, in his 27th start with the 500 Sprint Car Tour picked up his first career win with the series. Davey Hamilton Jr. who set fast time in qualifying was second and current Series point leader Kody Swanson was 3rd. Nineteen cars rolled off to start the 40 lap feature. It was announced Tuesday that feature winner Jackson Macenko will make his NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series debut behind the wheel of the No. 2 Ford 150 at Lucas Oil Indianapolis Raceway Park. Photo credit: Christopher Pedersen.

Saturday, June 27th, the big racing news in the Tri-state, DIRTcar UMP Late Model Ace, Rusty Schlenk got his 300th victory. Friday night he won at Attica Raceway Park for win number 299, and Saturday he parked in Victory Lane at Oakshade Raceway in Wauseon for win number 300. The Top 3 finishers in each division: DIRTcar UMP Late

Models 1st Rusty Schlenk, 2nd Casey Noonan and 3rd Devin Shiels. Late Model Sportsmen 1st Josh Robertson, 2nd Dylan Jessen, and 3rd Mike Jessen. Super Stocks, 1st Chane Stuckey, 2nd Mason Luttrell and 3rd Jeff Foks Jr. Sport Compacts 1st Cory Gumm, 2nd Ryan Okuley, and 3rd James Stamper.

Angola Motorsport Speedway feature winners from Saturday night in 6 divisions, Late Models James Hazlett, Modifieds Jordan Gatton, Street Stocks Lee Reed, FWD Outlaws Chris Heintzelman, FWD Hornets Brett Ireland and Midwest Asphalt Champ Kart Series Kyle Hager.

Saturday, The Great Lakes Super Sprints were in Buxton Speedway Ontario Canada. The U.S. drivers stepped it up a notch from Friday. Leipsic's Chase Dunham (Dog House Racing) set fast time with a 13.950. Feature finish 1st. D.J. Christie (lead all 25 laps) 2nd Chase Dunham and 3rd Ryan Turner. U.S. drivers had 4 in the Top 10.

Mansfield Speedway hosted the Summer Sprint Car Opener, featuring the Buckeye Outlaw Sprint Series (BOSS) for 410 Non-Wing Sprints and Fast on Dirt 410 Winged Sprints. After the WoO Late Model races, the trouble spots on the track were dug up, a new base was put in, and a new racing surface was laid down. The track looked fantastic and the racing was good all night. BOSS 410 Non-Winged Sprint Feature Top 3, 1st Korbyn Hayslett, 2nd Jakob Boxell, and Mike Miller. 410 Winged Sprint Feature, Nate Dussel, 2nd Cap Henry and 3rd Greg Wilson.

Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out!
www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz/

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Brent E. Harris, Paulding, OH, Three counts of cruelty to animals were dismissed. Count A was dismissed without prejudice at the request of the state, with court costs waived. Counts B and C were also dismissed.

Samuel Palacios, Antwerp, OH, pleaded guilty to non-

PAULDING FFA HOSTS 4th ANNUAL ANIMAL & ME LIVESTOCK SHOW AT THE PAULDING COUNTY FAIR



Pictured here are the participants and their mentors from the Paulding FFA chapter who at the conclusion of the 4th Annual Animal & Me Program.

By: Makenna Manz,
Paulding FFA Reporter

On June 11th, the Paulding FFA hosted the 4th Annual Animal and Me program at the Paulding County Fair with 28 participants this year.

This program has been happening at County Fairs all across Ohio, from metro areas like Warren County to rural counties like our own Paulding County. The program links individuals with developmental disabilities with

FFA members to learn about animals. This program provides the individuals with an opportunity to experience showing an animal project and practice their public speaking and communication skills.

The Paulding FFA was so excited to help sponsor and run the program again at the Paulding Fair. The FFA members served as mentors to the participants as they showed their livestock at the fair. The members helped their bud-

dies show rabbits, goats, sheep and feeder calves during the show.

The Paulding FFA along with the Paulding FFA Alumni partnered with the Paulding County Board of Developmental Disabilities to put on this show. Each member and participant received a t-shirt they wore during the show. At the conclusion of the show each participant received a trophy and the winner of each class received a large rosette.

The Paulding FFA is so excited to grow this program in the future and is already starting to plan for the 2027 show. The Paulding FFA wants to thank everyone who participated, attended the show, it was a wonderful day for all who were involved! A special thanks to the Paulding FFA Alumni and Limber auctioneers who provided awards and t-shirts to the participants and Howell's Doodles for sponsoring a sausage sandwich to each participant.

support of dependents. He was ordered to pay \$361 in court costs and was sentenced to 30 days in jail, with all 30 days suspended. Additional conditions included maintaining good behavior and remaining current on child support payments.

Ruben A. Quintanilla, Johnston, RI, pleaded guilty to a traffic control device violation. He was fined \$55 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

Satheesan Thevarasa, Markham, ON, pleaded guilty to operating an unsafe vehicle. He was fined \$150 and ordered to pay \$105 in court costs.

