The WEST BEND NEWS
www.westbendnews.net
VOLUME 22 – ISSUE 39 | Good News for Good Communities - Serving Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana | MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2026

RONALD & DIANA SMITH CELEBRATE 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Ronald and Diana Smith celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with family and friends during a private event held Sept. 19 at Antwerp Distillery.

The couple was married Sept. 22, 1961, in Edgerton, Ohio. They are the parents of Anthony (Gina) Smith of Antwerp and Debra Kay Smith of Ypsilanti, Michigan.

Family and friends traveled from New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio to join the couple in celebrating their milestone anniversary.

As part of the anniversary festivities, the family also gathered in a separate banquet room, where food was provided by Grant's Catering, flowers by Petals and Vines, and ice cream by Main Street Creamery.

ANTWERP SQUARE PROJECT MOVES FORWARD AS KAUSER EXCAVATING AWARDED $1.9 MILLION CONTRACT

ANTWERP — The Antwerp Square development project has reached a major milestone with the awarding of the Phase 1 excavation and infrastructure contract. Four regional firms submitted bids for the work, which will support the construction of at least 100 new residential units in the community.

Greg Bockrath of Bockrath and Associates Engineering and Surveying, LLC, opened the bids on behalf of project owner MWB Investments,

(Continued on Page 5)

HOAGLAND RESIDENTS RALLY AGAINST PROPOSED I&M TRANSMISSION ROUTE



NO SOUTH ROUTE! That was the battle cry of a large group of Hoagland residents on Wednesday night, September 23rd at an I&M Open House held at the Memorial Coliseum in Fort Wayne from 5:00-7:00 p.m. The group anticipated that they would be able to ask questions of I&M representatives in an open forum setting. They wanted the entire group of attendees to hear the questions and I&M's replies. Instead, I&M created a very long, slowly moving, line of some 1,000 people that formed all the way out to the parking lot.

There was still a long line at 7:00 p.m. Attendees had to sign in, then visit 12 open "stations". There were poster-sized, printouts of information that was already available on their Lulu-Sorenson website. No open forum was offered, and no real questions, such as "on what specific parameters will you base your decision?" and "what factors will lead you to choose the final route?" were answered.

(Continued on Page 2)

HELP BRING HEAD START HOME TO PAULDING COUNTY

Northwestern Ohio Community Action Commission is asking Paulding County residents, businesses, churches, public agencies, property owners, and community organizations to help bring Head Start back to Paulding by identifying a suitable space for a one-classroom center.

Paulding Head Start has not closed. The program is still serving eligible children and families, but without a physical location in Paulding, families must transport their children to NOCAC's Hicksville center or children must be bused there each day. That additional distance can make it harder for families to enroll, attend consistently, and take full advantage of Head Start's services.

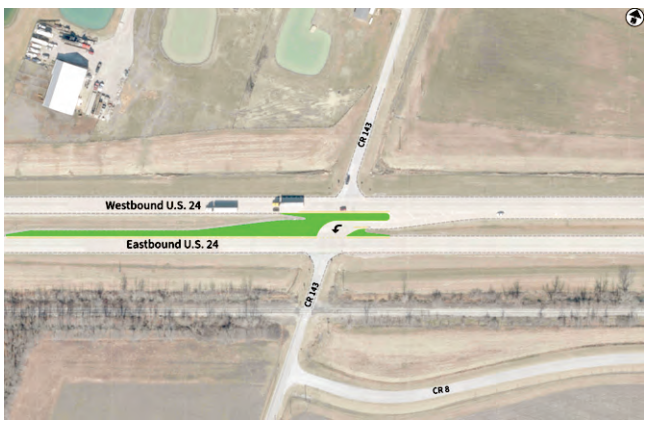
"There are children who need our services in Paulding County, and it is hard to serve them when we do not have a physical location in the community," said Amber Simmons, Director of Child Development. "We want to break down barriers for these families, not create more. A local center would make Head Start more visible, more accessible, and easier for families to choose."

NOCAC is seeking a facility with space for one classroom, along with office space and a kitchen or food-preparation area. NOCAC welcomes creative conversations about unused or underused buildings, shared facilities, long-term leases, renovations, and joint investments. The goal is to build a partnership that benefits both Head Start and the property owner or host organization.

Subject to negotiation and required approvals, Head Start may be able to invest in improvements such as classroom upgrades, accessibility work, kitchen equipment, fencing, playground equipment, and safety-related renovations.

(Continued on Page 11)

ACCESS CHANGES AT U.S. 24 AND COUNTY ROAD 143 INTERSECTION IN PAULDING COUNTY BEGIN MONDAY



The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 1 is working with local officials to improve safety at the intersection of U.S. 24 and County Road 143. The modifications are needed due to the traffic volume, recent crashes, and new development nearby.

The median at the intersection will be modified to limit all intersection traffic to right turns only with the exception of U.S. 24 westbound. Taking into account the predominant movement to the city of Defiance, the left turn from U.S. 24 westbound to County Road 143 southbound will continue to be available.

"This intersection has seen serious crashes, and we do not want to wait to make changes.

(Continued on Page 3)

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Innovative Assembly HW 11
Klopfenstein Repair 9
Paulding KofC Fall Fish Frys 3
PC Probate 20261091 Notice 9
PC Sheriff Sale CI 26 026 9
PC Veteran's Service 3
PCH 2026 Mammo special 7
Ron Burt Ohio Sports Blitz 8
Sauder Feeds 8
Schmucker Construction 1
Sudoku 9
T&C Concrete 1
United Edge Edg,OH RE Auction 7
United Edge William Ames Equip Auction 7
Wayne Trace NL 6
WCCH Auction 12

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

Community Calendar

TUE & WED

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

September 28

- Beekeeping w/Toni Egly @ Sherwood Library, 5p

September 29

- Writing Seminar w/Dr. Bailey Lang @ Defiance Library, 5:30p

October 1

- Red Cross Blood Drive @ 1st Church of Christ, Hicksville, 1-6p
- Early Childhood Mental Health Workshop @ Defiance Library, 5:30-6:30p

October 3

- Live Oak Cemetery Walk @ Live Oak Cemetery, Paulding, 10a-1p

October 4

- Celebrate Camp Open House @ Camp Palmer, 12-3:30p
- The Padgetts Concert @ Auglaize Chapel Church of God, 6p

October 5

- Myths & Legends @ Defiance Library, 6p

October 7

- New Haven United Women in Faith Rummage Fundraiser @ NWUMC, 9a-6p

October 8

- New Haven United Women in Faith Rummage Fundraiser @ NWUMC, 9a-3p

WMYW 102.7 PAULDING COUNTY'S OWN

Add your event to the calendar info@westbendnews.net

Phone: 419-258-2000 • Email: info@westbendnews.net

OBITUARIES



PAULDING, OH:

Robert P. "Bob" Fessel, age 77, of Paulding, OH, passed away on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at CHP Inpatient Hospice, Defiance, OH.

Bob was born in Fort Wayne, IN on October 25, 1948, to his late parents, E.C. "Bud" and Ruth (Cormany) Fessel. On March 20, 1971, he married Nancy Fessel. Together, they shared a beautiful life.

He was the owner and president of Fessel Jewelers, Paulding, OH for 51 years. Bob earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Ohio University in Athens, OH in 1971. Bob was also a graduate gemologist from the Gemological Institute of America, Fellowship by Examination of the Gemmological Institute of Great Britain, certified gemologist of the American Gem Society, and a member of the International Society of Appraisers.

Bob was the past president of the Paulding Chamber of Commerce, former president of the Paulding Kiwanis Club, past president of Delta Sigma Chi, elder of Bible Fellowship Church, Paulding, OH. He was a great cook, magician, enjoyed carpentry, coaching little league baseball, camping, traveling, as well as mentoring new jewelers, and spending time with his grandchildren.

He will be lovingly missed by his wife, Nancy Fessel, Paulding, OH; son, Daniel Fessel, Cape Coral, FL; daughter, Kelly (Jerrod) Kirkland, Bryan, OH; grandchildren: Gabriel Fessel, Cape Coral, Fl; Taylor Lucas, Cuyahoga Falls, OH; step grandchildren, Lucy and Bryce Kirkland; siblings: Richard Fessel, Patricia Luo, and Sharon Chopin.

Bob is also preceded in death by his daughter-in-law, Alisha Fessel and stepfather, J. Gareth Hitchcock.

A celebration of life will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, OH with Pastor Brent Roth officiating. Inurnment will take place at a later date at St. Paul Cemetery, Paulding Township.

Calling hours will be will from 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Den Herder Funeral Home, Paulding, OH.

Memorial contributions may be made in Bob's memory to the Paulding County Dog Shelter, c/o Paulding County Sheriff's Office or to the Bible Fellowship Church, Paulding, OH.

Online condolences may be shared at www.denherderfh.com.

PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1961 CELEBRATE 65 YEARS



On August 29, 2026 PHS alumni gathered at the Paulding Pancake House, Cecil, OH to enjoy a meal and fellowship. Sixty-two students received their diploma on May 28, 1961. Classmates who are with us in memory were honored.

Pictured in the class photo are seated: Alicia (Casiano) Appleton, Nellie (Stuart) Bauer and Joe LaFountain. Standing: Winston Gross, Ruth Dotter, James Hitchcock, Sharon (Guingrich) Minnich, William Thomas, Jane DeMuth, Ramon Casiano, Sharon (Kupfersmith) Hodge, and Shanon (Kadesch) Kepler.

THE PADGETTS IN CONCERT



On October 4th, 6:00 p.m. the Padgetts will perform at Auglaize Chapel Church of God, 22652 Road 60, Oakwood, OH.

We are a father and son ministry that has a strong desire to share the gospel through our music. We believe in providing the highest quality of southern and country gospel. More important is that those who hear the message in the songs will be touched and uplifted or come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord. God has blessed our ministry and as we continue to strive to do His will, many people need to hear the good news in these troubled times and that better days are just around the corner.

PAULDING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS URGE PASSAGE OF COMMUNITY ENERGY BILL

The Paulding County Board of Commissioners has approved a resolution urging the Ohio General Assembly and Gov. Mike DeWine to enact House Bill 303, legislation that would establish a statewide community energy program and pilot program.

Commissioners Mike Weible, Lisa McClure and Mark Holtsberry approved the resolution during their Sept. 9 meeting. Holtsberry made the motion to adopt the resolution, which was seconded by McClure. All three commissioners voted in favor. Paulding County CE Resolution 9.9.26.pdf

The resolution states that community energy facilities could allow electric customers, including those who own or rent their homes, to choose locally generated power without having suitable property to install their own generation facilities.

