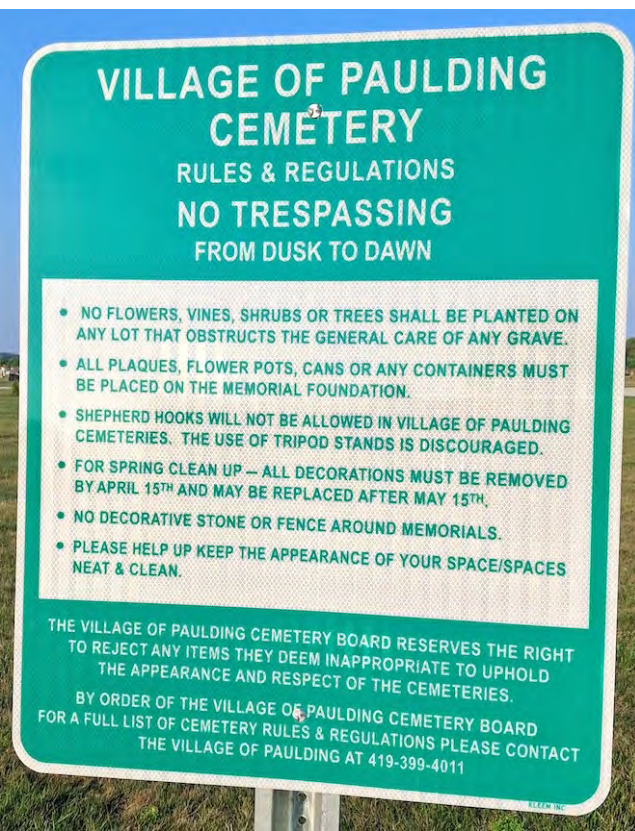


Add your event to the calendar
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The Paulding Village Cemetery Board of Trustees had new signs erected at Live Oak Cemetery and the Paulding Memorial Cemetery. The signs will help residents understand the rules of the cemetery and the date for spring clean-up. Both cemeteries are located on Emerald Rd. in Paulding.

7 QUESTIONS WITH KAYLA KIMBLE, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT



Kayla Kimble, PA-C, Parkview Physicians Group - Family Medicine

Kayla Kimble, PA-C, has joined Parkview Physicians Group (PPG) - Family Medicine in Archbold and is welcoming patients at the office, 121 Westfield Drive. She collaborates with Dr. Rick Yoder in providing high-quality, compassionate healthcare for individuals and families.

Kimble graduated from the University of Toledo, Ohio, with a bachelor's degree in biology. She went on to earn a master's degree in physician assistant (PA) studies from Kettering College, Kettering, Ohio, completing clinical rotations in a variety of disciplines from emergency medicine to pediatrics to orthopedics at hospitals and physician offices in the greater Dayton area and Lima, Ohio.

Certified by the National Commission on Certification

of Physician Assistants, she is a member of the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA) and the Ohio Association of Physician Assistants (OAPA).

Prior to coming to Parkview, Kimble served patients with a network of family practice and urgent care offices in southern Michigan and provided primary care and employee wellness services for a medium-sized company in Fayette, Ohio.

As a PA, she assesses patients to diagnose and treat a wide range of medical conditions. Managing chronic conditions; prescribing medications and therapy options; performing well-child, women's health, occupational health and other physical exams; performing in-office procedures; administering vaccinations and providing patient education are all part of her practice.

Q: Where did you grow up?

A: Delphos, Ohio.

Q: Was there an inspiration for you to become a physician assistant (PA)?

A: Yes. My mom is an RN, and growing up watching her, I always knew I wanted to work in the medical field. I just wasn't sure how I would. Then, in my early 20s, I was struggling with my health, and I met a PA who was able to help me. She changed my life, and I decided I wanted to become a PA to help other people in that same way.

Q: What motivates or energizes you in your work?

A: What energizes me is developing a trusting relationship with patients and finding out what their goals and motivations are for their health.

Q: How would you describe your approach to patient care?

A: My approach is to meet people where they are. Every person starts somewhere and deserves to have someone on their team working with them to help make decisions about their health.

Q: Do you have any areas of special interest within family medicine?

A: I enjoy the variety that family medicine brings in being able to see patients who are 1 week old to 100-plus years old and every age in between. It is always a treat to see newborn babies, though.

Q: What else would you like people to know about you as a healthcare professional?

A: I am the mom of a 2-year-old and a 4-month-old, and I know how busy life can get. I am not here to judge but to help people navigate their healthcare and prevent illness when possible.

Q: What activities do you enjoy when you're away from the office?

A: I have two dogs and two young kids. We enjoy playing outside and going to the lake as much as we can. I also enjoy gardening, keeping chickens and watching movies.

Office information:

• Appointment scheduling: Call 419-445-2015.

• Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 7:20 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., and Wednesday 7:20 - 11:00 a.m.

USDA EXPANDS PAYMENT LIMITATION AND PAYMENT ELIGIBILITY PROVISIONS FOR FARMERS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is expanding payment limitation and payment eligibility provisions that affect program payments including allowing for the equitable treatment of business entities. Additionally, producers will benefit from an increased payment limitation for certain programs, and a broader definition of farming income that will result in more exceptions to income limitations.

"The 2026 program year will be a monumental change for farmers and ranchers who can now structure their farm entities to benefit from the legal protections of certain business structures without limiting their access to the farm safety net," said Bill Beam, FSA Administrator.

"Producers have had to make difficult decisions for far too long when it comes to structuring their operations. The administration is proud to give farmers and ranchers more options to build and protect their legacy for generations to come while receiving full support from USDA."

These changes were outlined in the Working Families Tax Cuts Act which provides a large investment in American agriculture by improving eligibility provisions, the farm safety net, disaster assistance, and price support programs. USDA previously announced that this fall, producers will benefit from increased reference prices for major commodities. Today's announcement gives producers more flexibility in struc-

turing their operations and provides a stronger safety net.

Payment Eligibility

Starting with the 2026 crop year, for payment eligibility purposes, FSA will treat applicable limited liability companies (LLCs) and S-Corporations (S-Corps), and other similar entities, as "pass through entities." Each member of the qualified pass-through entity who meets actively engaged in farming criteria will help qualify the entity for expanded payments.

Previously, farm operations that were structured as an LLC or an S-Corp were limited to a single payment limitation, which varies by program. Now, partnerships, S-Corps, qualifying LLCs, and joint ventures or general partnerships will be treated the same.

For program year 2026 only, farm operations that are structured as LLCs or S-Corps or one of the new qualified pass-through entities must file updated farm operating plans with FSA for program year 2026 by September 15, 2026. After program year 2026, FSA will continue to use June 1 as the date for determining ownership interest in an entity. Producers who have crop insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program coverage should contact their crop insurance agent or local FSA office before restructuring their farm operation to ensure appropriate timing for restructuring without impacting current insurance coverage.

Members of qualified pass-through entities must provide contributions and be engaged in farming for the entity to be considered actively engaged in farming.

An additional change allows members of all entity types to receive compensation for labor and management contributions and use the same contribution to qualify as "actively engaged in farming." This update provides consistent treatment of member contributions across all entity types.

Payment Limitation and Attribution

Payment limitation changes include an increased payment limit for the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage (PLC) program. Starting with crop year 2025, the ARC and PLC payment limit will increase from \$125,000 to \$155,000. This payment limit will be adjusted going forward annually based on inflation.

Payment limitations are the maximum amount that a person or legal entity can receive for any crop year, directly or indirectly, through certain USDA programs. The same maximum payment limitation that applied to joint ventures and general partnerships will apply to qualified pass-through entities.

The policy change to payment limitation calculations takes effect beginning with program year 2026 for all qualified pass-through entities.

Average Adjusted Gross Income

The Working Families Tax Cuts Act broadened the definition of farming income to be more reflective of modern agricultural business practices. As a result, diversified

Scripture of the Week

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

— John 1:12-13

DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME



In today's society, it's become so easy to forget where we came from and how we got to where we are. We have such great lives. I know some would disagree, but I pray that you would draw nearer to Jesus Christ and experience the wonderful life of living every day in remembrance of Christ and what He did for us. Remembering His broken body and the precious blood is not just for communion. It should reside in our hearts daily.

This call to remembrance invites believers to reflect on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. It serves as a reminder of the values He embodied—love, sacrifice, and forgiveness. Observing this command can take many

forms, from participating in communal worship to personal reflection and prayer.

When believers gather to share bread and wine, they not only honor the Last Supper but also strengthen their faith community. The act becomes a powerful reminder of the covenant between God and humanity, symbolizing hope and redemption.

In a broader sense, the phrase encourages us to remember Jesus' lessons and teachings in our everyday lives. It serves as a call to action—urging us to live by His example and foster compassion and kindness toward others.

Ultimately, this phrase is about maintaining a connection with faith, reflecting on our personal beliefs, and acting in ways that align with the teachings of Jesus. It's an invitation to continuously engage with Christ and to keep the essence of His teachings alive in the world today.

In summary, as Christians, everything we do should not be for our own glory but for the Glory of God. Remember, because He paid it forward, we owe it all to Him. So, everything you do, do it in remembrance of Jesus. God bless you and keep you.

Peace & love,

—Pastor Dwayne

producers will not be penalized under USDA's requirements for average adjusted gross income (AGI).

Producers are exempt from the \$900,000 AGI cap for conservation and disaster programs if at least 75% of their average gross income is from farming, ranching, or silviculture, which now includes agri-tourism, direct-to-consumer sales, and certain equipment sales.

Additionally, qualified pass-through entities are

not required to certify compliance with the average AGI limitation at the entity level. However, members individually must meet average AGI requirements, which is the same requirement for joint operations.

More Information

Producers should contact their local FSA county office for more information or to update their farm operating plan by the September 15, 2026, deadline for the 2026 program year.

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HIT BY ICE CREAM

Penny For Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker

In the 70 s Randy Newman had a hit song called "Short People." I did not care for the song at all but I guess it was a hit anyways.

I have been called names like Short Stuff, Little Bit, Shrimp, Pee Wee and a lot more. Why? Because I have always been short. Right now I measure 4'8" and I think I have reached my full height.

I am not a fan of being short but have always managed some how. Reaching cupboards, shelves hanging a high picture is always a challenge.

In grade school I was always the littlest and at recess was the last one to be chosen for a game like Red Rover, playing tag cause my legs are short and I could not run very fast.

I always looked at those tall girls and wished I was as tall as them. One big problem is me trying to buy clothes. Dresses and pants are too long and I have to go to petite sizes. I can fit into a little girls size but most times they are designed for kids and not little old ladies.

In addition to being short, I can't find any small shoes to fit me. Lots of places don't carry Size 5 so I either get a kids sized shoe or go for a 6 which slide all over my feet.

I just bought a pair of tennis shoes and they were sort of nice looking, but they were a 6. I tried them on and walked around a bit and thought, "These don't feel too bad." When I got home and tried to wear the new shoes, they slid up and down on my heel.

They were also starting to cause a blister and I did not want to deal with one of those. So looking online I found some heel shaped sticker pads that you stick in your shoes and they worked!

One time wanting a pair of gold heels I found some on EBay. To my surprise the description said they only cost a Penny. I thought wow I will buy these, they are pretty and my size and I could spare a Penny.

What surprised me was when I went to check out they charged me \$25 for shipping. But oh those shoes were exactly what I wanted so I paid shipping costs.