Atreyo R. O'Neal, Montpelier, OH, pleaded guilty to a stop sign violation. He was fined \$55 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

Blayne C. Pease, Paulding, OH, pleaded guilty to failure to control. He was fined \$70 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

Anthony M. Rupp, Stryker, OH, pleaded guilty to a seat belt violation. He was fined \$30 and ordered to pay \$62 in court costs.

Kamoliddin Yakhshiboev, Pittsburgh, PA, pleaded guilty to a brake equipment violation and to a passenger seat belt violation. He was fined \$70 on the brake equipment charge and \$20 on the seat belt violation. Court costs of \$100 were assessed.

Ty A. Sonnenberg, Napoleon, OH pleaded guilty to a seat belt violation. He was fined \$30 and ordered to pay \$57 in court costs.

Amanda L. Winn, Leo, IN, pleaded guilty to a stop sign violation. She was fined \$55 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

Lance A. Maenle, Haviland, OH, pleaded guilty to assured clear distance ahead. He was fined \$70 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

Tyne H. Schlegel, Payne, OH, pleaded guilty to a registration violation. She was fined \$70 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

David L. Steel, Cecil, OH, pleaded guilty to failure to control. He was fined \$70 and ordered to pay \$95 in court costs.

PAULDING FFA OFFICER TEAM ATTENDS OFFICER RETREAT IN HOCKING HILLS



Pictured left to right is the 2026-2027 Paulding FFA Officer Team: Remington Borooff, Vivi Myers, Gabby Stork, Makenna Manz, Darcy Taylor, Myrriah Manz, Delaney Johanns, Ava Leatherman, Kinzley Collard and Nolan Schlatter.

By: Makenna Manz
Paulding FFA Reporter

On May 26th-28th, the Paulding FFA officer team went to a cabin in Hocking Hills, Ohio for their annual FFA officer retreat. Officer retreat provides a time for the students to get to know each other and work better as a team.

The Paulding FFA officer team this year consists of President Darcy Taylor, Vice President Myrriah Manz, Secretary Delaney Johanns, Treasurer Ava Leatherman, Reporter Makenna Manz, Sentinel Gabriella Stork, Student Advisor Vivienne Myers, Parliamentarian Kinzley Collard, Chaplain Remington Borooff, and Historian Nolan Schlatter along with Ag Education Teachers and FFA advisors Mrs. Staci Miller, Mrs. Sydney Kill.

Along with fun activities, during this time, the budget and the yearly calendar are made so the FFA is prepared for the upcoming year. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the team performed many team-building exercises to help strengthen their relationships with each other. Tuesday, the team discussed the goals they had for the chapter and some new ideas to help the chapter grow with their FFA advisors.

On Wednesday, the team also got to go putt putt golfing and hiking. On the last day, the team took pictures

and cleaned up. Then it was time to head back home. The team learned a lot of new skills, bonded during this trip, and are ready for an exciting new year full of Agriculture Education, Career Development Events

(CDEs), Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs), community service projects, and FFA!

The officer team would like to thank the Paulding FFA Alumni for supporting the officer retreat.



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MUSIC, MEMORIES AND FAITH HIGHLIGHT SENIOR SAINTS' 2026 CONCERTS



The Senior Saints are an energetic group of senior adults from the greater Fort Wayne area representing 27 churches. This year, the 70 singers and instrumentalists will present an entertaining and uplifting program of music entitled "In God We Trust" celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. The concert features "good old songs" en-

joyed in the past plus hymns and gospel songs. Written and directed by Marsha Wright, the program is about the Senior Saints' experiences in life relating to our nation and in learning to live by its motto, In God WeTrust. The program includes songs, narration, and amusing and heart-warming personal experiences.

Songs in the program include,This is My Country, I

Am Thankful To Be An American, Battle Hymn of the Republic, and Over There. Songs of trusting God in the challenges of life include God of Our Fathers, Moment By Moment, Jesus is Lord of All, and Our Great Savior, concluding with God Bless America. Accompaniment is provided by piano, violin, woodwinds and brass instruments.

AREA SCHOOLS ANNOUNCE FREE & REDUCED-PRICE MEAL PROGRAM FOR 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR

Paulding Exempted Village Schools, Antwerp Local Schools, and Wayne Trace Local Schools announced its 2026-2027 program year policy free and reduced-price meals for students unable to pay the full price of meals or milk served under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast, After School Care Snack or Special Milk Programs. Each school office and the central office has a copy of the policy, which may be reviewed by any interested party. The State of Ohio Budget for school year 2026-2027 includes funding to cover the cost of reduced meals for breakfast and lunch. This provision allows schools to

provide no cost meals to reduced price meal eligible students.

The Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines will be used to determine eligibility. Children from families whose annual income is at or below the federal guidelines are eligible for free and reduced-price meals or free milk if the school participates in the Special Milk Program.