Commissioners cited rising electricity costs for Ohio families, farms and businesses as one reason for supporting the legislation. The resolution also states that Ohio imports approximately 20 percent of its energy and argues that locally produced energy could reduce the need for transmission upgrades while improving grid reliability.

House Bill 303 would establish a Community Energy Pilot Program administered by the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio. According to an Ohio Legislative Service Commission analysis, the program would allow up to 1,500 megawatts of community energy facilities statewide. Qualifying facilities could use sources including solar, wind, biomass, landfill gas, hydroelectric power, natural gas-fired generation, energy storage and fuel cells.

The county resolution emphasizes the bill's provisions intended to encourage smaller, locally tailored projects. It states that community energy facilities generally would be limited to 10 megawatts, or 20 megawatts for certain facilities located on brownfields and other distressed sites.

Commissioners pointed to Paulding County's previous experience with redevelopment of a brownfield for energy production. The county constructed a 385-kilowatt solar array on a brownfield at the Paulding County Jail, which the resolution describes as the first solar-powered county jail in Ohio.

According to the resolution, the county believes additional local generation could benefit county facilities, residents and small businesses while providing another use for brownfield and distressed properties.

The commissioners' action does not enact a community energy project in Paulding County. Instead, the resolution expresses the board's support for HB 303 and calls on state lawmakers and the governor to enact the legislation.

HB 303 passed the Ohio House of Representatives 77-8 on Nov. 19, 2025. It was introduced in the Senate on Nov. 25 and referred to the Senate Energy Committee on Feb. 11, 2026. As of Sept. 25, the Ohio Legislature lists the bill as having passed the House but not yet passed the Senate.

The commissioners directed Clerk Jennifer Brumbaugh to send copies of the resolution to the governor, president of the Ohio Senate, speaker of the Ohio House, chair of the Senate Energy Committee and members of the General Assembly representing Paulding County.

Scripture of the Week

"My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

— 1 John 2:1

IN AS MUCH AS YOU DID FOR THE LEAST OF THEM



Matthew 25 is one of my favorite books in the Bible. I often use it as a reference for how to watch for the bridegroom, how to increase my talents, and how to treat those considered the least of these. If we are not careful to imitate Christ's humility, pride can set in and cause us to act with an "air of superiority." Or impunity. Remember, Scripture tells us that pride goeth before destruction (Proverbs 16:18).

God will separate his obedient followers from pretenders and unbelievers. The real evidence of our belief is how we act towards people who are different.

Here is the scripture from Hebrews 13:2 (NIV): "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

We should strive to treat everyone we meet with Jesus' love. It takes prayer and practice. How we treat others reveals what we truly think about Jesus' words.

How clearly do your actions set you apart from the pretenders? Which one are you, a sheep or a goat?

The Holy Spirit of Jesus Christ requires personal involvement with his people.

Love where love is needed. Regardless of differences such as color, political affiliation, or religious denomination. But I'm quite sure you already know this. So please, let's govern ourselves accordingly (smile).

Please read the scripture from Matthew 25:34-36, 41-46 (NV): Malachi 3:16-18 (NIV):

Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name.

"On the day when I act," says the LORD Almighty, "they will be my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as a father has compassion and spares his son who serves him. And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not."

Peace & Love,

—Pastor Dwayne

PERI DIST 2 CHAPTER 10 MEETING DATE SET

NOTICE: PERI District 2 Chapter 10 Paulding County will hold their meeting Wednesday, October 7, 2026 at 10:00 am in the Community Room of Paulding Co. Library. Zoom meeting speaker, Consumer Protection Service, Ohio Attorney General Office. All are welcome.

(Continued from Page 1)

The proposed Lulu-Sorenson project would add about 75 miles of new 765-kV transmission line between the Sorenson Substation near the General Motors plant in Huntington County to a location near the Indiana-Michigan state line. An online map shows the proposed routes the new towers could take. They have marked some 70 "study segments" along the proposed route. No final decisions have been made. Their website encourages residents living along the segments to give their feedback to I&M officials. They encouraged everyone to send them any information on their affected property (such as woods, ponds, livestock, structures, etc.) to: Indiana and Michigan 833-441-2260 IM_Outreach@aep.com or Delia Makhetha 877-605-5554 Imoutreach@aeptransmission.com by October 9, 2026. The final route decision will be announced before the end of the year.

Hoagland residents as well as the many attendees living along the "northern" route, were upset that they were only given 9 days to prepare on this complicated topic for the Open House. They were only allowed a two-hour general information Open House, much of it spent standing in the very long line.

NO SOUTH ROUTE! has many serious questions that they feel must be addressed. Will I&M ever respond to them? Why won't they allow a question-and-answer session in an open forum? Towers placed on farms, property, near homes and businesses will impact those residents for many decades to come. NO SOUTH ROUTE! feels the least I&M can do is listen to their concerns.

— Rick Boys

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THE LITTLE GIRL

Penny For Your Thoughts
By: Nancy Whitaker

We will start this column with the words, "Once upon a time…"

Years ago in the late 40s there was a little girl. Her mommy and daddy all living in a light green house. The house was not a bad place to live, but not too many neighbors were aware of what went on in that house.

The daddy was drunk most of the time and while he did work, most money went to the bars and his ladies. No money for anything to eat.

Little girl was always hungry. Mother had breast fed her until she was about 4 when little brother was born. Well, baby brother got the little girl's place on breast feeding and so going hungry was a normal feeling to the 5 year old girl.

One night the little girl felt a gnawing in her little belly and said, "Mommy I am hungry." The mommy sighed and said, "Well sweetheart, all we have in the house to eat is dry Rice Krispies."

The little girl said, "I will take them." And she ate them all.

The little girl had a little friend at the end of the street and one late afternoon decided to go see if she could play. The neighbors had just finished their supper and had gotten up from the table.

Yum! They had ate pork chops before and oh did those pork chops smell so good. She wondered, "I will check and see if there are any leftovers." There was some meat left on the pork chop bones, so the little girl continued to eat all the meat she could get from those leftover pork chops. Did the neighbors ever tell the Mama? I don't think so, but one night our little family got lucky and we were going to have pork chops for dinner. Being very happy and excited, little girl hollered out to her daddy as he got out of his gas truck.

She lifted her voice and yelled so happily, "Oh Daddy. We are having pork chops for supper tonight!"

Daddy opened his mouth and with a loud yell screamed, "You bad girl (except he cussed). Why not just tell all the neighbors what we're having?" Why was daddy so mean?

One Christmas Eve, Mommy and Daddy told little girl to sit down at her little play table. They also put a blindfold on her and told her to put both hands downward and her hands were guided to something musical. It was a little red toy piano.

Before her baby brother arrived, little girl was abused, went hungry and was bullied. The little frame on her body showed every rib bone she had as food was almost non existent.



One evening the Mother had endured all the pain, heartache, beatings and other women she could take. So, we loaded up our few little belongings and went to Grandma and Grandpa's house to live.

For supper that night the Grandma had fried bacon and succotash, which was creamed corn and red kidney beans mixed together and warmed up.

That night the little girl, the baby brother and Mother went to bed with a warm full belly.

Grandma's beds were warm and soft and smelled wonderful.

Well, the little girl and the family had obstacles in life, but I just told part of the story.

Would you like to read Part 2 and see who, what, and where it happens next? Let me know and I'll give you a Penny For Your Thoughts.

(Continued from Page 1)

Our goal is to reduce the potential of serious crashes and help everyone get home safely. These modifications will provide an added layer of safety while we work toward a long-term solution," said ODOT District 1 Deputy Director Chris Hughes.

The move is an interim solution, made in coordination with local officials, while ODOT applies for funding in the March 2027 application cycle from Ohio's Highway Safety Program to design and build a reduced collision U-turns (R-CUT). If approved, funding would likely be in 2031 or later.

On Monday, Sept. 29, ODOT crews will use barrels to close off the U.S. 24 eastbound left turn lane and mark out the course of the remaining westbound left turn lane through the median. A message board will be posted eastbound to inform motorists of the change. Barricades will be posted in the median directing both northbound and southbound County Road 143 traffic to make right turns only. Crews will follow at a later date to remove pavement and paint new roadway markings.

Signs on U.S. 24 and the local roads approaching the intersection will be modified to reflect the change in access.

ODOT will coordinate with local emergency services to determine if emergency median turnarounds are necessary to facilitate response.

KEITH HUBBARD FAMILY FUND DONATES $1,000 TO CLOTHES FOR KIDS



The Keith Hubbard Family Fund recently made another $1,000 gift to Clothes for Kids, an initiative of the Defiance Area Foundation that provides new clothing, shoes and other essentials to children in need throughout Defiance County.

Tom Hubbard and his family established the fund in memory of his late father, Keith Hubbard. Through the family fund, they continue Keith's legacy of generosity by supporting needs throughout the local community.

Clothes for Kids works each fall to provide area children with new clothing and essentials as cooler weather approaches.

caption: Pictured are (L to R) Tom Hubbard and Katie Groff, Chair of Clothes for Kids.

PAULDING EAGLES SUPPORT MINI RELAY FOR LIFE



Elliott Roth of the Paulding Eagles is shown giving a donation to Christy Stoller and Nicole DenHerder of the Paulding PTO for the Mini-Relay for Life that was held last spring. The PTO used the money to make sure each student attending the Mini-Relay received a token to exchange for prizes. The PTO sincerely thanks the Paulding Eagles for their support!

PLANE CRASH AT ALLEN COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT

Perry Twp – On September 20, 2026, at approximately 4:00 P.M., the Lima Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol responded to a report of a plane crash at the Allen County Regional Airport.

John Shaffer, age 74, from Fremont Ohio was attempting to land a 1984 Shaffer Rand KR2 aircraft at the Allen County Regional Airport. The landing gear was not locked in the down position, and the fuselage struck the ground. Mr. Shaffer was not injured in the crash. The aircraft was lifted from the scene by Miller Auto.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol was assisted at the scene by the Allen County Sheriff's Office, Miller Auto, The Allen County Regional Airport, Perry Township Fire, and Perry Township EMS.

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

Cloyd Orville Walters was born March 28, 1892, in Paulding County. He was the son of Kearney Wright Walters, born in February 1870 in Indiana, and Lillie (Spray) Walters, born in Ohio. The couple was married March 15, 1891.

By 1900, Kearney, Lillie, and their children, Cloyd and Floyd, who was born in August 1893, were living in Washington Township. Sometime after 1900, while Cloyd was attending Roselms Grade School, Lillie passed away.