At that time I was working for another publication and I started strutting around in

those gold high heels. Actually they hurt my feet and walking was a problem.

I proudly showed my co workers and said "Look at my shoes that I got for a penny. One gal said "be careful you are gonna fall down in those heels. I can't believe you got them for a penny"

I replied, "Well the shipping was \$25" Those shoes were not comfortable and I could hardly walk in them. But hey! They only cost a penny"

I still have those one cent shoes and tried to put them on the other day. I found out I still could not walk in them,



and oh, I only wasted one cent. (and the shipping was only ? \$25.)

Being short can be difficult when grocery shopping. One evening I was shopping and was in the ice cream department. I wanted a certain kind of ice cream and it was on the top shelf of that freezer,

No clerk or anyone was around so I decided to climb up the metal rings of the freezer. It was cold but I had to get that ice cream cause there was only one left. I did fairly good climbing up the freezer until I got to the middle and ker plunk something hit me on the head and I mean I saw stars.

It was a big gallon of ice cream and I was more embarrassed than hurt. I left the ice cream area and did not get my ice cream.

Another time I was going to make a pot of chili and wanted black beans to put in it. Oops. Top shelf. I had just started a climb when a nice looking guy who worked there came up to me and said "Hey little one do you need help?"

"Oh yes I do. I want a couple cans of those black beans on the top shelf." The clerk had no trouble getting the beans down. Then I said "oh sir I am so sorry I wanted the red beans on the second shelf"

Well he was pretty nice and all he did was sigh and say "oh women"

God made us all different. Tall folks, short people, fat people and skinny people. But whatever we are God created us and he doesn't make mistakes.

Are you short or tall? Have you ever been called nick names? Have you ever climbed up a freezer in the store and got hit in the head by ice cream?

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

DPLS LIBRARY BOARD BEGINS LEADERSHIP TRANSITION

At its regular Wednesday meeting, the Defiance Public Library System (DPLS) Board of Trustees approved a transition plan for Library Director Cara Potter to move to a part-time schedule beginning Aug. 10 and authorized a public search for an interim library director to work alongside Potter during the leadership transition.



Line Supervisor John McMaster demonstrates the dangers of electricity to Paulding Putnam members.

(Continued from Page 1)

- Roy Kehres of Cloverdale
- Cassandra Mitchell of New Haven
- Jackie Hermiller of Otawa
- Andrew Clay of New Haven
- Brian Sheehan of Fort Wayne
- John Joustra of New Haven
- Jerry Bowers of Continental
- Taylor McMichael of Cecil
- Vomic Truck Sales and Services of New Haven
- Dawn Bockrath of Cloverdale
- Quinton Langhals of Columbus Grove
- Jennifer Smith of Antwerp
- Darell Anderson of Middle Point
- Karen Sorg of Fort Wayne
- Matthew Forbes of Antwerp

In addition to the fun, the

event provided information on Paulding Putnam's internet service. Members were able to learn more about packages, pricing, and when service would be available in their area. Service is currently available in parts of Latty, Haviland, Scott, Grover Hill, Roselm, Ottoville, Fort Jennings, Van Wert, and Kalida. Those interested in fiber internet service (even those who are not electric members) are encouraged to complete the interest form online at www.PPEC.coop/internet. This helps the co-op guide construction plans and notify customers when service is available.

Paulding Putnam encourages all members who attended to complete an event survey by Monday, August 3. Feedback will help shape future years' Member Appreciation Day. The survey can be found online at www.PPEC.coop/your-cooperative/news-events/events/member-appreciation-day/.

at each of the library system's three locations: Defiance Public Library, Sherwood Branch Library, and Johnson Memorial Library.

"We are fortunate to have an outstanding leadership team at DPLS, and I am confident they will continue providing the excellent service and programming our community has come to expect and depend on during this transition," said Taryn Lawson, communications coordinator for DPLS.

In other business, the Board:

- heard that the Friends of Defiance Public Library met on July 21. The next Friends of DPL Book Sale fundraiser is set to take place Oct. 24 and 25 at Northtowne Mall.

- heard that interviews are currently underway to fill a vacant position in the circulation department.

- learned that virtual and in-person meetings between library administration/management and SHP Architecture and Design have continued as the library moves forward with plans to construct an annex across the street from the Carnegie building, which will also undergo repair and renovation as part of the project.

- briefly discussed the library's levy request that will appear on the November 2026 ballot. For more information about the levy, visit defiancelibrary.org or pick up a fact sheet at any DPLS location.

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

Everett Thomas Upthegrove was born on May 29, 1897, in Emerald, Paulding County, Ohio. He was the son of Charles Upthegrove, born in 1870 in Highland Park, Ohio, and Annie (Grant) Upthegrove, born in 1868 in Kentucky. The couple married in 1893 in Paulding County.

By 1900, the family was farming in Emerald, Ohio, while raising their children: Lizzie A., born in 1894; Perlle, born in 1895; Everett, born in 1897; and Bessie E., born in 1898. A son, Floyd, was born in 1903.

In 1905, Charles suddenly passed away. He was buried in the Upthegrove Cemetery in Jackson Township. Everett went on to live with his grandfather, Josiah Upthegrove, and his two aunts, Mattie and Ettie, in Emerald. On November 6, 1911, Annie married the Rev. Elisha B. Underwood in Paulding.

By 1917, Everett had moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he was working for a company called Overland, a trucking and shipping firm. On June 4, 1918, Everett registered for the World War I draft at Local Board Division No. 4 in Toledo. He was described as having brown hair and brown eyes.

On September 5, 1918, Everett was inducted into the National Army. He was first assigned to the 158th Depot Brigade for training, serving until October 3, 1918. He was then transferred to the 148th Infantry Base Hospital, where he served until December 31, 1918. His final assignment was with the Embarkation Service Hospital at Camp Stuart, Virginia, where

he served until August 1, 1919, when he received an honorable discharge.

By 1920, Everett was living in Toledo, Ohio, where he worked various factory jobs. On August 26, 1929, Everett found someone who turned his gears. He married Lillian Francis Orr Duffy, a schoolteacher in the Toledo Public School System. Lillian was born on April 12, 1899, in Toledo, Ohio. By 1930, Everett and Lillian were still living in Toledo, where Everett was employed in the automobile industry as a sheet metal worker.

In 1931, Everett's mother, Annie, passed away. She was buried beside her husband, Charles. By 1935, Everett and Lillian had divorced. Lillian moved to California, where she continued teaching.

By 1940, Everett had moved to Massillon, Ohio, where he worked in a printing shop. On February 16, 1942, he registered for the World War II draft. He was listed as being 5 feet 7 inches tall, weighing 160 pounds, with a light complexion, black hair, and brown eyes. He was not selected for military service.

By 1950, Everett was once again living in Toledo, working as a printer. On November 1, 1960, he filed for Social Security. He later spent his remaining years in Detroit, Michigan. On July 25, 1990, Everett passed away at his home in Highland Park, Michigan. His burial location is unknown.

After her divorce from Everett, Lillian remarried a man named Jack Williams. Lillian and Jack divorced during the 1960s. Lillian passed away on June 22, 2000, in Los Angeles, California, and was buried in Angeles Rosedale Cemetery. During her career, she taught school for 58 years.

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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

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The WEST BEND NEWS

DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANT TO HUBER OPERA HOUSE



Pictured at the doors of the Huber Opera House are Chris Feichter, Director of Operations at the Huber Opera House, and DAF Executive Director Chris Yoder.

The Defiance Area Foundation is proud to support the continued preservation and enhancement of one of our community's treasured historic spaces, The Huber Opera House and Civic Center in Hicksville, Ohio.

During our 2026 Spring Grant Cycle, the Foundation awarded a \$6,250 grant to the Huber Opera House for stage floor replacement, helping provide a more professional

appearance for productions and performances hosted throughout the year.

The arts play an important role in strengthening our community, bringing people together, inspiring creativity, and preserving local history for future generations. We are grateful for the work the Huber Opera House continues to do in Downtown Hicksville and across our region.

ODOT ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Paulding County

U.S. 24 lane restriction - U.S. 224 in both directions between the Indiana state line and U.S. 127 will be restricted to one lane (July 9 - September 1) for concrete pavement repairs. Project page: Project ID 116665

State Route 49, State Route 500, State Route 613 lane restrictions - State Route 49, State Route 500, and State Route 613 in the village of Payne may be restricted to alternating one way through the work zone beginning for finishing work on a resurfacing project. Traffic will be maintained with flaggers. Project page: Project ID 116679

Township Road 33 Closure - Township Road 33 just south of State Route 500 over Flat Rock Creek closed July 13 for approximately 120 days (Nov. 9) for a bridge replacement. No detour will be posted.

Putnam County

U.S. 224 /State Route 65 closure and lane restrictions - (Ottawa)State Route 65 in the village of Ottawa will have the following traffic impacts for curb replacement, widening, and signal improvement project.

U.S. 224 at SR 65 is open. Upcoming closures are expected, dates to be determined.

State Route 65 lane restrictions - State Route 65 between the village of Ottawa and the

to SR 694

Van Wert County

U.S. 30, U.S. 224, & Lincoln Hwy projects:

- U.S. 30/John Brown Road restricted crossing U-turn (RCUT) construction

- U.S. 30 will be restricted to one lane in each direction beginning Monday, July 13.

- John Brown Rd closed July 13 for approximately 17 days (July 30). No detour will be posted.

- U.S. 224/Lincoln Highway roundabout construction

- The intersection of U.S. 224 and Lincoln Highway will close on Friday, July 31, for approximately 60 days for construction of a roundabout. Check back for detour information.

- U.S. 224 detour: U.S. 30 to SR 49, back to U.S. 224

- U.S. 224 bridge rehabilitation construction

- U.S. 224 between U.S. 30 and Lincoln Highway will close on Friday, July 31, for approximately 120 days for rehabilitation of the bridge over the railroad.

- U.S. 224 detour: U.S. 30 to SR 49, back to U.S. 224

Project page: Project ID 120111

State Route 118 closure - State Route 118 between the city of Van Wert and the Mercer County line will be restricted to alternating one way July 27-31 for upcoming chip seal resurfacing. Traffic will be maintained via flaggers. Project page: Project ID 115023

State Route 697 closure - SR 697 between the city of Delphos and State Route 116 will close Monday, July 27, for full-width paving. Detour: SR 66 to U.S. 30 to U.S. 127 to SR 116, back to SR 697. Project page: Project ID 107701

State Route 709 closure State Route 709 between State Route 118 and State Route 116 closed July 20 for approximately five days for chip seal resurfacing. Access to all properties will be maintained. Detour: SR 118 to SR 81 to SR 116, back to SR 709. Project page: Project ID 115023

Fox Road lane restrictions, Van Wert Fox Road westbound between Shannon Street and Washington Street will have intermittent lane restrictions for construction of a shared-use path. Project page: Project ID 119721

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

In July, State Wildlife Officer Brian Motsinger, assigned to Union County, observed a group of three people fishing near a bridge over Big Darby Creek. When contacted, only two of the individuals had a valid fishing license. The remaining angler was issued a summons for fishing without a license and was ordered to pay \$138 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Josh Elster, assigned to Pickaway County, was contacted by an angler at Deer Creek Lake. The angler informed Officer Elster that what he believed was a beaver swam towards the boat and attempted to get on. The angler tried to keep the animal away, but it eventually made its way to the rear of the boat and got stuck between the motor and the jack plate. Officer Elster responded to the area and met the boater at one of the courtesy docks. Officer Elster determined the

animal was a groundhog, not a beaver. Officer Elster freed the groundhog using a catch pole. As the groundhog swam around the boat, Officer Elster caught it and released the uninjured animal nearby on dry land.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Investigator Kevin Good was contacted about a young white-tailed deer buck that was stuck in a fence in Erie County. Investigator Good located the deer and requested the assistance of Castalia State Fish Hatchery Superintendent Andy Jarrett to free the deer from the fence using bolt cutters. As they approached the deer, it freed itself. The deer rested for about 15 minutes before walking off.