Application forms are distributed to all homes in a letter to parents or guardians. To apply for free and reduced-price benefits, households should complete an application and return it to the school. Additional copies are available at the principal's office in each school. A complete application is required. Households which currently receive Special Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits (SNAP, formally known as

food stamps) or Ohio Works First (OWF) funds for a child must provide the child's name, the SNAP or OWF case number and signature of an adult household member on the application. Households that do not receive SNAP or OWF funds must provide the names of all household members, the last four digits of the Social Security Number of the adult signing the application or state "none" if the adult does not have a Social Security Number, the amount and source of income received by each household member (state the monthly income) and the signature of an adult household member. If any of this information is missing, the school cannot process the application.

FREE HEALTH CARE: Families with children eligible for school meals may be eligible for free health care coverage through Medicaid and/or Ohio's Healthy Start & Healthy Families programs.

These programs include coverage for doctor visits, immunizations, physicals, prescriptions, dental, vision, mental health, substance abuse and more. Please call 1-800-324-8680 for more information or to request an application. Information can also be found on the web at <http://jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/consumers/familychild.stm>. Anyone who has an Ohio Medicaid card is already receiving these services.

The information provided on the application is confidential and will only be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and may be verified at any time during the school year by school or other program official. To discourage the possibility of misrepresentation, the application forms contain a statement above the space for signature certifying that all information furnished is true and correct. Applications are being made in connection with the receipt of federal funds. Schools or other officials may check the information on the application at any time during the school year.

Deliberate misrepresentation of information may subject the applicant to prosecution under applicable state and federal laws.

Households will be notified of the approval or denial

of benefits.

Foster children are categorically eligible for free meal benefits regardless of the household's income. If a family has foster children living with them and wishes to apply for such meals or milk for them, contact the school for more information. Under the provision of the policy, the Superintendent, his/her secretary, or Food Service Manager, will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent or guardian disagrees with the decision on the application or the result of verification, the decision may be discussed with the determining official on an informal basis. If a formal appeal is desired, the household has the right to a fair hearing. A fair hearing can be requested either orally or in writing from:

Paulding: Christopher Etzler, Superintendent Superintendent 405 N. Water St, Paulding, OH 45879 Wayne Trace: Paul Jones, 4915 US 127, Haviland, OH 45851

Paulding Phone: 419-399-4656 Phone: 419-399-4113 Oakwood Phone to Paulding: 419-594-3346

Antwerp: Dr. Martin Miller, Superintendent 303 S Harmann Rd, Antwerp, OH 45813.

Phone: 419-258-5421 The policy contains an outline of the hearing procedure.

Households may apply for benefits any time during the school year. If a household is not currently eligible and if the household size increases or income decreases because of unemployment or other reasons, the family should contact the school to file a new application.

Such changes may make the children of the family eligible for free or reduced-price benefits if the family income falls at or below the levels shown above.

Nondiscrimination Statement In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the state or local agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and

WEST BEND NEWS

Crossword Puzzle

HERE COMES THE BRIDE ...

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Across

1. Musical instrument often featured at traditional Scottish weddings.

3. Canopy under which a Jewish wedding ceremony takes place.

7. Italian wedding favors, often small gifts or sugared almonds, given to guests as a token of thanks.

10. Thirteen ceremonial coins exchanged in Spanish and Latin American weddings.

11. Ritual where colored sand is combined to symbolize two lives becoming one.

12. Traditional item believed to symbolize love and fidelity.

14. African American wedding tradition symbolizing a new beginning together.

17. Traditional Jewish marriage contract signed before the ceremony.

18. Chinese wedding custom honoring parents and elders by serving tea.

20. Celtic tradition of binding the couple's hands together with a cord or ribbon.

22. Japanese ceremony in which the couple takes three sips from three cups.

Down

2. Bridal accessory traditionally removed during the reception.

4. Ceremony in which two flames are joined into one.

5. Decorative cord placed around a couple's shoulders in many Hispanic weddings.

6. Reception tradition where guests pay for a dance with the bride or groom.

8. Object broken by the groom at the end of a Jewish wedding ceremony.

9. Bridal accessory that historically symbolized modesty and protection.

11. Ribbon connecting the wedding crowns in Orthodox Christian ceremonies.

13. Reception tradition said to predict the next person to marry.

15. Item once commonly tossed to wish the couple fertility and prosperity.

16. Celebration centered around applying intricate henna designs to the bride.

19. Decorative body art traditionally applied before weddings in India and the Middle East.

21. Japanese rice wine shared during the San-san-kudo wedding ritual.

solution on page 11

ON-LINE SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

WesBanco Bank, Inc, Plaintiff,

vs.

Jason M. Chester, ET AL., Defendants,

Case No. CI 26 061

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

8983 Road 180, Antwerp,

Parcel Number: 14-29A-013-00 & 14-29A-012-00

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

Said premises appraised at Ninety-Nine Thousand and NO/100 (\$99,000.00) Dollars and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of that amount on the first sale date.