After 1901, Kearney married Lettie L. Longsworth. She was born in 1881 in Ohio. In 1902, a son was born, but he passed away on April 27, 1902. He was buried in Middle Creek Cemetery.

Kearney was farming, and by 1910, Cloyd had quit school to help his father on the farm. Kearney and Lettie had a son, Herold, born in 1903. A daughter, Leota W., was born in 1906. The family was living in Washington Township, where Kearney was still farming. Herold was a student in school. Floyd had moved on and left for other ventures. On March 5, 1911, a sister, Denelda W., was born.

On June 5, 1917, Cloyd registered for the World War I draft at the Washington West precinct. He was listed as 5 feet, 7 inches tall, with a medium build, brown hair, brown eyes, and a fair complexion. He was single and a barber by trade.

On May 25, 1918, he was inducted into the National Army out of Paulding. He was sent to serve in Company A, 114th Ammunition Transport Company. On August 30, 1918, Cloyd was sent to New York to board the ship Plattsburg and set sail for France. He was promoted to Private First Class on October 31, 1918. He was shipped home after the war and was honorably discharged on January 18, 1919.

That same year, his brother Floyd passed away from influenza. He was buried in Middle Creek Cemetery.

By 1920, Cloyd was living with his parents, his brother Herold, and sisters Leota and Denelda on Dudgeon Road in Washington Township. He was working for his father.

Cloyd moved to Detroit, Michigan, by 1925, where he attended barber college. On September 11, 1928, Cloyd married Ethel (Matthews) Rutledge in Detroit. She was born August 19, 1899, in Linton, Greene County, Indiana. Ethel had previously married Verner Rutledge on June 10, 1913. They were divorced June 5, 1928.

By 1930, Cloyd and Ethel were living at 1730 Michigan Street in Detroit, which was part of the 9th Ward. Cloyd was working as a barber in a barber shop, while Ethel was a clerk at a cigar shop. They took in two boarders, Lester McClellan and Ann Maxwell.

By 1940, Cloyd and Ethel were still living in the same house. Cloyd was still working as a barber, and Ethel was working as a clerk in retail. In 1942, Cloyd registered for the World War II draft. He was not chosen for service due to his age.

Cloyd and Ethel moved back to Grover Hill, Ohio, in the late 1940s. They owned and operated the Red and White grocery and hardware store.

Cloyd was also a member of the Roselms Christian Church and John Paulding VFW Post #587. In 1948, he became a founding member of the Grover Hill Lions Club.

Ethel passed away in 1953 and was buried in Middle Creek Cemetery. Cloyd's father, Kearney, passed away in 1957 and was also buried in Middle Creek Cemetery.

Sometime in the 1970s, Cloyd moved to Los Angeles, California, where he lived out his remaining years with his niece. He passed away November 1, 1973, in Los Angeles. He was brought back home and buried in Middle Creek Cemetery, with Leland Taylor of Didrick-Taylor Funeral Home handling the funeral services. Rev. Dennis Henke and Rev. Don Baer officiated.

His military marker was ordered by his niece, Mrs. Ralph Hickey, on November 19, 1973.

… Until Next Time!

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

2026 Knights of Columbus Fish Frys

2 pc. dinner $9.00 • 3 pc. dinner $12.00 • 5 pc. dinner $15.00

Dinners Include: baked beans or corn, french fries or baked potato, coleslaw & dinner roll*

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ANTWERP LOCAL SCHOOL

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October 2026

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Our school year has gotten off to a great start thanks in large part to the effort parents and care givers have provided to assure their children were prepared for the start of the 2026-2027 school year and promptness to arrive on time at school each day. Likewise, a big thank you to the Antwerp Local School staff for their preparation to assure the classrooms, cafeteria, busses, and building and grounds were ready to meet the needs of our student body.

The start of the school year has been very busy, with several field trips, numerous meetings, and of course, a slew of athletic events. With regards to athletic events, we hope you have had or will have the opportunity to attend and support our Archer athletes. A reminder that residents of our school district who are at least 65 years of age are eligible for a free all-sports pass. This is one of the many ways we thank our senior residents for their support of our school system. If you have not received a pass yet, see Mr. Altimus in the Athletic Director's Office. He is usually available from 12:00-2:30 each afternoon. The pass is good for admission to all home junior high and high school athletic events.

A big thank you to parents and students for your cooperation with the pick-up of students around the large circle drive at the end of the school day. Your assistance and cooperation provide for a safer and smoother flow of students out of our school facility. Please continue to follow the directions of the staff supervising the circle drive and pull ahead as far as possible prior to picking up your child. Using the entire circle drive will allow us to load children more efficiently. If possible, have your child get in the car on the sidewalk side.

School districts across America will promote "School Bus Safety Week" during the week of October 19th-23rd. This year's National School Bus Safety Week theme is "Safe Rides, Everyday Heroes". The week is a time for parents, students, teachers, motorists, school bus operators, and others to come together to address school bus safety. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) urges drivers to be aware of school buses and to slow down. School personnel seek your assistance with an effort to stress the importance of keeping our children safe around the bus and loading the bus.

Speaking of school buses, our new bus garage is scheduled to be completed by the end of October. The new eleven bay facility will provide space for our bus fleet to be in an enclosed weather proof area while not in service.

A reminder for parents to utilize our OneView Parent Portal to update student information such as change in address and /or contact numbers, updating Transportation and Emergency Medical forms. An updated Emergency Medical form is critically important in the event that a child has a health or medical issue while here at school or on a Field Trip. The information shared on the form will assist school personnel and emergency responders with your child's health or medical issue. In addition, the OneView Parent Portal is the location that parents may visit to complete the registration process for new students to our district.

Dr. Martin A. Miller, Superintendent

MS. ARNOLD - HS/MS

We are off to a wonderful start to the school year! It has been great to see our students settling into their routines, working hard, and making positive connections throughout our school. We are especially grateful for the tremendous support we continue to receive from our families and community. Your partnership plays an important role in the success of our students, and we truly appreciate all that you do. As always, if there is anything we can do to support your child, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to help!

END OF FIRST QUARTER

The first quarter ends on **Friday, October 16th.** Parents and guardians are encouraged to continue monitoring student grades and progress through ProgressBook. If you need assistance accessing your account or obtaining login information, please contact Mrs. Lucas.

FALL BREAK & PARENT CONFERENCES

There will be **no school on Friday, October 16th, for Fall Break.** There will also be **no school for students on Monday, October 19th** as we will have our second round of Parent-Teacher Conferences**.** We value the opportunity to connect with our families and work together to support each student's academic and personal growth.

PICTURE RETAKES

Picture Retake Day is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 27th.** Students who were absent on the original picture day or who would like to have their picture retaken will have the opportunity to do so.

8th GRADE WASHINGTON D.C. TRIP

Our annual 8th-grade trip to Washington D.C., will take place **November 2nd-6th.** This is always an exciting opportunity for our students to bring history to life and make meaningful connections between what they have learned in the classroom and the places and experiences they encounter in our nation's capital. A special thank-you goes to our teachers and chaperones who dedicate their time to making this memorable experience possible for our students. We appreciate your commitment to ensuring a safe, educational, and enjoyable trip.

~ Ms. Jessie Arnold, MS/HS Principal

HS/MS GUIDANCE NEWS

Students planning to take the AP Exams in May must turn in their $40 deposit to Mrs. Hammer by October 30th. Students will be given information on paying for exam fees in early October.

The ACT District retest will be given on Wednesday, October 21st. The PSAT will be given on Wednesday, October 28th.

Senior Parents: the FAFSA for the 2026-2027 school year is set to open on October 1st. Please go to https://sites.google.com/apps.aw.noacsc.org/antwerpmshsguidance/financial-aid?authuser=0 for information on how to file the FAFSA.

On Wednesday, October 7th students in grades 6-12 will be participating in SOS Signs of Suicide prevention program. For more information on this program, visit https://sossignsofsuicide.org/students/.

MR. BILLMAN - ELEMENTARY

OHIO THIRD GRADE READING TEST

Third graders will take part in the Third Grade Fall Reading Test on October 27th & 28th. The third graders are ready and we know they will do great! If at all possible, families, we ask that you avoid scheduling appointments on those dates so students are in attendance.

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

Students in grades K-5 will have an opportunity to participate in after school tutoring activities from now until the end of December. Tutoring sessions will begin on September 30th and will be once a week for one hour.

PRARIE DAY

On Thursday, October 8th, Antwerp Elementary will again host a day for students to explore the prairie garden next to the school. Thank you to Linda Mabis, retired Antwerp Teacher, for setting up the day.

PICTURE RETAKES

Picture Retakes will be Tuesday, October 27th. Please bring you picture packets in on the day of retakes. Anyone that did not get a picture on the original day will get their picture taken on this day.

SHORTS

The week of September 28th-October 2nd **will be the last week for our elementary students to wear shorts.**

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held October 19th from 7:30a.m. to 5:30p.m. **There will be NO SCHOOL for students that day.**

~ Mr. Doug Billman, Elementary Principal

ELEMENTARY GUIDANCE

To kick the year off, kindergarten students met with Mrs. Lichty and learned what she does at the school. First through fifth grade learned about the importance of collaborating as a class in order for all students to be successful and have a good school year. They listened to the book, Collaboration Station, and then they each decorated a pennant showing how their class can work together. Students also pledged to always work as a team by signing a large Archer pennant that will hang in our elementary entrance.

SCHOOL APP

Parents, students, and community members are encouraged to download our school app! Go to the App or Play Store, search "Antwerp schools," and install the free Antwerp Local Schools App. The App has numerous features that will keep you updated on news, events, school delays and closings, and more. You can also choose what notifications and alerts you receive through the MY ALERTS.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

The Scholastic Book Fair will take place Monday, October 19th through Friday, October 23rd. The book fair will close on Friday at 12:30 p.m.

Grandparents' Day at the book fair will take place on Wednesday, October 21st from 8-11:30 a.m.