State Wildlife Officer Matt D. Smith, assigned to Huron County, received a call about the unlawful take of a Canada goose at a residence. Officer Smith arrived at the residence and discovered a goose had been shot with a rifle. Officer Smith issued a summons for taking a Canada goose unlawfully. The individual was found guilty and paid a \$100 fine and \$150 in court costs. The court also issued 10 days of jail, suspended, and two years of probation. The goose was seized as evidence and forfeited.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

While on boat patrol on Berlin Lake, State Wildlife Officer Marino Pellegrini, assigned to Portage County, and Natural Resource Officer Jack Todd noticed a group of individuals on shore at Berlin Wildlife Area. The individuals appeared to be standing around a vehicle, approximately a mile from any designated roadway. Officer Pellegrini was dropped off on shore to investigate and found a vehicle stuck in the mud. The driver of the stuck vehicle was issued a summons for operating a vehicle in a non-designated area and paid \$220 in fines and court costs. A tow truck was called to extract the vehicle.

This spring, State Wildlife Officer Craig Porter, assigned to Jefferson County, attended numerous events at local schools. During the events, he taught students about native wildlife in Ohio, showed equipment wildlife officers use, taught archery, and helped with youth fishing derbies. Events like these are a great way for wildlife officers to connect with local youth and leave a lasting impression about the importance of wildlife conservation.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

State Wildlife Officer Cole Tilton, assigned to Guernsey County, encountered a group of anglers along the bank of Salt Fork Lake. He observed one of the anglers discard aluminum cans after finishing a drink. Officer Tilton contacted the group and issued a citation for litter to the suspect. The individual later pleaded guilty in Cambridge Municipal Court and was ordered to pay \$200 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Ben Smith, assigned to Morgan County, received a call about a Canada goose at Burr Oak State Park that had fishing line wrapped around its legs. Officer Smith responded to the location and used a large fishing net to capture the goose. The line was removed and the

MOUNTAIN WOMAN



Bertha May was one tough gal. I have a heart for the Appalachian people and most of them have overcome incredible odds.

Bertha was born in 1840 on the Tennessee side of the Great Smoky Mountains. Her ancestors had settled this place just a few years prior.

It was a forest of sugar maple trees, and the land was fertile, good for growing corn. They made maple syrup each spring, and they called the land Sugarland.

Bertha was one of 10 children in a family of Scottish immigrants. Her father was deeply religious and the Bible played a prominent part of their life. Most mountain people did not see the value of education but her father cared deeply and built a school house on their land. Their teachers were traveling teachers that rode in on horseback. Since the schoolhouse was so near they could go to school and work at home at the same time.

Bertha's father was a blacksmith and she learned to shoe a horse, make tools at early age. Bertha accompanied her father on bear hunts, fishing expeditions and became an expert hunter in the process. Her father told her how to make traps for all kinds of animals. She even knew how to make mouse traps. Her father

taught her how to tan leather and make saddles and other leather goods.

Her mother was a seamstress and from her she learned to spin cotton and wool, how to dye it and make beautiful coats and quilts. Her mother also taught her basket weaving. She was a spiritually sound lady who could do anything.

In 1860 she fell in love with a young man by the name of John Winter. She was 19 and he was only 17 but he was a skilled hunter and blacksmith. They made a beautiful couple.

John had had a hunting accident and an encounter with a bear. The bear broke his neck and it miraculously healed but his head tilted to the side. They said their vows and found a place to build a cabin. They chose a place by the name of Gatlinburg.

They soon had a boy and a girl and were living a good life when raiders from the Civil War came through and took their cow and their two pigs. The raiders then came back and took everything else. John had to defend their country so he went off to the war. That year her young son died and she dug a grave for him. Shortly after John's body was shipped back and now she had two graves on her property.

—James Neuhouser

goose was observed walking and swimming normally.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

During the spring wild turkey hunting season, State Wildlife Officer Mark Schemmel, assigned to Auglaize County, received information regarding an individual hunting turkeys over bait. The complainant provided information on the property and individual in question and advised Officer Schemmel that the individual was likely ac-

tively hunting at the time of the call. Shortly thereafter, Officer Schemmel and Wildlife Investigator Nathan Robinson arrived at the property. They contacted the suspect and found the individual had hunted turkey over an area where corn had been placed. The individual received a citation for the violation and was later found guilty in Auglaize County Municipal Court. The individual paid \$193.68 in fines and court costs.

Saturday, August 8th, 2026

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AT THE OHIO STATE FAIR, CFAES TURNS A SUMMER TRADITION INTO OHIO'S LARGEST CLASSROOM



COLUMBUS, Ohio — Many people come to the Ohio State Fair expecting blue-ribbon livestock, giant pumpkins, concerts and funnel cakes.

They don't always expect to leave having learned something.

Yet every summer, that's exactly what happens.

Across the fairgrounds, nearly 1 million annual visitors encounter an exhibit, a faculty member or a student from The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES), where hands-on learning, scientific discovery and youth leadership have long been part of one of Ohio's favorite summer traditions.

For 12 days each summer, more than 200 CFAES employees, including faculty, staff and Ohio State University Extension educators and specialists, work alongside 1,200 adult volunteers to bring research, education and Ohio 4-H youth development to visitors from all 88 Ohio counties.

"Every interaction we

have at the fair is a chance to educate, connect and demonstrate the impact of The Ohio State University to Ohioans," said Cathann A. Kress, Ohio State vice president for agricultural administration and CFAES dean. "Whether someone is learning about the food they eat, exploring a career path or showing an animal for the first time, those experiences help people better understand their connection to Ohio agriculture, communities and the environment."

That learning comes to life across nearly every corner of the fairgrounds.

Inside the Lausche Youth Exploration Space, children gather around hands-on exhibits to discover pollinators, explore wetlands and wildlife, experiment with agricultural technology, and participate in STEM activities that make science engaging and accessible.

Throughout the fair, CFAES departments give families the opportunity to experience the research and innovation taking place at Ohio State by introducing

them to research on plant science, natural resources, precision agriculture, animal sciences and environmental stewardship.

But the learning isn't limited to children.

Extension educators, researchers, Master Gardener Volunteers and students answer questions about gardening, food systems, conservation, animal care, emerging agricultural technologies, and more.

CFAES is also proud to support Ohio Farm Bureau's imAGine Ag exhibit located in the new Ohio Agriculture Center. The 75,000-square-foot exhibit will give fairgoers an immersive look at modern agriculture with topics ranging from weather and agricultural technology to animal care and crop management.

Whether someone wants advice on improving a backyard garden, understanding food safety or learning about the future of farming, the fair offers a direct connection to Ohio State's statewide network of expertise.

"The Ohio State Fair is one of the best examples of Extension in action," said David Civittolo, associate dean and director of Extension. "Every day, our educators, specialists, volunteers and students are helping people connect university research with their everyday lives."

"Whether someone wants to learn a new skill, solve a problem on the farm, inspire a young person through 4-H or simply better understand the world around them, the fair creates opportunities for learning that can have a lasting impact long after the gates close."

The fair is also one of the year's biggest stages for Ohio 4-H.

More than 9,000 young people from all 88 Ohio counties showcase projects they've spent months preparing. Through project judging, skillathons — hands-on learning events that test an individual's knowledge in a specific subject — and competitions, they build leadership, communication and problem-solving skills while gaining confidence that often extends far beyond the fairgrounds.

For some, it's their first time speaking confidently before a judge. For others, it's the moment they begin to see themselves pursuing a career in agriculture, envi-

ronmental or food science. And for many families, it's a chance to see firsthand how young people grow through Ohio 4-H.

Those moments are at the heart of CFAES' presence at the fair each year.

"The Ohio State Fair has always been about learning, discovery and bringing communities together," Kress said. "We're proud that CFAES can help create those moments that stay with people long after they leave the fairgrounds."

HANNAH ARNOLD OF PAULDING NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY

Congratulations to Manchester University students who have earned a place on the Spring 2026 Dean's List for their academic achievements.

The Office of Academic Affairs publishes the list at the end of each semester.

Hannah Arnold of Paulding was named to the Spring 2026 Dean's List.

Arnold was among nearly 330 students named to the Dean's List. Arnold is studying Psychology and Criminology.

Undergraduate students earning a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher who have completed at least 12 semester hours with no more than three hours of Pass/Not Pass grades are included on the Dean's List. Students with more than one hour of Incomplete (I) or Not Recorded (NR) grades at the end of the semester are not eligible for the Dean's List.

In North Manchester and Fort Wayne, Ind., Manchester provides vibrant and transformative student experiences. Learn more at www.manchester.edu/about-manchester.

Our mission

Manchester University respects the infinite worth of every individual and graduates persons of ability and conviction who draw upon their education and faith to lead principled, productive, and compassionate lives that improve the human condition.

DEBUNKING FIVE COMMON SOCIAL SECURITY MYTHS

Social Security is often one of the most important income sources in retirement. Yet widespread myths about how it works can lead to confusion, unnecessary worry and poor planning decisions. Here's the truth behind five of the most common misconceptions.

Myth 1: Social Security is going broke. You've probably heard this one, but the full picture is more nuanced. According to the 2026 Social Security Board of Trustees Report, if Congress does nothing, the program would need to reduce benefits starting in 2032, paying roughly 78 cents for every dollar owed.

But that's just one scenario. Congress could raise the combined payroll tax from 12.4% to 16.65%, which the trustees estimate would secure full benefits through 2100. Other options include eliminating the earnings cap subject to payroll tax or adjusting retirement ages. Lawmakers have tools to address this.

Myth 2: Social Security will cover all your retirement needs. Think of Social Security as a financial foundation, not the full building. According to the Social Security Administration, benefits replace only about 40% of pre-retirement income for a median earner. That means you'll likely need to account for most of your retirement income yourself. Building a strong personal savings strategy now can help close that gap.

Myth 3: You lose benefits permanently if you keep working. Not true. Social Security does have an "earnings test" that can temporarily reduce benefits for people who claim early and keep working. If your earnings exceed a set annual cap — which changes each year — Social Security will withhold a portion of your benefits. But once you reach full retirement age, the Social Security Administration adjusts your monthly check higher to repay those withheld amounts over time.

Myth 4: An ex-spouse's benefits come out of your own. If you were married for at least 10 years and are cur-

rently unmarried, your former spouse may be eligible to collect on your earnings record, or you may be able to collect on theirs. Divorced spouse benefits can be up to 50% of the other person's full retirement benefit. But those payments don't affect yours. Your monthly benefit is not reduced by anything paid to an ex-spouse or even a current spouse.

Myth 5: Social Security benefits are no longer taxed. Recent legislation caused some confusion here. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act did not eliminate taxes on Social Security benefits. If your combined income exceeds certain thresholds, you'll still owe taxes on a portion of your benefits.