The first sale date will be on the July 16, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

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

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

In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on July 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. On this date, there will be no minimum bid. However, the purchaser will be responsible for any costs, allowances, and taxes which the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

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

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

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

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

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

Sheriff Jason K. Landers

Paulding County, Ohio

www.pauldingohsheriff.com

Kimberly D. Fulkerson, Attorney for Plaintiff

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provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992.

Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410;

2. Fax: (202) 690-7442; or

3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

Real Estate Taxes Are Due Wednesday, July 29, 2026

Mobile Home Tax are Due Friday, July 31, 2026

Due to the calculations and changes for HB 186 the tax bill due date has been extended.

Failure To Receive A Tax Bill Will Not Avoid Penalty or Interest Charges.

For your convenience, there is a burgundy colored drop box along the sidewalk on the East side of the courthouse.

Please bring your tax bill with you when coming into the office to make a payment.

If you mail your tax payment into the office it must be postmarked by July 29th to avoid any penalty or interest. If you require a receipt, please include the top part of your bill as well as a self-addressed, stamped envelope. If this is not included, we will not mail you a receipt.

If you would like to make a payment online, please visit our website at www.pauldingcountytreasurer.com and look for the green "Make a Payment" box on the tax tab; Real Estate and/or Mobile Home. This will redirect you to [MunicipiPay](#) for credit card payments.

Paulding County Treasurer • Lou Ann Wannemacher

Phone: 419-399-8280

Office Hours are Monday thru Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

CAMP INVENTION WRAPS UP THIRD SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN PAULDING



Sixty young innovators spent the week exploring science, technology, engineering, and creativity during the third annual Camp Invention in Paulding.

The nationally recognized STEM enrichment program challenged campers to think like inventors by designing, building, testing, and improving their ideas through hands-on activities.

Throughout the week, students learned that innovation is fueled by creativity, perseverance, collaboration, and problem-solving.

In addition to the campers' experiences, the program also provided valuable leadership opportunities for local teens serving as Leaders-in-Training and Leadership Interns. These students developed confidence, communication

skills, and leadership experience while mentoring younger campers throughout the week.

Camp Invention will return to Paulding June 21-24, 2027. Businesses and/or families interested in sponsoring camper scholarships or learning more about the program are encouraged to contact Camp Director Ashley Shepherd at ashepherd@wbesc.org.

FAMILY TRIVIA NIGHT SET FOR JULY 16

The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce is inviting families to put their knowledge to the test during Family/Kids Trivia Night on Thursday, July 16, beginning at 6 p.m.

Teams may have up to four players, with at least one participant under the age of 18. Children under the age of 5

do not count toward the four-player limit. Prizes will be awarded.

The event will be held at Pin-A-Rama, where participants can also enjoy free bowling after the trivia competition, courtesy of Pin-A-Rama.

Those wishing to participate are encouraged to register in advance by texting 208-596-9245. The event is sponsored by the Antwerp Chamber of Commerce and offers a

fun evening of family-friendly competition for all ages.

ROCK THE PLAZA ANNOUNCES EXTENDED FINAL CONCERT CELEBRATION ON JULY 18

(FORT WAYNE, IN) – After nearly two decades of music, memories, and community, the Allen County Public Library's summer concert series "Rock the Plaza" will take its final bow this summer with one last, unforgettable concert on Saturday, July 18 from 4-10 p.m. A rain date is scheduled for August 1.

Launched in 2007 at a time when live music opportunities in Fort Wayne were limited, Rock the Plaza quickly grew into a beloved summer tradition—showcasing local talent, drawing thousands of attendees, and helping cultivate the region's vibrant music scene.

This year's farewell lineup reflects that legacy, featuring crowd favorites and standout performers from across the years: URB, Phil's Family Lizard, Pop n Fresh, Alicia Pyle & the Locals, and Pink Droyd. The extended concert will serve as both a reunion and a celebration of the artists and audiences who made the series special.

"Rock the Plaza has always been about bringing people together through music," said longtime volunteer Kyle Haller. "I've seen firsthand how this stage gave local artists a place to shine and helped build a real sense of community. It's bittersweet to see it end, but I can't think of a better way to celebrate than one last night of incredible music."

While the decision to conclude the series was difficult for ACPL leaders, it also reflects the evolution of both the community and the library. Fort Wayne now boasts a thriving live music ecosystem, and the Allen County Public Library continues to adapt its resources and programming to meet changing community needs.

This final concert is made possible through the generous support of the ACPL Foundation and Beers Mallery, LLP, whose commitment has helped sustain Rock the Plaza and its impact over the

years. The event is free and open to the public. For the duration of the concert, parking at the downtown library will be free as well.

The community is invited to come together one more time—to sing, dance, and celebrate a program that has left a lasting mark on Fort Wayne.

For more information, visit acpl.info/music.