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Oct 2	7:00	@ Tinora
Oct 9	7:00	vs. Fairview
Oct 16	7:00	@ Wayne Trace
Oct 23	7:00	@ Ayersville

JV FOOTBALL

Sept 28	5:00	vs. Hicksville
Oct 3	10:00	@ Tinora
Oct 12	5:00	vs. Fairview
Oct 17	10:00	@ Wayne Trace

JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL

Sept 29	5:00	@ Hicksville
Oct 6	5:00	vs. Wayne Trace
Oct 13	5:00	vs. Edgerton
Oct 20	5:00	@ Ayersville

VARSITY VOLLEYBALL

Sept 28	5:30	@ Hilltop
Sept 29	5:30	vs. Tinora
Oct 3	10:00	vs. Edon
Oct 5	5:30	@ Continental
Oct 6	5:30	@ Fairview
Oct 12	5:30	@ Van Wert
Oct 13	5:30	vs. Wayne Trace
Oct 15	5:30	vs. Ayersville

JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL

Sept 29	5:00	@ Wayne Trace
Oct 1	5:00	vs. Continental
Oct 6	5:00	@ Ayersville
Oct 8	5:00	vs. Hicksville
Oct 12	5:00	vs. Montpelier
Oct 15	5:00	@ Liberty Center
Oct 17	TBA	7th GMC @ Tinora
Oct 17	TBA	8th GMC @ Home

CROSS COUNTRY

Oct 3	9:00	@ Edgerton Invite
Oct 10	9:00	Antwerp Invite
Oct 17	9:30	GMC @ Edgerton
Oct 24	TBA	Districts

EUROPE TRIP FUNDRAISER

A reminder that Antwerp Local Schools and Kroger Community Rewards Program have partnered to establish a fundraiser for our student trip to Central Europe during the spring of 2028. Kroger will donate funds to our school based on purchases associated with customers who utilize their Kroger Rewards Cards that are linked to Antwerp Local Schools.

To participate in the Kroger Community Rewards Program, visit http://www.kroger.com. Once logged in to your Kroger account, search for Antwerp Local Schools either by name or our by our non-profit organization number, GU908, and then click Enroll. New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card. If you do not yet have a Kroger rewards card, they are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger store. Purchases will not count for our organization until after you register your rewards card. Participants must swipe the registered Kroger rewards card or use the phone number that is related to the registered Kroger rewards card when shopping for each purchase to count.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society Induction will take place on Sunday, October 4th beginning at 1:00p.m.

Antwerp Local School
303 South Harrmann Road
Antwerp, OH 45813
419-258-5421

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Superintendent Dr. Martin A. Miller
Treasurer Kristine Stuart
http://www.antwerpschools.org

PAULDING COUNTY HONORS VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDERS



On Sunday, September 20, many Paulding County Volunteer First Responders gathered for an appreciation meal. Pictured above are those who were able to attend. Paulding County is so grateful for these heroes who give of their time, energy, and sleep to care for others in need. Thank You for taking care of us!

(Continued from Page 1)

LLC. The engineering estimate for the project was $2,300,000.

Submitted bids included:

• VTF Excavation, Celina — $2,620,803.54

• Bryan Excavation, Bryan — $2,626,626.97

• Vernon Nagel, Inc., Napoleon — $2,594,327.40

• Ben Kauser Excavating, Antwerp — $1,898,556.00

Local contractor Ben Kauser Excavating was awarded the contract as the lowest responsible bidder. Weather permitting, on-site work is expected to begin as early as next week.

The Antwerp Square development was among just five projects selected statewide in the first round of the Ohio Department of Development's Residential Economic Development District (REDD) grant program. Antwerp secured $2,300,000 to build critical infrastructure and expand affordable workforce housing options for local residents. The village qualified for the program due to its proximity—within 20 miles—to the First Quality Tissue Paper "mega site" at the Defiance–Paulding County border.

Paulding County Economic Development Director Tim Copsey emphasized the significance of the moment, stating:

"This is the largest residential growth opportunity in decades in the county. For a county of our population, this could help us turn the narrative from an Ohio county losing population to one that is gaining. We are so thankful for the trust the Ohio Department of Development put into this, and we want to make the most of it. This first phase will lead to more phases that will include a commercial and hopefully hotel component of growth. We couldn't be more excited to see Ben and his team start turning dirt here!"

Phase 1 infrastructure will include water, sewer, natural gas, electric, internet, and surface-drainage improvements across approximately 16.5 acres of the 85-acre development site, laying the groundwork for substantial growth along US24 on the south side of the village.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: Antwerp Library, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Antwerp Manor, Dollar General, Family Dollar, G-Mart, Genesis House, H20 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, NOCAC< Senior Center, Smoke Stop… **Junction** Dollar General, Cabbage Patch

Edgerton: USPS, H&W Napa, Kaiser Supermarket, Utilties 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, Sailers, 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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DEFIANCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES 8/6/26

The Board of Defiance County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 6, 2026, in the Hicksville Village Council Chambers. President Dana Phipps called the meeting to order. Also present were Vice President Mick Pocratsky; Commissioner Matthew Koester; County Administrator, Sherry Carnahan; Administrative Assistant, Carla Lucas; and Clerk, Liz Stuart.

The Commissioners met in General Session to approve and sign various resolutions, contracts, and documents.

The Commissioners also reviewed the calendar of events and discussed upcoming meetings.

The Board presented a check to Donna Hitzeman of the Hicksville Beautification Committee. This was a $500 grant from Keep America Beautiful that was awarded to the committee to continue their efforts to keep Hicksville beautiful by planting red, white, and blue flowers to celebrate the nation's 250th birthday.

Court Street will remain closed during the construction of the Courthouse Addition. The completion date of this project has been delayed and is currently scheduled for October 2026.

GENERAL SESSION

ITEMS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

1. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-376 – Then & Now – Early Releases

2. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-377 – Third Amendment to Reorganizational Meeting

3. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-378 – Amend Approval of Tammy Renollet Retirement

4. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-379 – Authorize Engineer to Apply for SCIP/LTIP – Adams Ridge S

5. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-380 – Authorize Engineer to Apply for SCIP/LTIP – Adams Ridge N

6. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-381 – Authorize Engineer to Apply for SCIP/LTIP – Stever & Krouse

7. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-382 – Approval of Hire of Shawna Westrick as Custodian

8. Journal #175, Resolution #26-08-383 – Approve Amendment 2 to Contract with Kleinfelder for Sanitary Engineering Services

• Commissioner Phipps to sign amendment

9. Customer Request to Cancel Vehicle Registration – to be signed by Commissioner Phipps

10. EROC Renovation Documents – to be signed by Commissioner Phipps:

• Notice to Proceed

• Notice of Commencement of a Public Improvement

11. Engagement Letter with Taft Law – updated – to be signed by Commissioner Phipps

12. MAN Unit Grant Pre-Award Condition Forms – to be signed by Commissioner Phipps

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & REVIEW OF NEXT SESSION'S AGENDA

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. CCAO is holding a webinar series on human services programs including public assistance, children services, and child support enforcement. The webinars will take place Thursday, August 20 at 1:00 p.m., Monday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m., and Monday, September 28 at 2:00 p.m.

2. Defiance Soil & Water and Defiance County OSU Extension Office are holding their Annual Meeting, Election of Supervisors, and Field Day at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9.

3. Delaware Township has passed a resolution revising the areas restricted for wind/solar generation facilities to include the entire township. The process laid out in SB52 will need to be followed before the Commissioners can pass a resolution confirming this.4. 5. 6. An annexation petition for 40.497 acres of land to be annexed into the Village of Hicksville has been filed with the Commissioners' Office. A resolution approving the annexation has been received from the Village of Hicksville.

The Prosecutor's Office had several issues with the contract for Kleinfelder for the stormwater issues at the airport.

The MAN Unit has requested use of an EROC conference room for around 15 people on Thursday, August 20 at 10:00 a.m..

SHERRY CARNAHAN – COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

CARLA LUCAS – ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

GENERAL DISCUSSION

10:00 AM HICKSVILLE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE – Grant Check Presentation

10:30 AM GEORGE PIKE – Tile Issue

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

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FOUR MEMBERS OF THE VETERANS MEMORIAL AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS CIRCLE OF CORYDON AWARD



Pictured State representative Martin Carbaugh, Treasurer Sharon Hudson, Commander Greg Bedford, 1st Vice Commander Eric Johnson and Board Member Patrick Fraizer.

On September 21st four members of the Board of Directors of the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum were all awarded Indiana's highest civilian honor by State Representative Martin Carbaugh. Commander Greg Bedford; 1st Vice Commander Eric Johnson; Board Member Pat Fraizer and Treasurer Sharon Hudson all received this unique joint honor for their commitment, leadership and dedication to the Veterans National Memorial Shrine and Museum, 2122 O'Day Road in Fort Wayne.

The Circle of Corydon is the only state award in Indiana signed by both the Governor (Executive branch) and members of the General Assembly (Legislative branch). The award honors the town of Corydon, which was Indiana's first state capital and the place where the first state constitution was written. Only members of the Indiana General Assembly can nominate people for this award.

Martin Carbaugh, who nominated all four recipients said " these four individuals have shown outstanding leadership, dedication and a commitment to the veteran community, as well as the all of northeast Indiana residents. What a terrific job they have done to put the Veterans Memorial on the map in Fort Wayne."

Greg Bedford, Commander of the Veterans Memorial expressed his delight with the honors saying "it has taken a herculean effort by our entire Board of Directors, volunteers, corporate donors, veterans organizations and veterans themselves that continues to make this special property the place where no veteran will ever be forgotten! We are all very honored to receive these prestigious awards…Thank You!"

The Veterans Memorial Shrine and Museum is open: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Memorial grounds are open 24/7. Special tours are available by appointment contact the Shrine office at 260-267-5022 for details.

Edward Jones
Member SIPC



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RAIDER SPOTLIGHT

SEPTEMBER 2026



Our Way to Go Winners are (front row): Mary Gerardot, Jameson Carnahan, Elyse Caprio, Natalia Gambler, Juliet Wenzlick, Finley Stoller, Finn Feasby, Trace Rosswurm, Oaklynn Smith (Back Row): Gabriel Metcalfe, Jasper McMillen, Miguel Gambler, Allie Wilcox, Kaden Weichart, Henry Childs. (Not Pictured) Ayla Praul, Elsie Merriman.

From the Superintendent's Desk …

Fall is fast approaching, and October is but a few weeks away. Believe it or not, on October 16th, we will be done with the first quarter…that almost sounds surreal.

Our State Report Card was released, and our Curriculum Director and Principals will be diving into the data to see where we can improve. As always, our staff and administration at Wayne Trace have done a stupendous job, and our students are well taken care of. We will continue to provide the excellent education out community and students deserve.

Our STEAM Center continues to progress on track. The students are excited for this new addition and are looking forward, as we all are, on utilizing this new facility hopefully after Christmas break.