The law also created a temporary deduction (available through 2028) for people 65 and older. Eligible taxpayers can deduct \$6,000 per qualifying filer if their modified adjusted gross income is \$75,000 or less for singles or \$150,000 for couples. The deduction phases out at \$175,000 for singles and \$250,000 for joint filers.

The more you understand Social Security, the more control you have over your retirement outcome. Grounding your decisions in facts rather than assumptions can make a meaningful difference in your long-term financial security.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones and its financial advisors cannot provide tax advice. You should consult your qualified tax professional regarding your situation.

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READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

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

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

Cecil: 127 Maramart, Paulding Pancake House

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

Defiance: Advanced Auto, Chief, Defiance Public Library, Dollar General (Clinton St), Marathon Main Stop, Newman's Marathon Carryout, Senior Center, Smoke Stop ...

Junction Dollar General, Cabbage Patch

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

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

Hicksville: Barber Shop Ministries, Citgo, Dollar General, Johnson Memorial Library, Marathon, McDonalds, Red Angel Pizza, Sailors, Senior Center, Shell Station, Vancrest, Village offices

Ney: Marathon

Oakwood: Cooper Comm. Library, Dollar General, Landing Strip, Oakwood Market, Oakleaf Diner

Paulding: Ace Hardware, Bargain Bin, Board of Elections, Chief, Corner Market, Courthouse, Dairy Queen, Dollar General, Gardens of Paulding, Holly, Wood & Vine, Integrity Ford,

Kwik Mart, Maramart, Napa Do It Best, PC Sheriff Office, PCH, PC Carnegie Library, Stykemain, VFW Post 587

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

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

Scott: Scott Post Office

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

INDIANA LOCATIONS

Fort Wayne: Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living, Hahn Systems, Walmart

Grabill: Grabill Hardware, Farm Building Supply, Save-A-Lot/Grabill Country Sales

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

Hoagland: Hoagland Pizza Pub, Mel's Town Market

Milan Center: Milan Center Feed & Grain

Monroeville: All American Marathon, Adams Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General, Phillips 66

New Haven: ACPL Library, Clips, Chamber of Commerce, CVS, H&K Chevrolet, Ken's Meat Market, McDonalds, NH Bakery, Paterson Hardware, Richard's

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

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ODNR INVITES PUBLIC TO EXPLORE 250 YEARS OF AMERICAN HISTORY AT INDEPENDENCE DAM



DEFIANCE, Ohio — As part of its year-long America 250 celebration, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Parks and Watercraft will host a two-day "Walk Through History" event at Independence Dam State Park on August 8-9, offering visitors an immersive journey through America's past—from the Revolutionary War to the modern era.

The event will run from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 8, and from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 9, featuring nearly 80 historical reenactors and educators representing periods from 1776 to the present day. Guests can explore living-history camps, enjoy historical demonstrations and entertainment, and grab a bite to eat from on-site food trucks.

A major highlight of the weekend will be a solemn

wreath-laying ceremony at the Fort Starvation War of 1812 memorial, taking place at noon on Saturday. The Plymouth Fife and Drum Corps will lead a procession of War of 1812 reenactors to the memorial, where the Daughters of 1812 Kentucky Chapter will offer brief remarks before placing the wreath. The ceremony will also include a bugler tribute, the National Anthem performed by local Girl Scout troops, and a scheduled flyover by a World War I-era biplane, weather permitting.

The celebration is being presented in partnership with the Friends of Independence Dam State Park, whose support and collaboration have been instrumental in bringing this regional heritage event to life. Together, organizers aim to honor northwestern Ohio's deep frontier history as the nation marks its 250th anniversary this year.

Independence Dam State Park will host a two-day-long "Walk through History" event in honor of America's 250th anniversary.

"As we celebrate America's 250th anniversary, this event offers a meaningful way to reflect on the people and moments that shaped our nation," said ODNR Director Mary Mertz. "Independence Dam is the perfect setting to honor that legacy, and we're thrilled to invite Ohioans to experience this living history."

"A Walk Through History" event weekend is free and open to the public, offering families, history enthusiasts, and community members a meaningful way to connect with Ohio's past while enjoying the natural beauty of Independence Dam State Park.

Recognized as the No. 1 state park system in America with the 2025 National Gold Medal Award for Excellence

in Park and Recreation Management, the ODNR Division of Parks and Watercraft provides exceptional outdoor recreation and boating opportunities by balancing outstanding customer service, education, and conservation of Ohio's 76 state parks and waterways.

ODNR ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR website at ohiodnr.gov.

VANTAGE CAREER CENTER STAFF HONORED WITH STATEWIDE CAREER-TECH EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Van Wert, Ohio — Vantage Career Center is proud to announce that two members of its staff have received prestigious statewide recognition from the Ohio Association for Career and Technical Education (Ohio ACTE) during the 2026 Career-Tech Excellence Awards.



AUDREE MARKWARD

Health Technology Instructor Audree Markward was named Ohio's New Career-Technical Education Teacher of the Year, recognizing her outstanding dedication to student success and excellence in career and technical education.

In just her third year at Vantage, Markward has made a significant impact on students by combining 16 years of nursing and healthcare leadership experience with engaging, hands-on instruction. A graduate of the Apollo Career Center Practical Nursing Program, she is committed to preparing the next generation of healthcare professionals through authentic, real-world learning experiences.



GAIL GILLETT

Vantage also celebrates EMIS Coordinator Gail Gillett, who received the Ohio ACTE Ambassador Award in recognition of her outstanding service and unwavering commitment to career and technical education.

For 37 years, Gillett has been an integral part of the Vantage Career Center family, serving in multiple leadership support roles while making a lasting impact on students, staff, and the community. Known for her professionalism, welcoming spirit, and dedication to excellence, Gail consistently goes above and beyond to foster a positive school culture, support staff and students, coordinate wellness initiatives, strengthen community partnerships, and ensure every visitor experiences the very best of Vantage.

Superintendent Rick Turner praised both recipients for their accomplishments and the example they

DEFIANCE MOOSE LODGE AWARDS GRANT TO STROEDE CENTER FOR SUMMER MUSIC IN THE PARKS



Congratulations to the Stroede Center for the Arts for receiving a \$1,000 grant from the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094. This grant will be used for Summer Music in the Parks. Pictured are (L to R) Stacy McCartney - Defiance Moose Lodge Administrator and Sarah Tackett - Co-Executive Director at DCCC/Stroede Center for the Arts.

set for students and colleagues.

"On behalf of the administration, staff, and Board of Education at Vantage Career Center, I want to extend my deepest congratulations to Audree Markward and Gail Gillett on receiving prestigious statewide honors at the 2026 Ohio ACTE Career-Tech Excellence Awards.

To have two of our own recognized at the state level is a monumental achievement, and it speaks volumes about the caliber of professionals we have guiding our school. True excellence in career technical education isn't just about teaching skills—it's about building community, fostering passion, and driving success. Audree and Gail represent the very best of Vantage, and their statewide recognition is incredibly well-deserved. Their commitment to our students and our mission is unwavering. Audree and Gail make all of us proud to be a part of Vantage Career Center!"

The Ohio ACTE Career-Tech Excellence Awards recognize educators, administrators, counselors, support professionals, and advocates who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to career and technical education throughout Ohio.

Vantage Career Center congratulates Audree Markward and Gail Gillett on this well-deserved statewide recognition and thanks them for their continued commitment to empowering students and advancing career and technical education.

MEET LOCAL AUTHOR DUANE A. BAILEY AT ANTWERP BRANCH LIBRARY BOOK SIGNING

Readers are invited to meet local author and retired Ohio Wildlife Officer Duane A. Bailey during a special book signing for his newly released memoir, *The Rings of Saturn: A Game Warden's View of the Universe*, on Thursday, August 6, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Antwerp Branch Library, 205 N. Madison St., Antwerp.

Bailey's first book is a collection of true stories drawn from more than 32 years of service with the Ohio Division of Wildlife. Beginning his career in wildlife management on January 1, 1980, Bailey was assigned to Paulding County as a Wildlife Officer on November 1, 1981, where he spent the remainder of his career before retiring in 2012. Along the way, he encountered unforgettable people, unusual investigations, humorous situations, and meaningful life lessons that now fill the pages of *The Rings of Saturn*.

Although writing was never his profession, Bailey became well known to local readers through his Paulding County Outdoors newspaper column. Fellow officers often encouraged him to preserve the many stories from his career in a book. Inspired by that encouragement, Bailey spent years organizing his memories into a collection that reflects not only on wildlife law enforcement but also on faith, family, friendship, and a life-

MEET THE AUTHOR

DUANE A. BAILEY

Wildlife Officer • Conservationist • Storyteller

FROM THE FIELD TO THE PAGE

For more than 32 years, Duane Bailey served as a Wildlife Officer with the Ohio Division of Wildlife, protecting our natural resources and the people who enjoy them.

His first book, *The Rings of Saturn: A Game Warden's View of the Universe*, brings together decades of true stories, humor, hardships, and heartfelt moments from a life spent in the outdoors.

Join Duane for an evening of stories, signing, and conversation about his remarkable career and the people, places, and lessons that shaped it.

"I wasn't really a writer," Duane admits. My training was in technical writing. But someone told me—write the story the way you would tell it to someone sitting across from you. That's what I did."

BOOK SIGNING

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Join Duane for an evening of stories, signing, and conversation about his remarkable career and the people, places, and lessons that shaped it.

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ANTWERP CLAIMS TEAM TITLE AS GMC DEFEATS WEST BEND BOOKSTORE OPENS ONLINE, SHOWCASING LOCAL AUTHORS



The annual Green Meadows Conference vs. Buckeye Border Conference Ryder Cup-style golf tournament was held Thursday, July 30, 2026, at Pond-A-River Golf Club in Woodburn, Indiana, with the Green Meadows Conference earning a convincing 15-5 victory over the Buckeye Border Conference. Highlighting the day was Antwerp, whose boys team captured the championship trophy.

Unlike a traditional stroke-play tournament where every golfer's total score is added together, the Ryder Cup format features head-to-head matches between golfers from opposing conferences. Each match is worth one point, with the winner earning a point for their conference. The conference with the most points at the conclusion of play claims the overall title.

The Green Meadows Con-

ference controlled the competition from the start, winning 15 of the 20 available points to secure this year's conference championship over the BBC.

The annual event continues to bring together golfers from both conferences each summer, providing an early-season opportunity for teams to compete in a unique match-play format while building conference pride ahead of the regular season.

long appreciation for the outdoors.

Published by West Bend Printing & Publishing of Antwerp, *The Rings of Saturn* offers readers a rare, firsthand look at the life of an Ohio Wildlife Officer. The book blends humor, adventure, and thoughtful reflection, making it appealing to outdoor enthusiasts, history lovers, and anyone who enjoys true stories about everyday people and extraordinary experiences.

The public is invited to stop by the Antwerp Branch Library during the event to

meet Bailey, visit with him about his remarkable career, and have copies of his book personally signed. Books will be available for purchase during the event.

Those wishing to reserve a copy in advance may preorder online at bookstore.westbendprinting.com by scanning the QR code on promotional materials or visiting the website directly.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LIBRARY IN AUGUST

The Paulding County Carnegie Library is gearing up to finish the Summer Reading Program which will conclude August 1. Get your reading logs turned into your branch to be eligible for prizes. The Community Book Club discussions and activities are on Wednesday, August 5 at the Oakwood branch Community Room. *The Lemonade War* discussion will begin at 4:00 p.m. and *Theo of Golden* discussion begins at 5:30 p.m. Treats and door prizes will be available for attendees. Everyone is welcome to attend.