FARMING ACCIDENT IN CRANE TOWNSHIP

Crane Township, Paulding County, OH – At 4:11 P.M. Sunday, June 28, 2026, the Sheriff's Office received a call about a tractor pulling an anhydrous tank in a field that had struck a ditch in Section 22 in Crane Township. Crane Township - Cecil Fire Department arrived on scene to find anhydrous leaking from the tank, attached to a John Deere 9220, in a large ditch. The male operator of the tractor was unconscious in the cab.

Crane Township - Cecil Fire Department requested help from several surrounding fire departments to control the anhydrous leak. Once it was safe to remove the male from the tractor, first responders found 59-year-old Keith E. Derck deceased. Derck was a well-known farmer from Carryall Township, just outside of Antwerp in rural Paulding County.

The Paulding County Coroner was called to the scene to assist law enforcement with the investigation. The coroner will work with the Lucas County Morgue to determine cause of death.

Several fire departments and EMS were on scene to assist, along with Paulding County EMA.

No further information is expected to be released.

S.R. 101 TO CLOSE FOR CULVERT REPLACEMENT

ALLEN COUNTY, Ind. – The Indiana Department of Transportation announces the closure of State Road 101 south of Monroeville for a box culvert replacement.

Starting on or after July 6, crews will replace a culvert on S.R. 101 between Hoagland and Flatrock roads. Work on the project is expected to last for a month. All work is weather-dependent and schedules are subject to change.

During construction, S.R. 101 will be closed to through traffic. Drivers should use the official detour of U.S. 30, I-469, U.S. 27 and U.S. 33, or seek an alternate route.

INDOT encourages drivers to consider safety for all by slowing down, using extra caution and driving distraction-free when travelling in and around all work zones.

Stay Informed
Motorists in Northeast Indiana can monitor road closures, road conditions, and traffic alerts any time via:

- Facebook: [@INDOTNortheast](https://www.facebook.com/INDOTNortheast)
- X (formerly Twitter): [@INDOTNortheast](https://twitter.com/INDOTNortheast)
- TrafficWise: [511in.org](https://www.511in.org)
- Mobile App: iTunes App Store and the Google Play store for Android About the Indiana Department of Transportation.

INDOT is responsible for planning, constructing, maintaining, and operating the State of Indiana's more than 29,000 highway lane miles and 5,700 bridges, and

SUFFICIENT GRACE MINISTRIES RECEIVES DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION GRANT



Pictured are Kelly Gerken, Executive Director of Sufficient Grace Ministries, and Chelsie Schroeder, Marketing Director at the Defiance Area Foundation.

The Defiance Area Foundation is honored to support the compassionate work of Sufficient Grace Ministries through a \$6,092 grant awarded during the 2026 Spring Grant Cycle.

This funding will help provide hospice and bereavement support services for families in Defiance County experiencing the heartbreaking loss of an infant or young child.

Through counseling, support resources, and compassionate care, Sufficient Grace Ministries walks alongside families during some of life's most difficult moments, offering comfort, hope, and healing.

We are grateful for the meaningful impact Sufficient Grace Ministries continues to make for families throughout our community.

providing support for 4,500 rail miles and 127 aviation facilities throughout the Hoosier State. With six district offices and over 3,500 employees, INDOT works to ensure safe, efficient, and reliable transportation infrastructure while supporting the state's economic vitality. The department is committed to fostering innovation, sustainability, and safety in transportation planning and development, in addition to collaborating with local governments and private sector partners to meet the state's transportation needs. For the eighth consecutive year, Indiana has placed in the top ten in the nation for infrastructure in CNBC's "America's Top States for Business" rankings. Learn more at in.gov/indot.

Buckle Up Phone Down is a safety initiative adopted by the Indiana Department of Transportation in late 2023. Unrestrained motorists and passengers, as well as distracted driving continue to be contributing factors in fatal and serious injury crashes on Indiana roadways. Buckle Up Phone Down is one of many efforts to change driver behavior and improve roadway safety across Indiana.

The actions are simple: when you get into a vehicle, buckle up. If you are the driver, put the phone down. Every trip. Every time. Learn more and accept the challenge at BUPDIN.com.

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER JULY ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

7/6 – Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:30 a.m.; Bridge Club @ 12:30 p.m.

7/7 – Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; UNO Attack @ 12:15 p.m.

7/8 – Rummy @ 9:00 a.m.; Bingo @ 10:30 a.m.; Birthday & Anniversary Celebration w/ Alan Seibert @ 11:30 a.m.; Diamond Art @ 12:00 p.m.; Zumba w/Kathy Foust @ 1:00 p.m.; Grocery Shop @ 1:00 p.m.

7/9 – Toenail Clinic; Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; Bingo w/Kingsbury Place @ 12:00 p.m.
7/10 – Euchre @ 9:00 a.m.; Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.; Commodity Distribution @ 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

7/13 – Donuts & Trivia w/Kari @ 8:30 a.m.; Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bridge Club @ 12:30 p.m.