We are all Raiders, so let's continue on with this school year. Come out and support Wayne Trace Schools in all our events this year. The community support in our district is greatly appreciated and there are lots of exciting events to come! **Go Raiders!!**

Did You Know…

The Wayne Trace Local School District is 176 square miles. Each day school is in session, the transportation department runs 8 busses to pick up students who are residents of the school district. The busses cover 983 miles each day and transport 688 students on any given day. School is back in session, so be on the look out for stopped busses and students waiting to be picked up. Please reference the website waynetrace.org for updates on delays and cancellations through the year. The transportation department has a free app available to track the route of the bus which informs you of ETAs in real time for your students. For information on downloading the app, contact the transportation supervisor Greg Schultz at schultzg@waynetrace.org.

Grover Hill Elementary Building News…

The school recently earned an impressive **4-Star Rating** on the Ohio School Report Card, signifying that students and staff are officially exceeding state standards. The stellar recognition reflects the dedication of Grover Hill's educators and community. School leadership praised the teaching team's ongoing commitment to excellence, highlighting that teachers are continuously pursuing professional growth.

Parents and community members are encouraged to follow the school's updated Facebook page, where staff are actively posting more content and updates throughout the year.

Mark Your Calendars: Upcoming Events Families can look forward to a busy calendar of school traditions and celebrations throughout the academic year:

- STEAM Night: October 22nd at 5:30PM
- Veteran's Day Honor: November 11th at 10AM
- Christmas Program: December 10th at 2PM and 7PM
- Spring Program: April 8th at 2PM and 7PM
- Kindergarten Program: May 21st at 9:30AM

With strong academic standards, ongoing teacher development, and a full calendar of community events, Grover Hill Elementary continues to demonstrate why it is proud to be a 4-Star School.

Payne Building Update…

The school year is off to a fantastic start! A big shoutout to all the students and staff who have been putting in the effort to kick things off smoothly. Our 4th graders had an awesome time at the fair, where they learned about farm safety, thanks to Michael Schweinsberg for organizing such a great event. Looking ahead to October, our TK and Preschool kids will visit the pumpkin patch on the 8th, followed by the kindergarten classes on the 13th. Don't forget, Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the 28th and 29th, and there will be no school on the 29th and 30th.

Jr/Sr High School Building Update…

The 2026–2027 school year is off to a strong start at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School. Students and staff have demonstrated hard work, a positive attitude, and flexibility as we begin another school year. We are encouraged by the momentum already established and look forward to a successful year for our students and school community.

To begin the year, Mr. Linder, Mrs. Mancinotti, and Mr. Myers met with students in grades 7–12 to review school-wide expectations, academic standards, and graduation requirements. These meetings provided an opportunity to clearly communicate expectations, answer student questions, and emphasize the importance of responsibility, preparation, and making the most of their educational opportunities. Students were engaged and respectful throughout the meetings and responded positively to the conversations.

Celebrating Academic Achievement

Academic excellence remains an important focus at Wayne Trace. In early October, the high school will host a school-day program recognizing students for their academic accomplishments from the previous school year. The event will celebrate the hard work and dedication of our students while highlighting the importance our school places on academic achievement.

Expanding Student Opportunities

LifeWise began at the junior high and high school during the week of August 31. The program is offered once a week during students' Flex Time and part of their lunch period.

Our seniors will also have the opportunity to visit a college campus this fall with Mrs. Mancinotti. The experience will give students valuable exposure to college life and help them explore possibilities for their future beyond high school.

Freshmen participated in the 2026 Build Your Future Forward event on September 15. Hosted by the Van Wert Economic Development Corporation with support from Vantage, the event introduces students to careers in the skilled trades and provides an opportunity to learn more about potential career pathways.

STEAM Center Continues to Grow

The Wayne Trace STEAM Center is bustling with activity this year, including several new courses and programs. STEAM 8, a new junior high CTE elective taught by Ed Stuart and Susie Johnson, gives younger students an opportunity to explore career and technical education. At the high school level, Business of Arts & Communication is a new Visual Design CTE elective taught by Angie Miesle Stokes.

The STEAM Center has also introduced a FLEX Time CTE program, providing students taking a second CTE course additional time to collaborate on work-based learning projects and earn concentrator hours. A new STEAM Intern program works with Cross-Categorical students to help maintain and organize the center while also contributing to ongoing projects.

The STEAM Center will also open its store from 5–7 p.m. during home conference athletic events. With the center's programs continuing to expand, students and staff are excited about moving into the new space this spring.

Supporting Students Through MTSS

Wayne Trace has also implemented a new eight-period schedule with two lunches to support the district's Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) model. A key component of the new schedule is a common 30-minute Flex Time period that allows junior high and high school teachers to provide additional academic support and enrichment based on individual student needs.

Homecoming 2026

School spirit will be on full display during Homecoming Week, September 21–26. Students will have opportunities to participate in He-Man Volleyball, Powderpuff, Parking Lot Games, the pep rally, and the Homecoming Bonfire. The Homecoming ceremony will take place during the September 25 football game, followed by the Homecoming Dance on September 26.

Upcoming Events

- **September 18** – Interim Reports
- **September 21-26** – Homecoming Week
- **September 25** – Homecoming Game & Ceremony
- **September 26** – Homecoming Dance
- **September 28** – Staff Professional Development Day – No School for Students
- **October 2** – High School Academic Awards

As the school year continues, the staff at Wayne Trace Junior/Senior High School remains committed to providing students with opportunities to grow academically, explore future careers, develop new skills, and become responsible, prepared young adults. We appreciate the continued support of our families and community as we work together to make 2026–2027 a successful year for Wayne Trace students. **Go Raiders!**



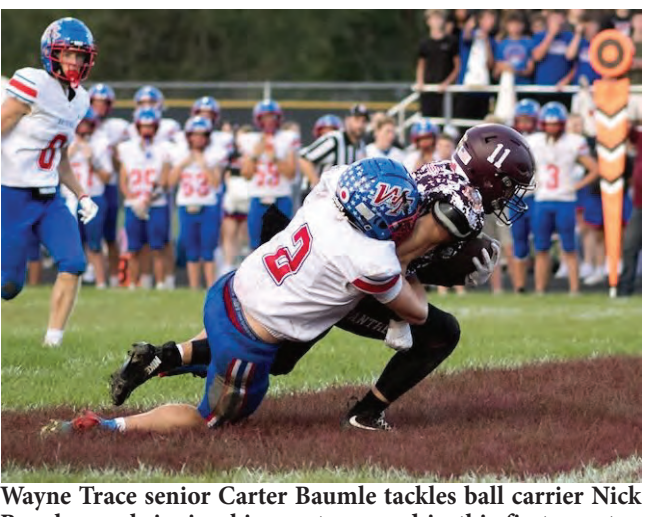
MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Wayne Trace Local School District is to prioritize the philosophy of One District-One-Mission-One Vision. Wayne Trace is committed to educational excellence that will help all students achieve at their highest level and to graduate with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to become thinking, productive citizens in a changing global society, this is accomplished through a system which supports community values and integrates community, technology, and educational resources delivered in a safe environment by a caring staff.

Wayne Trace Local Schools
4915 US 127
Haviland, OH 45851
419-263-2512

Superintendent: Paul Jones
Treasurer: Lori Davis
www.waynetrace.org

PANTHERS CLAIM BLACK SWAMP BOWL WITH 42-20 WIN OVER RAIDERS



Wayne Trace senior Carter Baumle tackles ball carrier Nick Baughman, bringing his run to an end in this first quarter. ***More pictures at engagingexposures.com***

PAULDING — Paulding captured the Black Swamp Bowl on Friday, September 18, using a high-powered offense and a turnover-free performance to defeat Wayne Trace 42-20.

The Panthers piled up 519 yards of total offense, including 363 through the air and 156 on the ground. Wayne Trace finished with 225 total yards, while Paulding also took advantage of three Raider fumbles, all of which were lost.

Paulding wasted little time taking control. Jalen Manz opened the scoring with a five-yard touchdown run at the 10:34 mark of the first quarter. Avery Cooper added a four-yard touchdown late in the period, giving the Panthers a 14-0 advantage.

Quarterback Ridge Hunt stretched the lead to 21-0 early in the second quarter when he connected with Nick Baughman for a 20-yard touchdown. Wayne Trace answered with a 15-yard touchdown run by Reece Morehead, but Cooper responded with a two-yard scoring run to send Paulding back in front 27-7. The Raiders cut the margin to 27-14 just before halftime when Morehead connected with Zach Stoller for an 18-yard touchdown pass.

The Panthers struck again late in the third quarter as Hunt found Jordan Manz for a 44-yard touchdown, extending the lead to 34-14.

Paulding's defense added points of its own in the fourth. Grady Arend tackled Morehead in the end zone for a safety, pushing the lead to 36-14. Cooper then capped his big night with an eight-yard touchdown run, his third rushing score of the game, to make it 42-14. Wayne Trace closed the scoring when Corbin Stoller connected with Jensen Beining on a 13-yard touchdown pass with one minute remaining.

Hunt led Paulding's passing attack by completing 21 of 32 attempts for 363 yards and two touchdowns without an interception. The performance also put Hunt into the Paulding record book, as his 363 passing yards set a new school record for passing yards in a single game. He broke the previous mark of 347 yards, set by his brother, Colt Hunt, against Delphos Jefferson in Week 3 of the 2025 season, according to Paulding head coach Payton Beckman.

Cooper carried 20 times for 134 yards and three touchdowns, while Jalen Manz added 21 yards and a score on three carries.

Jordan Manz led the receiving corps with six catches for 133 yards and a touchdown, while Baughman hauled in six passes for 109 yards and a score. Arend added five receptions for 63 yards, Wes Grindstaff had a 30-yard reception and Jalen Manz caught three passes for 28 yards.

Defensively, Zach Salas paced the Panthers with 12 tackles, two sacks, four tackles for loss and a forced fumble. Jalen Manz recorded 11 tackles and two tackles for loss, while Baughman had eight tackles. Arend contributed six tackles and the fourth-quarter safety.

Paulding led 14-0 after the opening quarter and 27-14 at halftime before outscoring Wayne Trace 15-6 over the final two quarters to secure the 42-20 Black Swamp Bowl victory.

LADY PANTHERS SWEEP OPPONENT IN STRAIGHT SETS



Paulding Senior Tori Schlatter bumps the ball back to the Pilots. ***More pictures at engagingexposures.com***

PAULDING — The Paulding Lady Panthers turned in a strong night across all three levels Tuesday, September 23, with the freshman, junior varsity and varsity squads each picking up victories.

The varsity Lady Panthers completed the sweep with three identical set scores, winning 25-20, 25-20, 25-20.