MAIN:

The Adult Section at Main will continue to have Coffee Talk every Thursday at 1:00 p.m., feel free to join us.

Classic Movies continue every Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., until the end of August.

August Bingo Luncheon will be on Monday, August 17, at 11:00 a.m., call to register and enjoy some BINGO!

Adult Cookbook Club will be on Monday, August 17th at 5:30 p.m.

Craft Tuesdays are August 11 at 11:00 a.m.

Teen Cooking Club will be on Monday, August 31 at

4:00 p.m.

Teens are encouraged to hang out at the library on Tuesday and Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. for Teen Chat or whenever you are free.

The Children's Room is waiting on the reading logs to be returned so the prizes can be awarded. Turn in logs the week of August 3-8, to receive your "Book Bucks" and go shopping!!!

Watch for some exciting events to be happening at the Children's Room, we are open and ready to serve you.

ANTWERP:

The Antwerp Branch has story time every Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m., join us for a Story and fun with your friends at the library.

Book Club is Monday, August 10th at 6:00 p.m., join us as we discuss the book and pick up the new one for the month.

Family Game Night is Thursday, August 20th, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Bring the whole family in for games and fun!

Ice Tye Dye is on Saturday, August 29th at 11:00 a.m. We provide the dish towel, but you can bring your own item to dye as well. Please call 419-258-2855 to register.

GROVER HILL:

The Grover Hill Branch will have their "Unearth a Party" event on Monday, August 3, starting at 5:00 p.m. Grand prizes will be awarded, announcement of the coloring contest winner and name our T-Rex, treats and other activities.

Munchkin Club story time dates are August 7th and 21st at 10:30 a.m.

*GHBL Book Club will meet on August 26th at 4:00 p.m. The club is reading *The Antidote* by Karen Russell. Multiple copies are available for check out.

There is no Senior Bingo in August. Make your reservation for September by calling 419-567-1717.

All August long we will celebrate the Golden Era of Books from the tiny little golden books to those entering their golden retirement years, to all those golden chapters of life in between. We are committed to sharing all your vintage stories, golden moments and treasured memories.

OAKWOOD:

The Oakwood Branch will have Back to School Water Day at the park beginning at 12:00 p.m., on August 13.

Senior Bingo with The

WELCOME TO THE

WEST BEND PRINTING & PUBLISHING BOOKSTORE

Books by Local & Regional Authors
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SCAN TO VISIT THE BOOKSTORE

A new chapter is beginning in the West Bend Printing story. Readers no longer have to wait for a local book signing or search through large online retailers to discover books written by area authors. West Bend Printing & Publishing is pleased to announce the grand opening of the West Bend Bookstore, an online bookstore dedicated to connecting readers with books written by local and regional authors.

The new bookstore features a growing collection of titles spanning fiction, historical novels, westerns, poetry, outdoor writing, inspirational books, and local interest publications. While the current selection already includes works from several Northwest Ohio authors, new titles will continue to be added as West Bend Publishing expands its catalog.

"Our goal is to give local authors a professional place

to showcase their work while making it easy for readers to discover stories they may never have found otherwise," said Bryce Steiner, owner and publisher at West Bend Printing & Publishing. "There are talented writers all around us, and we're excited to help bring their books to a wider audience."

Among the books currently available are *The Rings of Saturn: A Game Warden's View of the Universe* by Duane Bailey, George Forrest's novels *Lee's Expectation* and *Top of the Mountain*, Victor Bennett's poetry collection *The Redistribution of Happiness*, and Stan Jordan's historical fiction titles *The 589th Fighter Wing: The Lobo Tank Busters* and *El Paso Sam Rivers: Indian Agent*. Additional titles are already in production and will be released throughout the coming months.

To celebrate the grand

opening, customers can receive 10% off their entire purchase throughout the month of August by entering the promotional code 10WBGO during checkout.

The bookstore offers secure online ordering, shipping throughout the United States, and local pickup for customers in the area.

"We're just getting started," Steiner said. "As we continue publishing new authors and new books, readers can expect the selection to grow regularly. We hope the bookstore becomes a place where people discover great stories written by people from their own communities."

The West Bend Bookstore is available online at bookstore.westbendprinting.com. Readers are encouraged to visit often as new books, author events, and special promotions are added throughout the year.

Sometimes it's hard to find local authors.

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Servicing All Of Northwest Ohio/Michigan

Meadows is on August 13th at 11:30 a.m., and at 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Roper's Craft Blast-no registration is required.

August 15th at 11:00 a.m., register to participate in an All-Natural Room Spray Workshop and learn how to make a fresh natural scent for your home.

Cookbook Club meets on August 20th at 5:00 p.m. Bring a favorite dish to share and enjoy great conversation,

and discover new recipes with fellow food lovers.

Storytime is on Monday, August 31 at 5:00 p.m. Bring the kids for stories, fun and a great way to celebrate the end of summer.

PAYNE:

The Payne Branch will have Author Nichole Suvar, a graduate from Wayne Trace High School, on Saturday, August 22nd, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. to talk about her

new book *I Don't have to Hold It All Together: Cultivating the Peace of Eden While Feeling Overwhelmed*. Stop in and say Hi.

Back to School Giveaway donated by the Payne Branch Friends of the Library Group. Stop in and sign up for a chance to win.

Back to School craft out all month long, stop in during library hours.

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THE LEFT TURN



Sprints Take Center Stage At Limaland. Photo Credit: Campbell Photography.

By: Ron Burt

Limaland Raceway Park, Friday, July 24th-The Great Lakes Traditional Sprints (Non-wing) headlined race night. Action started on lap one of the 25 lap A-main for the Sprint Cars. The front row pole sitters of Dustin Ingle and Korbeyn Hayslett would make up the front row in the 25 lap A Main. On the first lap Jackson Slone knifed his way between the leaders to lead lap number one, but Hayslett would go to the high side of the track and find the speed to grab the lead on lap 2. Ingle fought his way back to second on lap 5, while Jakeb Boxell began his charge from his sixth place starting position. Boxell would get by Slone for third on lap 8 then put a slide job on Ingle in turns three and four to pick up second place. Hayslett would get into lapped traffic on lap 12 and Boxell was able to take advantage, moving past by Hayslett on lap 17. At the same time Hayslett developed a flat left rear tire ending his night. On the restart Boxell would keep the lead and grab the win over Ingle, Ryan Barr was third. The UMP Modified Podium 1st Dillon Nusbaum, 2nd Jeff Koz, and 3rd Dylan Woodling. Thunderstock Top 3, 1st Jordan Conover, 2nd Todd Sherman, and 3rd Tony Anderson. Limaland has one more scheduled race for 2026. They stop their season early not to draw fans away from area high school sports.

Attica Raceway Park held their Fan Appreciation Night with the normal weekly show. Bryce Lucius picked up his fifth career win at Attica in the 410 Winged Sprints. Devin Shiels and two time and defending track champion Kyle Moore battled each other over the last six laps in the DIRTcar UMP Late Model Feature. Shiels outlasted Moore and parked his car in Victory Lane at Attica for the 24th time. He's now fourth on the division's all-time win list. The night ended with the 305 Winged Sprints. Bryan Sebetto had to start the Feature in 8th because of a new rule change, but it didn't matter. He worked his way quickly through the field for his third win of the year at Attica and his seventh overall victory of 2026 (4 at Fremont Speedway). It's his 20th career 305 victory at the track, placing him seventh on the all-time win list for the division.

Oakshade Raceway Wauseon Ohio, Saturday, July 25-Devin Shiels started on the pole of the 25-lap DIRTcar UMP Late Model main event and went green to checked flag outlasting challenges from 2nd place Ryan Missler, and 3rd Kevin Reeve. It was Shiels' 2nd win in two nights. Dylan Jessen won his 4th Late Model Sportsman Feature of the year in a race that had multiple cautions. The Dominator Super Stock A Main was also filled with caution flags waving, as cars couldn't find a

good racing groove. Mason Luttrell was able to keep his car out front and win his third feature of the season. Holgate's Ryan Okuley has been dominating the past two years in the Compact Class and Saturday night was no different. He took 1st for his third consecutive feature win at Oakshade Raceway.

Feature winners at Angola Motorsport Speedway, Saturday-Hornet Brett Ireland,

Front Wheel Drive Chris Heintzelman, Street Stock Lee Reed, Late Model Sportsman Kole Elkins, and Modified Austin Coe.

Fremont Speedway Saturday, Feature winners-410 Winged Sprints Chris Andrews, Dirt Trucks Keith Sorg, and 305 Winged Sprints Bryan Sebetto

A few mentions around the Tri-State, Indiana Sprint week is currently going on for the USAC Sprints. Next week I'll have a full recap. Former NASCAR driver Ken Schrader returned to Toledo Speedway as a guest driver in a school bus Figure 8 race during the regular race program, and he won. Over 5,000 fans packed Merritt Speedway in Michigan to watch the 38th Annual Wood Tic for DIRTcar UMP Late Models. Veteran driver and a Midwest fan favorite, Rusty Schlenk won and took home the \$10,000.00, for the 4th time in his career. He now has 303 Feature careers wins. Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out!

'CHECK YOUR HEIGHT, KNOW IT'S RIGHT': INDOT JOINS BRIDGE STRIKE AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Multi-state effort aims to help drivers better navigate low bridges INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. - INDOT is joining state transportation agencies across the U.S. this week in a public awareness campaign aimed at helping drivers avoid striking low bridges with their vehicles or oversize loads.

The "Check Your Height, Know It's Right" campaign encourages drivers to ensure their vehicle or load is not too tall to safely fit under bridges that extend over state and local roadways. These overhead collisions, commonly known as bridge strikes, not only damage vehicles and infrastructure, but also cause delays and put the traveling public and emergency responders at risk.

According to INDOT data, approximately 40 Indiana bridges and other overhead structures are hit each year. While some incidents result in only minor scrapes, others can cause serious structural damage, leading to closures and costly repairs.

"These types of incidents take away resources from other infrastructure projects, and many times require support from our emergency response partners," said INDOT Commissioner Lyndsay Quist. "Drivers must know the height of their vehicle or load and pay close attention to bridge clearance signage. They cannot rely only on navigation systems or apps."

In Indiana, vehicles and loads taller than 13' 6" must apply for an oversize load permit. All bridges with vertical clearance of less than 14' 6" are signed, both at the bridge and in advance of the structure. Drivers should always watch for and adhere to signage indicating

GOVERNATORIAL CANDIDATES HIGHLIGHT VISION FOR LOW-INCOME OHIOANS DURING OACAA ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE



DAYTON, OH—The Ohio Association of Community Action Agencies (OACAA) welcomed two of Ohio's leading gubernatorial candidates, Dr. Amy Acton and Mr. Vivek Ramaswamy, as featured speakers at the 2026 OACAA Annual Summer Conference on Friday. The event brought together over 250 Community Action professionals and community leaders from across Ohio to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing families and communities throughout the state.

Dr. Acton and Mr. Ramaswamy each shared their perspectives on the future of Ohio and the policy priorities they believe will shape the state's direction over the next four years. Their participation provided conference attendees with a valuable opportunity to hear directly from candidates seeking to lead Ohio and to better understand how their visions align with issues impacting low-income individuals, families, and communities.