7/14 – Bus Leaves for Crane Two Tour w/Carol Razo @ 9:00 a.m.; Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.

7/15 – Rummy @ 9:00 a.m.; Bingo w/The Paulding Care Community @ 10:30 a.m.; Diamond Art w/Mike & Barbara @ 12:00 p.m.; Zumba w/Kathy Foust @ 1:00 p.m.; Grocery Shop @ 1:00 p.m.

7/16 – Digital Navigation; Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; Karaoke w/Larry Bassler @ 5:00 p.m.
7/17 – Euchre @ 9:00 a.m.;

ANOTHER GORRELL BROS

AUCTION

Large Farm Equipment and Tools Auction

AUCTION LOCATION: 26379 Road M Cloverdale, Ohio 45827. Head South on State Route 66 passing Mandale. Then Turn Right on Road M to Auction Location... **Watch for Auction Signs!**

Sat. July 11th, 2026 @ 9AM

Combines and Tractors... John Deere 6600 Combine, 6 Row Corn Header, 4203+/- hours... John Deere 9500, 920 Grain Header, Unknown Hours... International 806 Tractor, newer batteries, 3 Point Hitch, Nice Tires, unknown if hour meter works, Tight Tractor... John Deere 8630 4WD Tractor, unknown if hour meter works... Massey Ferguson 14 Garden Tractor, Tiller, and Mower Deck... Cub Cadet 3185 Garden Tractor with 48" Mower Deck (Parts Mower)...

Tillage... Glencoe Ditch Spinner... International 490 Disc... Brillion Cultipacker... International 735 5 Bottom Plow... International 510 4 Bottom Plow... International 3 Bottom Plow... John Deere 750 Drill... International 56 Planter... 6 Row Cultivator... International Mounted Cultivators...

Augers... Mayrath Grain Auger... 30ft Grain Auger with 8HP Briggs and Stratton Motor... 60ft PTO Driven Auger... 50ft Cardinal PTO Driven Grain Auger... 70ft PTO Driven Grain Auger... Hutchinson Swing-Away Grain Auger... Grain Screener...

Misc... Demco 450 Gravity Wagon, nice condition... Dump Trailer... Large Air Compressor... Log Chains... Cutters... Screwdrivers... Ball Hitches... Misc. Socket Sets... Spare Parts... Lights... Gas Cans... Extension Cords... Air Hoses... Automotive Brake Bleed Kit... Screws... Bolts... Bungee Cables... Air Tools... Kennedy Toolboxes... Ladders... Yard Roller... Band Saws... Bench Grinders... Jointer... Lincoln Electric Arc Welder... Tires... Roof Shingles... Garden Tools... Misc. Oil and Coolants... etc etc etc still sorting through items... Several Pallets of International and John Deere Parts... Grease Guns...

Household and Antiques... Pots... Pans... Glassware... Several Milk Bottles... Several Old Bottles... Christmas Items... Large Amount of Antique Furniture... Seed Sacks... Records... Tapes... 8 Track and Cassette... Record Player... Recliners... Couch... Bed... Maytag Wringer Washer... Wooden, Hand-Operated Washer... Lightning Rods... Hand Pumps... 7 Flatbed Wagons full of items...

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is a very large auction. Some of the items probably have not seen daylight for 40 years. We will be selling in 2 rings most of the time. Very large amount of items. Bring a friend, there's something for everyone!

WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS, PICTURES, AND UPDATES... INSPECTION FOR ALL ITEMS WILL BE JULY 8-10, 2026 FROM 3-6PM AND BEGINNING AT 7:30AM AM DAY OF THE AUCTION... TERMS: CASH, GOOD CHECK, OR CREDIT CARDS (with a 4% convenience fee) AT THE DAY OF THE AUCTION.

SELLERS: Linda Schwartz and Family... John and Shirley Hammersmith...

Gorrell Bros. Auctioneers LLC 1201 N Williams St Paulding, Ohio 45879... 419-399-4066

AUCTIONEERS: Kenneth D. Thomas, Chris Aufrance, Zach Gorrell, Keegan Nicol

Call Today to Reserve Your Auction Date!

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SCHRADER
Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.

Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.
7/20 - Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Steering Committee Meeting @ 12:00 p.m.; Bridge Club @ 12:30 p.m.
7/21 - Euchre @ 9:45 p.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; Care-giver Support Group w/Susan Paulus; Food Giveaway @ the Fairgrounds, 12:00-2:00 p.m.
7/22 - Rummy @ 9:00 a.m.; Bingo w/The Paulding Care Community; Diamond Art @ 12:00 p.m.; Zumba w/Kathy Foust @ 1:00 p.m.; Grocery shopping! 1:00 p.m.
7/23 - Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; Flag Pillow Craft @ 12:30 p.m.
7/24 - Euchre @ 9:00 a.m.; Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.; Banana Splits in Front @ 12:15 p.m.
7/27 - Donut @ Trivia w/Antwerp Manor; Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bridge Club @ 12:30 p.m.
7/28 - Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.; Penny Pitch w/Meadows of Kalida @ 12:15 p.m.
7/29 - Rummy @ 9:00 a.m.; Blood pressure & weight w/CHP @ 12:00 p.m.; Diamond Art w/Mike & Barbara @ 12:00 p.m.; Zumba w/Kathy Foust @ 1:00 p.m.; Grocery Shopping @ 1:00 p.m.
7/30 - Donuts & Coffee @ 7:45 a.m.; Leave for Schedel @ 8:15 a.m.; Euchre @ 9:45 a.m.; Exercise @ 10:00 a.m.
7/31 - Euchre @ 9:00 a.m.; Tai Chi @ 9:30-11:00 a.m.; Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