Karli Breedlove led the Paulding attack with 14 kills while adding an ace, five digs and 11 receptions. Kayde Kuckuck contributed eight kills, an ace, four digs and seven receptions, while Kayleigh Dunham recorded six kills and two blocks.

Estie Pease directed the offense with 31 assists to go along with two kills, a block and four digs. Addison Arend added four kills, an ace and two digs, while Ellie-ette Roughton contributed two kills and a team-high three blocks.

Defensively, Tori Schlatter turned in a big night with 21 digs and 24 receptions while also serving an ace. Libby Breier recorded five digs, eight receptions and an ace, and Jayla Griffith added two aces.

Paulding also came away victorious in the junior varsity match, taking a 25-22, 25-15 decision. The freshman Lady Panthers completed the program sweep with a 25-19, 25-20 victory.

LADY ACES BATTLE THROUGH THREE-MATCH WEEK

The Hicksville Lady Aces faced a busy week on the volleyball court, taking on Stryker, Antwerp and Bryan in three varsity contests.

Hicksville opened the week September 21 against Stryker, falling in straight sets, 8-25, 17-25 and 16-25. Mika Inkrott and Jocelyn Baldwin each recorded four kills, while McKenna Baird finished with three kills, five assists, 11 digs and three blocks. Baldwin added four blocks and five digs, while Inkrott had three blocks and seven digs. Verenice Molina served two aces and collected five digs, and Tori Wells added five digs. The Hicksville junior varsity also fell to Stryker, 25-27 and 19-25.

The Lady Aces returned to action September 22 and pushed Antwerp to five sets before falling 19-25, 25-21, 25-23, 23-25 and 12-15. Hicksville overcame an opening-set loss to take a 2-1 advantage before Antwerp rallied to claim the final two sets.

Baird led the Lady Aces with 13 kills while adding 15 assists, 12 digs and two blocks. Baldwin contributed seven kills, two aces, 12 digs and seven blocks, while Braelynn McCain totaled 21 digs, 16 assists and two blocks. Inkrott added five kills, three aces and 10 digs, McKenna Bergman recorded six kills and six digs, and Wells collected 14 digs. Hicksville's JV fell 17-25 and 24-26.

Hicksville closed the week September 24 with another five-set battle, this time against Bryan. The Lady Aces took the first and third sets but ultimately fell 25-15, 13-25, 25-22, 16-25 and 12-15.

Baird paced Hicksville with 14 kills, nine assists, nine digs and two blocks. Baldwin recorded 10 kills, four aces, 16 digs and three blocks, while Inkrott had seven kills, two aces and 17 digs. McCain handed out 20 assists while adding three kills and 17 digs, and Wells led the defense with 20 digs. Bergman chipped in seven kills and nine digs, with Molina adding six digs.

The Hicksville JV closed the week with a 10-25, 15-25 loss to Bryan.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH @ 7:00 PM ET · ONLINE ONLY
17448 CO RD 424, DEFIANCE, OH 43512

Preview: Items are available for preview on Thursday, October 8th from 1:00 PM — 5:00 PM.

Highlight Items: Antique Hand Crank Flywheel Meat Slicer (U.S. Slicing Machine Co. La Porte), Dressta TD-10R Dozer, '04 Volvo VHD Dump Truck, '99 Ford F350 Super Duty, '20 MF 1755M Tractor, McCormick Farmall, Mustang 1750RT Compact Track Loader, Champion SuperPac Roller, Yanmar 1300, '48 Farmall Cub, '40 Farmall Model A, '17 Becker 33' Gooseneck Trailer, 27' Equipment Trailer, 20' Tilt Deck Trailer, '14 Felling 14' Tilt Deck Trailer, Post Pounder Attach., 72" Woods Seeder, 5' Chopper Mower, 72" Woods Rototiller, Offset Disk, Grader Box, Grapple & Material Buckets, Snow Plow, Mahindra 60" Riding Mower, Ariens 60" Zero-Turn Mower, Steiner 4x4 Mower, and Hydraulic Equipment & More.

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153 N Michigan Ave, Edgerton, OH 43517
Darren Bok, CAI, CAS, #57199670989, UE# 2018000074 • No Buyer's Premium

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EDGERTON, OH REAL ESTATE AUCTION
3 Bedroom, 2.5 Bath Home - 3.5± Acres
50' x 30' Detached Garage



MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH @ 6:00 PM ET

3135 Rosedale Rd. Edgerton, OH 43517
Open House: The property is open for inspection on Thursday, October 1st from 5:00 PM — 6:00 PM.

This 3-bedroom, 2.5-bath home offers 1,688 sq. ft. of living space on 3.5± acres in a peaceful country setting. Surrounded by farmland and mature trees, the property provides plenty of privacy and room to enjoy the outdoors. The property also features a 50' x 30' detached garage,offering plenty of space for vehicles, equipment, storage, or a workshop. Sold as is, where is. A 5% non-refundable down payment is due the night of the auction.

Estate of Herbert H. Scranton, Defiance Co. Probate #21757
Executor John Shaffer, Attorney Mike Shaffer,
Law Firm of Newcomer, Shaffer, Spangler & Breininger

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THE LEFT TURN



Cap Henry 33w won the 410 Sprint Feature at Fremont Photo credit Action Photos Ohio.

By: Ron Burt

Fremont Speedway couldn't beat mother nature on the last night of the season. Night two of the annual Jim Ford Classic paying $10,000.00 to win was canceled because of heavy rain on Saturday. It's not the way drivers and fans wanted to end the 2028 season at "the track that action built".

Friday it was a full show at Fremont Speedway, featuring the All Star Circuit of Champions 410 Winged Sprints. Cap Henry took the win on night one of the 19th Annual Jim Ford Classic, making it his 15th career All Star win, five of those at Fremont Speedway, one of his home tracks.

Zeth Sabo set Quick Time 12.657, followed by winning the first 410 heat race. Zane DeVault won the second heat race, and Chris Andrews had the win in the third heat. When it came time for the feature, Cale Thomas led the field to green. DJ Foos took the early lead and stayed there for the first 14 laps of the feature. Cale Thomas, Cap Henry, Craig Mintz and Chris Andrews battled each other for positions, and on lap 15, Henry dove under Foos and Thomas in turn four, taking the lead for the next 21 laps. Thomas, Andrews and Sabo continued to duel each other for second through fourth place behind Henry. With nine laps to go, Sabo picked off Andrews for third place and used the next seven laps to hunt down Thomas, taking second with two laps to go. The top 5 in the 410 Sprint feature, Cap Henry, 2nd Zeth Sabo, 3rd Cale Thomas, 4th Chris Andrews, and 5th Kalib Henry.

The Fremont Dirt Trucks ran split features. The first Feature podium was the 2026 Fremont Track Champion Shawn Valenti, Steve Miller and Dave Golembiewski. The 2nd Feature, Noah Wagner, Ben Clapp, and Dave Blankey.

Saturday, September 19th, it was the perfect night for racing at Montpelier Speedway Indiana for the Sun Set Special. The Non Wing 410 Sprints headlined the evening. Zack Pretorius put his sprint in Victory Lane, and on the podium with him, Paul Dues and Camden Winter. Dalton Smith won the UMP Modified Feature followed by Scottie Williams and Dillion Nusbaum. Kokomo's Kory Glassburn won in the Street Stocks. Nine Crown Vic's came out to race in the dirt. Normally this class races on paved tracks. Austine McIntyre took the win.

I'll be back next week with news from the 4 Crown at Eldora, The UMP Late Model Race at Wayne County Speedway, and Oakshade Raceway's, Hammer Down Showdown. Until then, keep your wheels down. Ron out! www.facebook.com/ohiosportsblitz/

ANTWERP CLAIMS THREE COUNTY TITLES, PAULDING BOYS WIN AT COUNTY CROSS COUNTRY MEET

PAULDING — Runners from Paulding, Antwerp and Wayne Trace gathered at the Paulding Reservoir for the annual Paulding County Cross Country Meet on Tuesday, September 24, with county championships decided across the high school and junior high divisions.

The host Panthers captured the high school boys championship behind a dominant showing at the front of the field. Paulding runners Achilles Mead, Landon Grinnell, Max Daeger and Leonel Reyes swept the top four positions to lead the Panthers to the team title. Quinton Laker and Stroker Etter also recorded their best times of the season for Paulding.

Antwerp finished runner-up in the varsity boys race, led by sixth-place finisher Jason McKay. Braxton Peters, Marshall Rice, Tucker Doster, Gage Barker, Kahne Moore, Aiden Hook and Krayston Eicher rounded out the Archer contingent.

Wayne Trace's Eli Treece placed fifth in 18:36.8 to earn medalist honors, while Jaxon Cook was seventh in 18:51.8 and also earned a medal. Jerrick Johnson finished 11th, followed by Wyatt Head in 12th, Nathan Benschneider in 15th, Kamden Fore in 18th and Evan Benschneider in 21st. Head, Nathan Benschneider, Fore and Evan Benschneider each recorded career-best performances.

In the high school girls race, Antwerp came away with the county championship. Reese Durbin won the individual county title with teammate Gianna Laker taking second. They were followed by Gabriella Snyder, Emily Laker, Kora Zuber, Brooklynn Lawson, Annabelle Mowery, Heidi Rice, Annabelle Saylor and Anneliese Zijlstra.

Wayne Trace placed second in the girls team standings. Avery Welch led the Raiders with a third-place finish in 23:31.4, followed by Jenna Kipfer in fifth and Ellie Kurtz in seventh. All three earned medalist honors, as did ninth-place finisher Elynn Clemens. Lauren Kipfer, Kenzie Manz, Addilynn Gerardot, Maddie Morehead, Faith Jacobs, Zoey Schnipke, Isabel Gilbert and MaKenna Schilt also competed for Wayne Trace. Paulding's Kaylee Pack and Allie Manz each turned in season-best times.

Antwerp added two more county championships in the junior high races. The Lady Archers won the junior high girls title behind runner-up Destiny Getz, followed by Jocelyn Laker, Josie Laker, Quinne Bradbury and Olivia Kosch.

Wayne Trace's Lydia Benschneider won the junior high girls individual race in a career-best 13:55.7. Lydia Shepherd finished fourth in 14:20.8, with Emma Hartwig ninth, Adley Morehead 10th and Sophia Kurtz 12th. All five Wayne Trace runners recorded career-best times, with Benschneider and Shepherd earning medalist honors.

Antwerp completed its championship night by winning the junior high boys competition. Julian Rivera captured the individual county championship and was followed by teammates Quintin Reyes, Bennett Graham, Cy Zuber, Brock Barker, Luke Saylor and Avett Clem.