"Community Action is about creating opportunities for people to succeed. Every day, our agencies work with families who are striving for stability, self-sufficiency, and a better future," said Jason C. Smith, executive director at OACAA. "That's why it's so important for the leaders seeking to become Ohio's next governor to hear directly from the organizations doing this work in communities across our state. We appreciate both Dr. Acton and Mr. Ramaswamy for joining us and



engaging in that conversation."

Across Ohio, 48 Community Action assist over half a million low- and moderate-income people every year on their path to self-sufficiency. Because each community is different, each Community Action Agency is different in how they address the needs of their neighbors. Common programs include emergency services, affordable housing, early childhood and adult education programs, and transportation. The network also administers the Community Services Block Grant—the

only federally funded program with the explicit direction to reduce poverty. During the conference in Dayton, professionals attended sessions focused on leadership, innovation, program management, and strategies to help families achieve greater self-sufficiency.

By hosting conversations with candidates and elected officials, OACAA continues its commitment to educating policymakers about the vital role Community Action Agencies play in helping Ohioans overcome barriers and build brighter futures.

bridge heights and not rely solely on navigation devices, which do not consider vehicle height when giving route guidance.

The "Check Your Height" campaign targets all classes of drivers operating commercial trucks, leased trucks (such as delivery and moving box-type trucks), recreational and construction vehicles. Crash data shows that drivers may not always consider vehicle height and related restrictions during operation. For example, a typical 26-foot moving/delivery truck may have a height ranging from 11' to 13'6" or more. The campaign also reminds drivers to lower truck beds and check the height of loads or equipment they're hauling. Indiana motorists can use INDOT's TrafficWise app or map at 511in.org to plan their route.

INDOT, along with a number of state transportation agencies across the country are adopting the "Check Your Height, Know It's Right" campaign with

support of The Eastern Transportation Coalition (TETC), a partnership of 19 states and Washington, D.C. focused on connecting public agencies across modes of travel to in-

crease safety and efficiency. This initiative builds on TETC's 2025 corridor-wide campaign, that has served as the vanguard for this multi-state collaborative work.

The Left Turn

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ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH RECEIVES GRANT FROM DEFIANCE MOOSE #2094



Congratulations to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Defiance, Ohio for receiving a \$1,000 grant from the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094. This grant will be used for the church's Renewal of the Heart Retreat and the Fellowship Breakfast this fall. Pictured with the check are (l-r) George Westrick - St. John's Catholic Church Director of Retreat/Breakfast and Stacy McCartney - Defiance Moose Lodge Administrator.

THE LOCAL RED CROSS NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Blood donations are down all over the country, but the need has never been greater. On August 6th, the American Red Cross team will be at First Church of Christ in Hicksville for a scheduled blood drive from 1 to 6:00 p.m.

What is needed? And how can YOU help?

If you are able, please make an appointment to donate blood. Blood can only come from one place - and that is people. By scheduling ahead of time, the Red Cross knows how many teams to send. Scheduled giving also saves time for donors. (Walk-ins may be taken at the discretion of the team, so if that is the only way you can donate, please come!)

To offer extra incentive for donating, a \$50 gift card will

be awarded to one of the donors from those who participate.

Additionally, local Red Cross Ambassador, Zelda Zimmerman, is looking for volunteers who will be willing to drive non-driving donors to and from the drive site. If this is something you can help with, please contact Zelda at 419-542-7401 or Colleen at 419-487-3096.

Please consider how you can help. The world will be a better place if we all do what we can!

To schedule a donor appointment, go to redcross-blood.org.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Michael J. Mettler, Fort Wayne, Indiana, was found guilty of obstructing official

business. He was ordered to pay \$280 in fines and costs and sentenced to 90 days in jail, with 82 days suspended. He was also ordered to maintain general good behavior. A second charge for failure to disclose personal information was dismissed.

Megan N. Chamber, Fort Wayne, Indiana, was found guilty of driving without a valid operator's license. She was ordered to pay \$105 plus court costs. A second charge for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle was dismissed.

Raul M. Flores, Waterville, was found guilty of failure to yield to an emergency vehicle. He was fined \$100 plus court costs. The case was waived by the defendant.

Chase R. Mayer, Paulding, was found guilty following a bench trial of improper lights. Testimony and exhibits were presented to the court.

Troy A. Womack, Antwerp, was found guilty of driving while texting. He was fined \$95 plus court costs. The case was waived by the defendant.

Stacey M. Henderson, Paulding, open container, dismissed at the defendant's cost. She entered a no contest plea to physical control of a vehicle while under the influence. She was found guilty and ordered to pay \$105 plus court costs. She was sentenced to 180 days in jail, with 177 days suspended, and her operator's license was suspended from April 13, 2026, through April 13, 2027. She may attend a Driver Intervention Program in lieu of jail, and was placed on standard probation, ordered to complete an evaluation through Westwood, obtain a valid operator's license, perform 20 hours of community service, complete the Keeping It In Check program, undergo a risk assessment, refrain from alcohol consumption and entering bars, and her motion to revoke bond was withdrawn. The administrative license suspension was vacated. An OVI refusal charge was dismissed.

Noelle J. Ringler, Wauseon, was found guilty of a seat belt violation. The case was waived by the defendant.

Jason J. Hinkle, Lima, was found guilty of failure to stop at a stop sign. He was fined \$95 plus court costs. The case was waived by the defendant.

Gary Owens, Oakwood, was found guilty of disorderly conduct. He was ordered to pay \$285 in fines and costs and was ordered to maintain general good behavior.

Jason L. Jackson, Grover Hill, was found guilty of assault. He was ordered to pay \$380 in fines and costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail, with 178 days suspended. He was placed on standard probation, ordered to complete 10 hours of community service, undergo an evaluation and complete any recommended treatment, complete the Keeping It In Check class, undergo a risk assessment, and maintain general good behavior.

Brian M. Tope, Paulding, was found guilty of physical control of a vehicle while under the influence. He was ordered to pay \$105 plus court costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail, with 177 days suspended. His operator's license was suspended from June 21, 2026, through June 21, 2027. He may attend a Driver Intervention Program in lieu of three days in jail. Proof of insurance was provided, and

the administrative license suspension was vacated.

Tanaka A. Scott, Mobile, Alabama, was found guilty of driving under a non-compliance suspension. She was ordered to pay \$97 plus court costs. The warrant and warrant block were recalled.

Hunter R. Long, Paulding, was found guilty of physical control of a vehicle while under the influence. He was ordered to pay \$105 plus court costs and sentenced to 180 days in jail, with 177 days suspended. His operator's license was suspended from July 4, 2026, through July 4, 2027. He may attend a Driver Intervention Program in lieu of three days in jail. Proof of insurance was provided, and the administrative license suspension was vacated.

Jason L. Jackson, Grover Hill, was also found guilty of driving without a valid operator's license. He was ordered to pay \$105 plus court costs. The \$100 fine was suspended.

Tawfiq M. Almalahi, Fort Wayne, Indiana, was found guilty of driving under a non-compliance suspension. He was ordered to pay \$97 plus court costs.

Cailey N. Pierce, Van Wert, was found guilty of a seat belt violation. She was fined \$57 plus court costs. The case was waived by the defendant.

William N. Rodenhauer, Defiance, was found guilty of a seat belt violation. He was fined \$57 plus court costs. The case was waived by the defendant.

Jack L. Gillen, Morenci, Michigan, was found guilty of an overload violation. He was fined \$95 plus court costs, in addition to an overload fine of \$250.50. The case was waived by the defendant.

FIGHTING WATERHEMP

Waterhemp is a tall summer annual and a common Midwest weed, thriving in wet areas but is adaptable to various conditions. It is an invasive weed in both corn and soybean fields. Yield losses may range from 11% to 75%. It has separate male and female plants, producing over 1 million seeds per plant.

Waterhemp seedlings have light green to red-pink stems. Cotyledons (first leaves) are oval to lance-shaped, hairless, red-green above, and dark red below. The first true leaves are oblong, dark green, shiny on top, reddish-pink underneath, and shallowly notched at the tip. Mature plants can be 2.5-12 feet tall, upright and branching. Waterhemp has a deep taproot with secondary fibrous roots, competing with corn and soybean crops for water and nutrients (Cornell University).

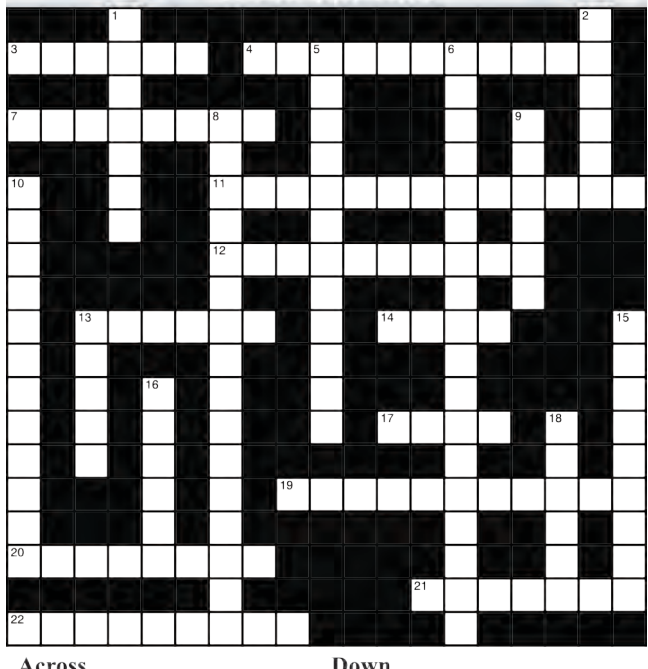
The pigweed family includes waterhemp, Palmer amaranth, and redroot pigweed species.

Palmer amaranth has longer leaf stalks than the leaf blade, broader leaves, sometimes with white chevron markings while waterhemp leaf stalks are shorter and leaves lack chevrons. Redroot pigweed has hairy stems, whereas waterhemp stems are smooth and glossy.

Waterhemp is a late-emerging species, often appearing after crops are established, and thrives in agri-

WEST BEND NEWS Crossword Puzzle

WHAT A MEOW!



Across

- Big cats that share the same basic genetic makeup as domestic house cats.
- Breed with a plush blue-gray coat and vivid green eyes.
- Sensitive hairs that help cats judge narrow spaces.
- Mottled black-and-orange coat pattern often called "tortie."
- Active breed with a ticked coat thought to resemble ancient Egyptian cats.
- Number of permanent teeth found in an adult cat.
- Breed best known for having little or no tail.
- Sound often made by cats when content, though it can also occur during stress.
- Word describing animals most active at dawn and dusk, like most domestic cats.
- Hybrid breed descended from a domestic cat and an African serval.
- Breed that often relaxes completely when picked up.
- Number of baby teeth a kitten typically has.

Down

- Long-haired breed with a flat face and calm personality.
- Breed with a spotted coat resembling a wild leopard.
- Breed famous for its folded ears.
- Long-haired breed developed to withstand cold Scandinavian winters.
- Feature allowing cats to keep their claws sharp while walking.
- Nearly hairless breed requiring regular skin care.
- About how long the average cat sleeps each day.
- Coat pattern found in many breeds rather than a breed itself.
- Term often used to describe cats tendency to be most active at night, although they are more accurately crepuscular.
- Breed recognized for its white "gloves" on each paw.
- Three-colored coat pattern found almost exclusively in female cats.

solution on page 11

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



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ADVERTISEMENT TO BIDDERS

Sealed bids for the furnishing of the necessary materials and construction of the

ANTWERP SQUARE - PHASE 1

project will be received by the Developer: MWB Investments, LLC at the Village of Antwerp Town Hall, 118 North Main St., Antwerp, Ohio 45813 until:

10:00 A.M. Local Time
Thursday, August 27th, 2026

and at that time and place bids will be officially opened and read aloud.