HICKSVILLE AMERICAN LEGION TO HOST SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENT

Shuffleboard enthusiasts are invited to put their skills to the test during a Shuffleboard Tournament hosted by the Hicksville American Legion Auxiliary (AUX) on Saturday, July 18, at the Hicksville American Legion. The tournament is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m., with day-of registration opening at 2 p.m. if team spots remain available. The event is open to two-person teams. Competition will be conducted in a single-elimination bracket format.

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Bracket games will feature a 20-minute time limit, while the championship match will have no time limit.
Half of all entry fees collected will be returned as cash prizes, with payouts awarded to the top three finishing teams. Tournament organizers encourage interested participants to register early, as sign-ups began June 10 and will continue until all available team spots have been filled.
Those wishing to register or obtain additional information may stop by the Hicksville American Legion or contact Jessica Justice or Laura Grant.

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

During the 2025 early teal waterfowl hunting season, State Wildlife Officer Tyler Eldred, assigned to Morrow County, observed a group of hunters at Delaware Wildlife Area. He witnessed them shoot at a small group of wood ducks, a species not yet in season. He contacted the two hunters and determined a hen wood duck had been killed. Officer Eldred issued a summons for shooting a wood duck during a closed season. Another group of hunters on a nearby pond had also harvested a species other than teal, and Officer Eldred issued a summons to the hunter. Both hunters were found guilty in Delaware Municipal Court and paid nearly \$500 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Chad Grote, assigned to Marion County, and Outdoor Skills Specialist Billy Finnisi taught a beginner wild turkey hunting clinic at Delaware Wildlife Area this spring. Students learned turkey identification, regulations, and hunting techniques. They also tried different calls and learned how to use each call while turkey hunting. The class ended with the students patterning their shotguns for turkey season. For more information about free classes to help you get into the woods this fall, check out the events tab on the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Harvest Community webpage.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

On the opening morning of the 2025 early goose and teal hunting season, State Wildlife Officer Eric VonAlmen, assigned to Wood County, observed hunters along the Maumee River shooting 20 minutes before

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the start of the legal hunting time. As Officer VonAlmen approached the group, they harvested a wood duck. One summons was issued for shooting before sunrise and another for taking a wood duck during the closed season. The wood duck was seized as evidence. Each hunter paid \$120 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Matt D. Smith, assigned to Huron County, received multiple calls that a bald eagle had been hit by a vehicle while the bird was feeding on a raccoon carcass. Officer Smith responded and located the eagle in an adjacent farm field. The eagle appeared dazed but mostly uninjured. Officer Smith safely captured the eagle and transported it to Back to the Wild for rehabilitation. The eagle had no broken bones but tested high for blood lead levels and is undergoing treatment. The eagle is expected to make a full recovery and be released.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

In February, State Wildlife Officer Thomas Frank, assigned to Mahoning County, investigated a white-tailed deer harvest anomaly at the close of the 2025-26 hunting season. Officer Frank contacted the suspect, who was found to have purchased a deer permit and hunting license after taking a deer. The suspect was issued two summonses for hunting without a license and purchasing a deer permit for a deer that was already taken. As a result of repeat violations, the hunter paid \$745 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Randy White, assigned to Lorain County, responded to a call from a concerned homeowner who found two white-tailed deer bucks in the backyard whose antlers had become locked together. Officer White discovered the bucks had become tangled in a piece of rope and the rope was tangled in brush. Using a knife taped to a pole, Officer White cut the rope to free the bucks. The deer ran off, appearing unharmed by the incident.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four
State Wildlife Officer

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Darin Abbott, assigned to Lawrence County, received a complaint about someone digging ramps in Crown City Wildlife Area. Officer Abbott and State Wildlife Officer Levi Boggs, assigned to Gallia County, with assistance from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Officer Gramm, responded to the area and observed the suspect digging ramps. The suspect had collected a large number of ramps and was found to be selling them for profit. It is unlawful to dig ramps on wildlife areas. Officer Abbott issued the suspect a citation and collected the ramps as evidence. Charges are pending in Lawrence County Municipal Court.