Wayne Trace's Devon Tumblin finished runner-up in the junior high boys race, recording a career-best time of 12:35.0 and earning medalist honors.

By the end of the meet, Antwerp had collected team championships in high school girls, junior high girls and junior high boys, while Paulding claimed the high school boys crown.

KIWANIS CLUB WELCOMES NEW OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2026–2027



The Kiwanis Club recently welcomed its new officers and board members for the 2026–2027 year during its weekly meeting. Stan Searing conducted the induction and installation ceremony.

During the ceremony, Searing reviewed the purpose and mission of the local Kiwanis Club, as well as the duties and responsibilities of the club's officers and board members.

New board members for the 2026–2027 year are Stacie Peters, Zach Gorrell, and Harvey Hyman.

The club's new officers are:

President: Renee Hull

President-Elect: Corey Walker

Vice President: Lora Lyons

Secretary: Matt Miller

Treasurer: Michelle Stahl

The Kiwanis Club meets every Thursday at noon at Branch Christian Church in Paulding. The club welcomes community members who are interested in making connections, learning more about the community, and enjoying lunch with fellow members.

Kiwanis is dedicated to making a difference in the lives of children and families in the local community and around the world.











WARRIORS ROLL PAST SOUTHERN WELLS



Warrior Sophomore Braxton Wilhelm drives through the Raiders defense to gain yards for the Warriors. ***More pictures at engagingexposures.com***

WOODBURN — Woodlan bounced back in a big way after their defeat at Bluffton on September 11th. On Friday, September 18, the Warriors rolled to a 48-8 victory over Southern Wells at home.

The Warriors took control from the opening quarter, building a 20-0 advantage before exploding for 28 more points in the second. Woodlan carried a commanding 48-0 lead into halftime.

Southern Wells broke through with eight points in the third quarter, but neither team scored in the fourth as Woodlan finished off the 48-8 victory. The 40-point margin marked the Warriors' most dominant win of the season.

The victory improved Woodlan to 3-2 on the season, while Southern Wells fell to 1-4 and suffered its seventh consecutive road loss dating back to last season.

VANTAGE INSTRUCTOR DANIEL JOYCE TO PRESENT DRONE PROGRAM AT NATIONAL CTE CONFERENCE



Vantage Career Center Instructor Daniel Joyce assists Vantage senior Carson Price, of Kalida High School, as he learns to pilot a drone during hands-on flight training.

Vantage Career Center STEM and Part 107 Instructor Daniel Joyce will take the stage at the 20th Anniversary Best Practices & Innovations in CTE Conference, taking place September 21–23, 2026, at the Sea Crest Beach Hotel in Falmouth on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Joyce will present "Launching a High School/CTE Drone Program: A Blueprint for Future-Ready Skills," highlighting the development of the Drone Training Program at Vantage Career Center and the opportunities drone technology can provide students as they prepare to enter today's workforce.

The presentation will explore how drone education can be incorporated into a high school and career-technical setting, providing students with practical experience using emerging technology while developing skills that can be applied across a variety of industries and career pathways.

For Joyce, the program combines a lifelong interest in science and technology with nearly four decades of experience in education.

A graduate of the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom and Bowling Green State University in Ohio, Joyce has spent 39 years teaching science in both the UK and United States. He moved to the United States in 1999 and became a U.S. citizen in 2018.

Joyce's interest in technology and the opportunities it can create for students ultimately led him to propose the development of a drone course at Vantage. Superintendent Rick Turner said Joyce's vision for the program made it an opportunity he immediately wanted to support.

"When Daniel first came to me with the idea for a drone course, I immediately saw the potential and wanted to help make his vision a reality," Turner said. "He recognized how this technology could complement the skills our students are already developing in their career programs and give them another advantage as they enter the workforce. Today, students who complete the course not only gain valuable hands-on experience and industry-relevant skills, but also earn five college credit hours. Seeing Daniel now share what he has built at Vantage with other career-technical educators is something we are extremely proud of."

Through the Drone Training Program, students expand their knowledge of drone technology while developing skills connected to unmanned aircraft systems and FAA Part 107 operations.

"Preparing CTE students for the workforce means giving them credentials that matter tomorrow. FAA Part 107 certification isn't just a license; it's a direct pipeline to early career independence and employment value." Joyce said. Developing the drone program at Vantage gives students another skill and credential they can carry directly into their career field.

Drone technology continues to expand across a variety of industries, making the training a valuable complement to students' career-technical education. During Wednesday's presentation, Joyce will provide fellow educators with insight into the process of developing a drone program within a high school or CTE environment and demonstrate how emerging technology and industry-recognized credentials can be incorporated into career-technical education.

The Best Practices & Innovations in CTE Conference brings together career and technical education professionals to share strategies, programs and practices designed to strengthen CTE and prepare students for future workforce opportunities. Joyce's selection as a presenter reflects Vantage Career Center's continued commitment to providing authentic, student-focused career technical training while embracing emerging technology that prepares students for employment and further education.

Vantage Career Center Instructor Daniel Joyce assists Vantage senior Carson Price, of Kalida High School, as he learns to pilot a drone during hands-on flight training.

ARCHERS POWER PAST EDGERTON FOR 42-7 VICTORY

Antwerp put together a dominant performance on both sides of the football Friday, September 18, rolling to a 42-7 victory over Edgerton.

The Archers established control early, scoring 14 points in the opening quarter before adding 21 in the second to take a commanding 35-7 advantage into halftime. Antwerp tacked on another touchdown in the third quarter to complete the scoring.

Antwerp's ground game was particularly effective, piling up 322 rushing yards on 38 attempts and scoring four touchdowns. Gage Clevinger led the way with 217 yards and two touchdowns on 19 carries, averaging 11.4 yards per attempt. Parker Lucas added 83 yards and two touchdowns on 13 carries.

Quarterback Carson Hughes complemented the rushing attack through the air, completing eight of 11 passes for 183 yards and two touchdowns. Brayden Fuller was his leading target, catching three passes for 97 yards and two scores. Parker Bermejo added three receptions for 71 yards, while Michael Rohrs caught two passes for 15 yards.

Altogether, the Archers amassed 505 yards of offense while holding Edgerton to 209. Antwerp also finished with 16 first downs compared to eight for the Bulldogs.

Fuller contributed on special teams as well, averaging 19.3 yards on three punts and returning a punt 13 yards. Defensively, Fuller recorded three interceptions for seven return yards, while Bermejo added an interception that he returned 20 yards.

With 322 yards on the ground, another 183 through the air and a defense that kept Edgerton off the scoreboard after the second quarter, Antwerp turned in a balanced effort to secure the convincing 42-7 road victory.

PANTHERS TURN IN STRONG TIMES AT OTTAWA-GLANDORF INVITATIONAL

Paulding cross country teams competed at the Ottawa-Glandorf Invitational on September 19, with Panther runners turning in solid performances.

HS boys were led by a tight group of four seniors. Landon Grinnell paced the Panthers with a time of 17:36.3, followed closely by Leonel Reyes at 17:36.7. Max Daeger crossed the finish line in 17:53.3, while Achilles Mead finished in 17:55.0.

Isaiah Koenig recorded a time of 19:53.4, followed by Thor "Stroker" Etter at 23:38.5, Rooney Gutierrez Cortes at 25:42.1 and Quinton Laker at 27:08.7.

For the HS girls, Dani Borland led the way with a time of 24:14.7. Kyler Foor finished in 24:45.1, followed by Aly White at 27:10.3 and Karlee Kohart at 27:17.2. Maria Gastelum Lopez also competed for the Lady Panthers.

Paulding was also represented at the junior high level, with Landyn White competing for the boys and Allie Manz, Kaylee Pack and Maggie Webb running for the girls.

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

OF APPLICATION FOR SHORT FORM RELEASE FROM ADMINISTRATION

(R.C. 2717.08 AND 2717.141)

IN THE COMMON PLEAS COURT
OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO
PROBATE DIVISION

FILED
SEP 22 2026
PROBATE COURT
PAULDING COUNTY, OH

IN RE:

THE ESTATE OF:

PORFINA MARIA DOLORES GUERRA

Case No. 20261091

Applicant gives notice that the Applicant has filed an Application for Short Form Release from Administration for Porfina Maria Dolores Guerra.

A hearing on said Application will be held before this Court in the Paulding County Probate Court - 115 N. Williams Street, Room 202 - Second Floor, Paulding, Ohio, on **Tuesday, October 13. 2026 at 10:00 a.m.**

Adelita Guerra

Applicant's Signature

Adelita Guerra
555 E. Main St.
Berne, IN 46711
gleacha5257@gmail.com
Email Address

The West Bend News

Sudoku Puzzle

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

Answers to "Sudoku puzzle on Page 11"

KLOPFENSTEIN REPAIR
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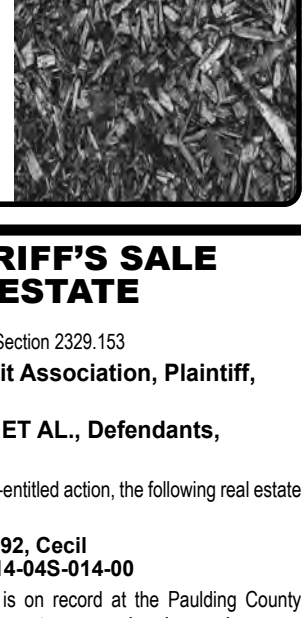

ON-LINE SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Ohio Revised Code, Section 2329.153

AgCredit Agricultural Credit Association, Plaintiff,
vs.
Christine L. Hounshell, ET AL., Defendants,

Case No. CI 26 026

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

9203 Road 192, Cecil
Parcel Number: 14-04S-014-00

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

Said premises appraised at One Hundred Fifty Thousand and NO/100 ($150,000.00) Dollars and cannot be sold for less than two-thirds of that amount on the first sale date.

The first sale date will be on the October 15, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. All bidders must be registered with RealAuction for on-line bidding at:

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

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

In the event this property does not sell on the above date, a second on-line auction will be held on October 29, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. On this date, there will be no minimum bid. However, the purchaser will be responsible for any costs, allowances, and taxes which the proceeds of the sale are insufficient to cover.

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

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

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

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

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

Sheriff Jason K. Landers
Paulding County, Ohio
www.pauldingohsheriff.com

Christian D. Donovan, Attorney for Plaintiff

Phone: 419-258-2000 • Email: info@westbendnews.net

WOODLAN TOPS ANTWERP IN STRAIGHT SETS



Woodlan's senior Lexie Peoples, and junior Olivia Trygg block Archer's Clara Rohrs' hit to pick up the Warrior point. ***More pictures at engagingexposures.com***

Woodlan Lady Warriors played a fierce game Thursday night September 24th to keep a win at home. 3-0.