- The proposed work consists of curb and gutter street construction, sidewalks, sanitary sewers & manholes, detention ponds, storm sewer & catch basins, waterline & fire hydrants and incidentals.
- The engineers' estimate for Antwerp Square - Phase #1 is \$2,300,000.
- Requests for bid packages shall be directed to Bockrath & Associates Engineering and Surveying, LLC, 115 South Fair Avenue, Suite A, Ottawa, Ohio 45875, Phone: 419-523-5789. Bid Documents are available electronically at www.bockrath-es.com at no cost. A hard copy of the Bid Documents and Plan Set may be purchased at a cost of \$50.00 (non-refundable).
- Bids will only be accepted from the Bidders listed on the Engineer's Official plan holders list. Bidders must contact Bockrath & Associates Engineering and Surveying, LLC, by Phone at 419-523-5789 or email troy@bockrath-es.com to request to be registered on the Engineer's Official plan holders list.
- Bids must be submitted on the unbound Bid Forms contained in the Bidding Documents and must be accompanied by a Bid Guaranty and Contract Bond in accordance with Section 153.54 of the Ohio Revised Code or Bid Security furnished in Bid Bond Form, shall be issued by a Surety Company or Corporation licensed in the State of Ohio to provide said surety.
- Each proposal must contain the full name of the party or parties submitting the proposal and all people interested therein. Each bidder must submit evidence of its experiences on projects of comparable size and complexity. Bids shall be sealed and marked as - Bid for ANTWERP SQUARE - PHASE 1 and hand delivered or mailed to:

Village of Antwerp
c/o MWB Investments, LLC
118 N. Main St., PO Box 1046
Antwerp, Ohio 45813

- Attention must be given to all requirements contained in the bid packet, prevailing wage rates, various insurance requirements and the requirement for a payment and performance bond for 100% of the contract price.
- Bidders must comply with the Prevailing Wage Rates on Public Improvements in Paulding County, Ohio as determined by the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, Wage and Hour Division.
- The Developer reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive all informalities not involving price, time, or changes in the work.
- The Advertisement for Bid is also published at www.bockrath-es.com and www.BxOhio.com

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of County Commissioners of Paulding County, Ohio, will be receiving bids for the real estate on a cash rent per acre basis for the Jacob Farm - Children's Home (FSA #1586), consisting of 230 acres more or less (233.1 tillable) for the lease period beginning the 14th day of September, 2026. Sealed bids must be marked "Jacob Farm - Children's Home" with the corresponding farm number indicated and addressed to the Clerk of the Board. The bid must be received at the office of the Board of County Commissioners at 451 McDonald Pike Suite E, Paulding, OH 45879 not later than 11:00 a.m. on the 12th day of August, 2026. The acreage lease shall be for a term of three years. Contract details, farm description, and specifications may be obtained at the office of the Board of County Commissioners between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or on our website under Bids www.pauldingcountycommissioners.com

The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Should you have any questions, please contact the Paulding County Commissioners' office at 419-399-8215.

HEATHER BARNHOUSE, CLERK
BY ORDER
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO
MIKE WEIBLE
LISA MCCLURE
MARK HOLTSBERRY

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION OF APPLICATION TO PROBATE WILL

PROBATE COURT OF
PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO
HARVEY D. HYMAN, JUDGE

ESTATE OF SANDRA JO STAHL,
DECEASED

Case No. 20261060

To: Robert Bilderback, Next-of-Kin of Sandra Jo Stahl, Deceased, whose address is unknown

You are notified as a next of kin of Sandra Jo Stahl, deceased, that an Application for Authority to Administer Estate has been filed with the Paulding County Probate Court on June 5, 2026, being Case No. 20261060.

A hearing on said Application will be held on **Monday, August 24, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.** at the Paulding County Probate Court, 115 N. Williams Street, Suite 202, Paulding, OH 45879.

You are one of the persons entitled to administer decedent's estate, and if you wish to be

considered for appointment to do so you must apply to this Court. If you do not apply, it will be considered that you renounce your right to administer the estate. The Court may appoint any suitable and competent person to administer the estate, giving due weight to relative priority of right to do so. Even if you decline appointment yourself, if you know of any reason why the above applicant is not suitable or competent, you should appear and inform the Court.

Brianne Stahl, Applicant
c/o Glenn H. Troth, Esq.
(#0008420)
125 N. Water St., P.O. Box 84
Paulding, OH 45879

FILED

JUL 20 2026

PROBATE COURT,
PAULDING COUNTY, OH

ALL OCCASIONS LLC NAMED BRONZE SPONSOR OF DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION GALA



Pictured are Mandi Starnier, DAF Gala Committee Member and Marisa Elston All Occasions Consultant.

The Defiance Area Foundation is pleased to recognize All Occasions LLC as a Bronze Sponsor of the 2026 Gala, Bow Ties & Boas, through a generous \$2,000 in-kind contribution toward this year's event décor.

Their donation helps create an elegant atmosphere for the Foundation's signature fundraising event while sup-

porting the Defiance Area Foundation Community Fund, which provides flexible grant dollars to support local nonprofits, community projects, and emerging needs throughout Defiance County.

The 2026 Gala will be held on Saturday, October 3, at the Knights of Columbus. For more information, go to defianceareafoundation.org/gala

ing; Robert Iler, Paulding; Faith Vogel, Cecil; Carly Billman, Antwerp; Brenda Temple, Payne; Randy Suffel, Paulding; Scott Rittenhouse, Defiance; Cale Crosby, Payne; Nina Theis, Paulding; Raymond Castaneda III, Oakwood; Quentin Vance, Paulding; Constance Gaisford, Antwerp; Thad Sinn, Haviland; Gary Deatrack, Cecil; Daniel Roebel, Antwerp; Dale Parrish, Cecil; Gerald Fisher, Payne; Ruth Johnson, Defiance; Roberta Agness, Oakwood; Fredia Cavin-der, Paulding; Luther Puckett, Antwerp; April Manz, Paulding; Brock Densmore, Paulding; Brett Beckman, Payne; Daniel Crosser, Antwerp; Rebecca Geyer, Antwerp; Hunter Long, Oakwood; Verner Foster, Defiance; Carol Wyatt, Payne; Tamara Stoller, Paulding; Dorothy Gebhart, Payne; Arthur Rhinehart, Antwerp; John Shellenbarger, Payne; Christopher Collins, Paulding; Austin Brooks, Paulding; Michael Sturges, Payne; Benjamin Wonders, Oakwood; Rebecca Craft, Paulding; Joseph DenHerder, Paulding; Linda Yanna, Oakwood; Virginia Kunesh, Antwerp; Thomas Parrett, Oakwood; Gary Klopfenstein, Haviland; Alex Zuber, Paulding; Joan Nickols, Paulding; Louis Beregszazi, Antwerp; Jalynn Parrett, Oakwood; Cory Salisbury, Paulding; Mindy Newsome, Oakwood; Rita Schmidt, Paulding; Kathleen Nern, Antwerp; Alexander Smith, Antwerp; Chase Gerken, Antwerp; Ramona Michael, Antwerp; Sarah Sears, Paulding; Kayla Gaboronski, Paulding; Frederick Manz,

Paulding; Gregory Bertwell, Cecil; Dawn Godeke, Antwerp; Ronald Parker, Paulding; Lillian Epple, Paulding; Victor Thermen, Scott; Ryan Bostelman, Haviland; Jack DeLong, Cecil; Lorna Coleman, Oakwood; Darian Edwards, Payne; Chloe Thompson, Scott; Marcia Wunderlin, Paulding; Sarah Williams, Paulding; Kevin Carr, Antwerp; Dominic Mekus, Oakwood; Rickie Clemens, Paulding; Keegan Silva, Antwerp; Mikayla Ayers, Antwerp; Adam Kosch, Paulding; Kristina Booth, Defiance; Dakota Sensabaugh, Paulding; Matthew Mead, Oakwood; Kylee Barnwell, Cecil; Larry Bassler Jr., Paulding; Timothy Smith, Oakwood; J. David Coleman, Antwerp; Emily Sanders, Antwerp; Israel Laguna, Defiance; Harold Spangler III, Grover Hill; Crystal Cotterman, Paulding; Kathy Smith, Antwerp; Brian Lamb, Antwerp; Gregory Spry, Scott; Carina Meyer, Antwerp; Lauren Braaten, Paulding; Robin Burk, Paulding; Nichole Hornish, Oakwood; Jennifer Manella, Antwerp; Rusty Gibson, Oakwood; Tommie Lytle, Payne; John Snyder, Antwerp; Kaela Lucas, Oakwood; Danielle Ripke, Payne; Daniel Miles, Paulding; Sharon Burke, Payne; Carol Evans, Payne; John Asher, Payne; Benjamin Winans, Payne; Erik Bherms, Oakwood; Zachary Durliat, Paulding; Darlene Boundy, Defiance; Aimee Lichty, Antwerp; James Lichty, Antwerp; Dawn Cook, Payne; Susan Crossland, Paulding; Beverly Lelonek, Payne

cultural fields, stream banks, and waste areas. Its adaptability to a wide range of soil pH (4.5–8) and nutrient-rich soils makes it highly competitive (Cornell University).

Waterhemp emerges throughout the season, with later emergence increasing the waterhemp

seedbank. Seeds remain viable for several years, with about 10-12% surviving after 3-4 years. Waterhemp grows rapidly, nearly 1 inch per day, and may reach 12 feet tall. Dense waterhemp infestations significantly reduce soybean and corn yields. Shallow tillage and

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- Classifieds MUST be paid up front!!**

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

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soil disturbance favor shallow seed germination.

Waterhemp has a lot of genetic diversity so it is adaptable and its pollen spreads long distance on the wind which favors plants becoming herbicide resistant. Waterhemp has developed resistance to many herbicide groups, including glyphosate (Group 9), ALS (Group 2), PPO (Group 14), and triazines (Group 5). In many cases, waterhemp has multiple herbicide modes of resistance, including three-way resistance, which complicates weed control.

Combining soil-applied and postemergence herbicides, promoting crop canopy, and using cultivation in organic fields are somewhat effective. Farmers can manage resistant waterhemp populations by diversifying weed control over 3-4 years to deplete seedbanks and manage resistant populations. The use of both pre-emergence and post-emergence herbicides are critical in corn and soybean fields.

Effective waterhemp control relies on a combination of postemergence herbicides like glufosinate (Liberty) and 2,4-D choline, along with layered residual herbicides to manage resistant populations. Us Enlist, Xtendflex, or Liberty Link soybean resistant varieties so that glufosinate, dicamba or 2-4D can be used.