State Wildlife Officer Chris Gilkey, assigned to Meigs County, responded to a call for assistance from the chief of the Reedsville Fire Department to remove a snake that was hanging from a ceiling fan in a local residence. After determining that the snake was a gray rat-snake and nonvenomous, Officer Gilkey and a volunteer firefighter removed the fan blades and cut the fan shroud to free the snake. The snake was removed unharmed and relocated outside. The homeowners were very grateful for the help.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officer Gus Kiebel, assigned to Adams County, received a hunting without permission complaint regarding an individual with hunting dogs. The caller noted this was an ongoing issue, though the suspect was no longer on the property. Officer Kiebel responded to the area and located the suspect's vehicle. Upon contacting the individual, Officer Kiebel recognized the suspect as someone he had dealt with previously and who had suspended hunting privileges from a prior violation. Officer Kiebel arrested the individual for hunting during a court-ordered suspension. The suspect spent 10 days in jail and paid court costs. Additionally, the individual was ordered to complete three years of probation, forfeit hunting privileges for three years, and forfeit a rifle.

State Wildlife Officer Jacob Losekamp, assigned to Warren

County, along with Law Operations Manager Jason Keller and K-9 Officer Scout, participated in the Lebanon Youth Police Academy. Officer Losekamp showed various wildlife furs and parts to the children. Officer Keller and K-9 Scout conducted a demonstration highlighting canine detection capabilities. K-9 Scout concluded the presentation with a friendly race against the children, winning decisively.

FOR SOME AMERICANS, THEIR ACCENT ISN'T JUST RELATED TO WHERE THEY LIVE

For people living in some parts of the United States, their accent might not just indicate where they live - but also who they think they are.

In a small study in rural northwestern Ohio, researchers found that men who had a "country" identity - for example, a love of hunting and guns, pickup trucks and country music - showed different vowel patterns in their pronunciations than did their neighbors who showed more interest in pursuits like theater, golf and rock music.

"We are used to language patterns like accents being regionally based - you talk like the people who live around you," said Kathryn Campbell-Kibler, co-author of the study and associate professor of linguistics at The Ohio State University.

"But here we found that aspects of language may be tied to identity rather than just where you happen to live."

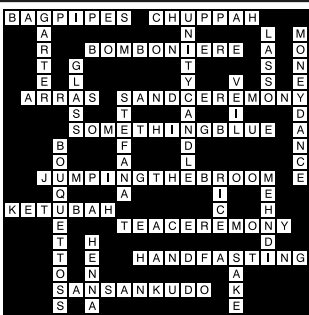
The setting of the study - Defiance County - is key.

Defiance County is in a "transition zone" between the Inland North accent, which is spoken around the lower Great Lakes including Chicago, Detroit and Toledo, and the Midland accent, which includes parts of western and southern Ohio through the Midwest. The western part of Ohio has a gradual transition while the east, with European settlement shaped by the Western Reserve, has a much sharper border.

The result is that the area is a linguistic melting pot where speakers use a mix of features from both the North and the Midland, Campbell-Kibler said. So, in this study, the researchers investigated whether two factors other than the county's location might influence accents of the residents: travel patterns and country identity.

The study, published recently in the journal American Speech, involved recorded interviews with 22 men in the county. The researchers looked specifically at five vowel patterns and how they differed based on travel patterns and country identity.

One hypothesis was that people who traveled a lot for work or other reasons might pick up accents tied to where they visit. The researchers compared those who traveled to Toledo or Michigan -



Crossword solution from page 9

was not very robust, Campbell-Kibler said.

Much more robust were the findings about the country identity. Through the course of the interviews, the researchers asked participants about their hobbies, music choices and vehicle choices. Each participant was given a score for whether they mentioned connections to things like hunting, fishing, gardening, 4H and livestock (country identity) or hiking, biking, golf or video games (not country.) They were also asked about their high-school identity. Those who said "red-necks" or "ag kids" were given points for a country identity while those who said "band geeks" or "nerds" were not.

The researchers also asked each participant if they felt they had more in common with someone living in Fort Wayne, the nearest city, or with someone living in a similarly rural community in Idaho. Those who scored high on country identity were much more likely to say they had more in common with a person in rural Idaho.

Findings showed that those who identified more strongly with country practices were more likely to use two vowel patterns often associated with the South or Appalachia, even though Defiance County is hundreds of miles from those regions. For example, they may pronounce "my" like "ma."

Although there was some Appalachian migration to Defiance County in the 20th century, participants didn't maintain connections to family in Appalachia or connect their country identity to roots there. Instead, they defined being country as being about what someone does - especially having gardens and livestock.

Campbell-Kibler said she suspects that the results found in this study probably would be found in other parts of the United States.

"People today are influenced not just by the people they live near, but by all they read and see on the internet and television," she said. "The way people talk can be affected by who they want to be, not just where they live."

Co-authors on the study were Martha Austen and Shontael Elward, who did the work as graduate students at Ohio State, and both now have PhDs in linguistics from the university.

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