For soybeans, glufosinate is highly effective against waterhemp, especially when applied under warm, sunny conditions with good coverage of all growing points. It is a contact herbicide and works best with ammonium-containing adjuvants, applied when temperatures are

GARAGE SALE: 9521 Rd. 180. The Winners. Aug. 6,7,8, 8-5. Furniture, Antique Furniture, Stained Glass Window, Foot Spa, Kitchen & Canning Supplies, Dishes, Vintage Lamps, Portable Heaters, American Flyers Train Set, Bissell Little Green Multi-Purpose Cleaner, Wagon Wheel and many tools. p

FOR SALE: +/- 37 ACRE FARMLAND. Newer tile and outlets. Hoytville/Napanee Soil. Paulding County/Harrison Twp., On Rd 51 just North of CR 94. Inquiries, Call Ken 419-549-0871 29,31p

RICHARD BOWERS ESTATE SALE at 304 N McKinley Street Haviland Ohio 45851. Depression Glass, Avon items, Tools, Snow Blower, Furniture, Christmas Items, Paintings, Kitchen Items. Aug 6-8, 9am-5pm & Aug 9, 12-5pm p

above 75°F to ensure active weed growth. The herbicide 2,4-D choline is effective on smaller waterhemp plants (3 inches or less) and can be tank-mixed with glufosinate for taller or dense patches, enhancing control. Glyphosate alone is largely ineffective on waterhemp but may provide synergy for grass control when mixed with glufosinate.

Layering residual herbicides helps manage waterhemp's extended emergence period and resistant populations. Preemergence options include: S-metolachlor (Dual II Magnum, Warrant, Zidua), Dimethenamid-P (Outlook), Acetochlor (Warrant), and Metribuzin, sulfentrazone, flumioxazin. Applying a second residual application about 30 days after planting can extend seedling control and reduce reliance on postemergence herbicides (Michigan State University).

Waterhemp populations are increasingly resistant to glyphosate and ALS-inhibiting herbicides. To maintain effectiveness: 1) Rotate herbicide modes of action, 2) Use tank mixes with multiple effective active ingredients, 3) Apply full labeled rates rather than reduced rates in mixtures, and 4) Integrate nonchemical tactics such as cover crops, inter-row cultivation, and harvest weed seed control.

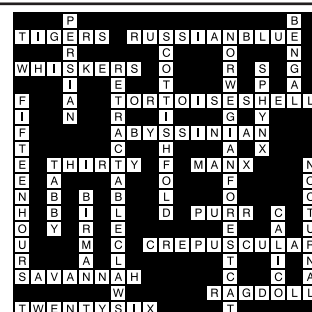
Combining chemical and cultural strategies improves long-term control. Cover crops like cereal rye can suppress early waterhemp emergence. Forages such as alfalfa reduce annual weed pressure. Targeted tillage or inter-row cultivation can manage emerged weeds. Field edge management and

mowing prevent seed return to the soil. The goal is to reduce flowering and seed production if possible (Michigan State University).

In summary, use glufosinate and 2,4-D choline for post-emergence control, timed according to weed size and weather conditions. Use layered residual herbicides to cover waterhemp's long emergence period. Rotate herbicide modes of action and integrate nonchemical practices to prevent resistance and to reduce the seedbank. Monitor fields closely and adjust herbicide programs based on local resistance patterns and weed pressure (Michigan State University).

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services

As sure as it's going to rain, the classifieds sell.



Crossword solution from page 9

HELP WANTED

Village of Scott

is hiring for a Maintenance position
** maintenance experience preferred **

SEND RESUME TO:
PO Box 155,
Scott OH 45886

Apply by August 31, 2026

HELP WANTED:

Innovative Assembly Services, LLC
109 Victory Lane, Antwerp, OH 45813
Phone: 419-399-3886
Email: InnovativeAssemblySvc@outlook.com

Family owned business located in Antwerp, Ohio looking for general labor associates to do light manufacturing and assembly. Will provide on the job training. Hours are Monday-Friday from 5:00 am-1:30 pm. Competitive wages, vacation and personal leave after probationary period.

To apply contact us via phone or email

HELP WANTED

POSITION: High School Concessions Manager
REQUIREMENTS: Meet appropriate licensing requirements of the school district and state.
START DATE: 2026/2027 School Year
DAYS/HOURS IN CONTRACT: 260 days/8 hrs per day, negotiable schedule between 2nd and 3rd shift, potential for overtime.
PAY/HOURS/DAYS: Per Master Contract.
APPLY IN WRITING TO: Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest, resume, application for employment and any other pertinent materials that may be applicable to:
Mrs. Jennifer Rust, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Wayne Trace Local Schools
4915 US Route 127
Haviland, OH 45851
Email: rustj@waynetrace.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Until filled
Wayne Trace Jr/Sr High School is an equal-opportunity provider.

HELP WANTED

Family Nurse Practitioner School Based Health Center

Position Description:
Family Health Care of Northwest Ohio, in partnership with Paulding Exempted Village Schools, is in the process of opening a NEW School Based Health Center (SBHC) under a grant issued by the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Education. We are recruiting an experienced Nurse Practitioner to serve as the primary care provider at the SBHC and as needed at the main office for Family Health Care in Van Wert, Ohio.

During the construction phase of the clinic at PEVS, the Nurse Practitioner will work in the existing health center in Van Wert to gain efficiency in workflows and documentation within Veradigm EMR.

The ideal candidate has an interest in leading the launch of the new service site and building a comprehensive care model to support the health of the students and general public.

Our Nurse Practitioners provide a wide-array of services including:

- Physicals, Preventative Care, Wellness exams, & Health Screenings
- Management of long-term health conditions
- Diagnostic and Routine screenings
- Immunizations
- Same-day Acute visits
- Referrals for specialized care
- Collaboration with Behavioral Health Providers

Benefits:

- Health, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance
- Flexible schedule
- Retirement contribution
- Paid time off
- Continuing Education reimbursement

Experience:

- >1 year as an independent provider

License/Certification:

- Ohio Family Nurse Practitioner license (required or able to obtain)

Additional information on School Based Health Centers can be found at www.osbha.com

Interested Applicants may send resumes to:
jsmith@familyhealthnwo.org

GRATITUDE, COMMUNITY PRIDE AND A CALL TO BUILD AN EVEN BETTER SUMMER BLAST



The inaugural Revolutionary Run brought in 75 participants that raised funds for the Paulding High School's Pay-to-Play program.

By: Jill Strahley, Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce

John Paulding Summer Blast returned July 10 and 11 with two days of activities celebrating community, local history and America's 250th anniversary.

The weekend would not have been possible without the businesses, organizations, sponsors, volunteers and residents who stepped forward to help. From planning and fundraising to setting up, serving food, directing participants and cleaning up afterward, many contributions came together to create a celebration the community could enjoy.

Community Revitalizing Paulding organized Friday evening's parade, food trucks, entertainment and fireworks. Businesses, community groups and families filled the parade route with patriotic entries and plenty of red,

white and blue.

Saturday began with the inaugural America 250 Revolutionary Run at the Paulding County Fairgrounds. Despite coming together in a short amount of time, the 5K and one-mile event welcomed 75 registered runners and walkers and raised money for Paulding High School's Pay-to-Play Program.

Garrett Stoller of Hybrid Performance helped organize the race. Heier Threads sponsored the event and created the shirts, The Award Shop produced custom medals, Walmart in Defiance donated bottled water, and the Paulding County Engineer's Office provided traffic cones. The Paulding County Fair Board also made its facilities available to participants.

The Chamber partnered with Caring & Sharing Food Pantry to host a Community Picnic near Herb Monroe Community Park. Volunteers

served pulled pork nachos, coleslaw, bottled water and patriotic desserts, while free-will donations benefited the food pantry.

The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce applied for funding through a grant project titled Paulding County Celebrates America 250, and we are grateful to the America 250-Ohio Commission for awarding additional funds to support Paulding County's celebration. Those funds helped support the Community Picnic, the America 250 Revolutionary 5K and 1-Mile Run and America 250 banners displayed throughout Paulding County.

Paulding County Celebrates America 250 is funded in part by the America 250-Ohio Commission.

Saturday also included the dedication of the Paulding Veterans Memorial and the unveiling of a marker recognizing the Paulding Downtown Historic District. These projects created meaningful opportunities to honor local veterans, preserve community history and celebrate those continuing to invest in Paulding's future.

Summer Blast demonstrated what can happen when organizations work together, but it also showed how much opportunity remains. Community events need people with different skills, ideas and levels of availability.

Community Revitalizing Paulding is gathering contact information from people interested in helping with future Summer Blast celebrations. Whether someone wants to lead or simply help a little, CoRP will work to find the right fit.

GEORGE FORREST'S *LEE'S EXPECTATION* NOW AVAILABLE FROM WEST BEND PRINTING & PUBLISHING



After decades of writing stories inspired by his legal career and the people he encountered along the way, Antwerp author George Forrest has released his second published novel, *Lee's Expectation*. The book is now available through West Bend Printing & Publishing in both paperback and eBook editions.

At its heart, *Lee's Expectation* is a compelling legal drama that follows attorney Jack Evol as he becomes entangled in a contentious divorce and custody case that soon proves to be far more complicated than it first appears. What begins as a routine legal matter evolves into a story filled with unexpected twists, hidden motives, family conflict, political influence, and the personal cost of pursuing justice. As the courtroom battles intensify, so do the emotional struggles of the people involved, reminding readers that the law often settles disputes, but it cannot always heal broken lives.

Set against the familiar backdrop of northwest Ohio, Forrest draws readers into a



world where small-town relationships, personal integrity, and moral courage are tested at every turn. Richly developed characters, authentic courtroom proceedings, and moments of mystery and romance combine to create a novel that is both entertaining and thought-provoking. Rather than relying on sensational courtroom theatrics, *Lee's Expectation* explores the human side of the law—the difficult choices, quiet sacrifices, and enduring hope that shape the lives of ordinary people.

Forrest's legal experience gives the novel an authenticity rarely found in fiction. A former attorney and judge, as well as a World War II veteran, he spent a lifetime observing the complexities of human nature both inside and outside the courtroom. Those experiences provide the foundation for realistic legal scenes while also bringing warmth, compassion, and credibility to his storytelling.

Lee's Expectation is George Forrest's second novel published by West Bend Printing & Publishing. Earlier this year, the company released his debut novel, *Top of the Mountain*, introducing readers

to Forrest's thoughtful storytelling and memorable characters.

The paperback edition of *Lee's Expectation* is available online through the West Bend Bookstore at bookstore.westbendprinting.com, where readers may also purchase an eBook edition. The novel is also available locally at the West Bend Printing & Publishing office, 101 N. Main Street in Antwerp. Customers may also order by calling 419-258-2000.

The release of *Lee's Expectation* reflects West Bend Printing & Publishing's growing commitment to helping local and regional authors bring their stories to readers. In addition to professionally designing, printing, and binding books in-house, the company now offers complete publishing services, including editing, cover design, ISBN registration, eBook production, marketing assistance, and worldwide distribution. By partnering with area writers, West Bend Printing & Publishing continues its mission of preserving local voices and ensuring that outstanding stories from this region find an audience for generations to come.



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Colby Jack Horseradish Cheese

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THE LAWRENCE KUNESH ESTATE ONLINE AUCTION

International Tractors, Farm Equipment, Vehicles, Collectibles & More!



ENDING MONDAY, AUGUST 17TH • ONLINE ONLY AUCTION
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From the estate of Lawrence Kunesh, this online auction offers farm equipment, vehicles, tools, collectibles, and more.

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- 2007 Chevy Silverado 1500, 1966 Buick LeSabre Project & StarCraft Aluminum Boats
- Farm equipment, equipment manuals & tools
- Fishing tackle, belt buckles, records & collectibles
- Lawn & garden equipment, household items & more

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