WOODBURN — The Antwerp Lady Archers made the trip to Woodlan on Thursday, September 24, where the Warriors came away with a straight-set varsity volleyball victory.

Antwerp battled Woodlan closely in the opening set before falling 22-25. The Warriors took control in the second with a 25-13 win, while the Lady Archers responded with another tight battle in the third before Woodlan closed out the match 25-23.

Hudsyn Bagley led Antwerp's attack with seven kills while adding 11 digs and a block. Kati Phares finished with six kills, three blocks and two digs, while Allison Sproles added three kills, two blocks and four digs. Alexis Otto contributed two kills and two blocks.

Clara Rohrs directed the offense with 10 assists and also recorded eight digs. Bridley Bagley joined Hudsyn Bagley with a team-high 11 digs, while Avery Honigford contributed an ace, a kill, a block and two digs. Otto also served an ace.

As a team, Antwerp finished with 19 kills, nine blocks, 40 digs and 16 assists. Woodlan vs Antwerp 9-24.pdf

Woodlan also took the junior varsity match in straight sets, defeating Antwerp 25-13 and 25-12.

NATUREFEST BRINGS FAMILIES TOGETHER FOR LEARNING, CONSERVATION, AND COMMUNITY ON OCTOBER 10

Ohio State University Extension, the Paulding County Master Gardener Volunteers, Paulding County 4-H, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts invite community members of all ages to attend NatureFest on Saturday, October 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Paulding County Extension Building and Youth Leadership Building, 503 Fairground Drive, Paulding, Ohio.

NatureFest is a free community event celebrating nature, environmental stewardship, gardening, and youth development. Attendees can learn from local experts through presentations on winterizing lawn equipment, composting, tree care, and disease management, while enjoying hands-on nature activities for youth and families.

As a first-of-its-kind event in Paulding County, NatureFest brings together environmental education, gardening, youth development, and family fun in one location. The event is designed to connect residents of all ages with nature while showcasing local opportunities to learn new skills, become engaged in the community, and support environmental stewardship.

A highlight of the event will be the Paulding County Master Gardener Volunteer Native Plant Sale, featuring a variety of native perennials and other plants well suited for Northwest Ohio landscapes.

"NatureFest offers something for everyone," organizers said. "Whether you're a gardener looking for new plants, a homeowner interested in caring for your landscape, a family searching for educational activities, or a young person interested in joining a youth organization, we encourage you to come spend the morning with us."

The Paulding County Master Gardener Volunteers will offer a selection of native plants that provide beauty and

environmental benefits to local landscapes. Native plants are naturally adapted to Ohio's growing conditions, making them an excellent choice for homeowners seeking sustainable landscaping options.

Native plants generally require less maintenance once established because they are accustomed to local rainfall, soils, and climate conditions. They also play an important role in supporting pollinators such as bees and butterflies while providing food and habitat for birds and other wildlife. Many of the plants available for purchase will be perennials, which return each year from established root systems and provide years of enjoyment and ecological benefits.

Whether visitors are seasoned gardeners or planting their first flower bed, the Native Plant Sale will offer an opportunity to enhance their landscape while supporting local educational and conservation efforts.

NatureFest will also showcase opportunities for young people and families to become involved in 4-H, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts, with local volunteers and leaders available to answer questions and help new

members get connected.

Youth organizations provide much more than recreational activities. Participation helps young people develop confidence, leadership skills, responsibility, communication abilities, and strong relationships with peers and adult mentors. Through hands-on projects, community service opportunities, outdoor experiences, and teamwork, youth learn valuable life skills that prepare them for future success in school, careers, and their communities.

4-H members gain experience through projects ranging from agriculture and livestock to science, technology, healthy living, and leadership. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts encourage character development, citizenship, outdoor skills, goal setting, and service to others. These experiences help youth discover their interests, develop a sense of belonging, and build lifelong friendships.

Research consistently shows that youth who participate in positive youth development programs are more likely

to demonstrate leadership abilities, civic engagement, problem-solving skills, and confidence. They learn how to work as part of a team, contribute to their communities, and develop resilience through new challenges and experiences. Youth organizations also provide a safe and supportive environment where children and teens can explore their interests while being encouraged by caring adult volunteers and mentors.

For families, these organizations offer meaningful opportunities to spend time together, connect with other families, and become more engaged in their communities. Regardless of age or background, there is a place for everyone to learn, grow, and thrive.

Families attending NatureFest are encouraged to stop by and learn more about joining 4-H, Boy Scouts, or Girl Scouts and discover how these organizations can positively impact the lives of young people.

Don't miss the debut of Paulding County's first NatureFest on October 10. For additional information, contact Ohio State University Extension Paulding County at (419) 399-8225.

WOODLAN GIRLS SOCCER COLLECTS WIN FROM RAIDERS



Woodlan girls soccer hosted the Southern Wells Lady Raiders on Thursday evening September 24th. Pictured here is Woodlan's Morgen Burleson as she takes control of the ball on the field as holds off the Raiders. Woodlan dominated the field and kept a win at home at the end of the game, 5-0. ***More pictures at engagingexposures.com***

ANOTHER GORRELL BROS
AUCTION
LAND AUCTION
37.993 +/- ACRES — SELLING IN ONE PARCEL
PROPERTY LOCATION: 24614 Road E, Continental, OH 45831
AUCTION LOCATION: Continental American Legion 109 S. Fifth St. Continental, OH 45831
Thurs. October 8th, 2026 @ 6PM
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION... Parcel No. 1: Approximately 37.993 acres located in Monroe Township, Putnam County. The property features predominantly Paulding soils with some Toledo-type soils. A large ditch is located along the south end of the parcel....
REAL ESTATE TERMS... $5,000.00 earnest money deposit due the day of the auction. Closing to be held in approximately 35 days. Possession upon harvest of the 2026 crops...
AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Here's your chance to "Buy Dirt!" This is a great opportunity to add acreage to your farming operation or investment portfolio. Don't miss this opportunity — come prepared to bid and buy! Drive by the property and look it over. For additional information, please visit our website or contact the office. 419-399-4066 | www.gorrellbrothers.com
SELLERS: Todd and Carrie Kent
AUCTIONEERS: Kenneth D. Thomas: Auction Manager, Zach Gorrell: Broker, Chris Aufrance: Auctioneer
Gorrell Bros. Auctioneers LLC 112½ N Water St Paulding, Ohio 45879
"We Sell the Earth and Everything on It."
Call Today to Reserve Your Auction Date!

Defiance County Farm
AUCTION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 • 6:00PM
PROPERTY LOCATION: 15370 S.R. 111 and Cromley Road, Defiance OH 43512. Located just one mile from Defiance, Ohio
AUCTION HELD AT UAW Memorial Hall, 2144 Baltimore St., Defiance, OH 43512.
124± Acres
Offered in 9 Tracts or Combinations
HOME / BUILDINGS
PRODUCTIVE QUALITY TILLABLE LAND
GREAT POTENTIAL COUNTRY BUILDING SITES • HUNTING AND RECREATION SITES • SCENIC RIVER SITE
PREVIEW: Meet A Schrader Representative At Tract 1
SAT., OCT. 3 • 11AM-1PM | TUES., OCT. 13 • 4-7PM
SELLER: THOMAS M. WEBB | AUCTION MANAGER: JERRY EHLE, 260-410-1996
SCHRADER Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc.
SchraderAuction.com
866-340-0445
800-451-2709
The auction will be offered in individual tracts, combinations of tracts, and as a whole.
Jerry W. Ehle, SAL.2006001035, 2013000026 | Schrader Real Estate and Auction Company, Inc., REC.0000314452 (Jeffersonville,OH), 63198513759

ANOTHER GORRELL BROS
AUCTION
Large Auction
AUCTION LOCATION: 24614 Road E, Continental, Ohio 45831… Head East on State Route 613 Towards Continental… Turn Left onto Township Road 263 and then Right onto Road E…
Watch for Auction Signs!
Sat. October 3rd, 2026 @ 10AM
Antiques... Milk Bottles... Foot-Powered Sewing Machines... Secretary Desk... Oil Lamps... Wash Tubs... Lamps... High Chair... Precious Moments Figurines... Old, Large Gas Pump... Several Books... Coleman Lanters... Railroad Lanterns... Wooden Corn Sheller... Copper Boiler... Wooden Crates... License Plates... Cigar Boxes... Old Kitchen Utensils... Meat Grinders... Insulators... Several Old Lanterns... Single Trees... Typewriters... Old Records... Hub Caps... Hand Saws... Coleman Stoves...
Household... Eden Pure Heaters... Sleeper Sofa with New Queen Mattress... Full Size Adjustable Bed with Headboard, appears newer with night stands... Frigidaire Fridge/Freezer... Kitchen Table with Leaves and 4 Chairs... Curio Cabinets... Tupperware... Several Nice Quilts... Mobility Items... Several Kirby Vacuums and accessories... Several End Tables... Several Lamps... Exercise Bike... Recliners... Dry Sink... Glassware... Large Amount of Christmas Decorations... Christmas Villages... Whirlpool Glass Top Range... Whirlpool Front Load Dryer... Several Box Fans... Canning Jars... Slow Cookers...
Lawn & Garden... Metal Shelving Units... Coleman Gas Pressure Washer... Bicycles... Lawnboy Mower... Outdoor Swings... Briggs and Straton 2 Wheel Weed Whip... Lawn Chairs... Gas Cans... Hand-Held Coolers... Pitchforks... Shovels... Rakes... Hoes... Wooden Water Skis... Clay Pigeon Thrower... Tennis Rackets... Weed Eaters, two gas and one battery powered... Fimco Pull Behind Sprayers... Box Traps... Propane Heaters... Fertilizer Spreaders... Lawn Sweeper... Craftsman DYS4500, 22HP Lawn Mower... Simplicity Lawn Mower... Several T Posts... Fishing Poles... Old Sleds... Flower Pots...
Scooters... Yamaha Jog Scooter... All-State Deluxe Two Wheel Scooter, gas powered (Cushman)...
Tools & Woodworking... Kerosene Heaters... Dewalt Planer... Craftsman 10in Table Saw... Craftsman 12in Band Saw... Jigsaw... Delta Dust Collector... Jet Belt Sander... Small Table Saw... Router and Table... Jigsaws... Palm Sanders... Body Grinders... Variable Speed Sander... Saw Horses... Assorted Pieces of Lumber, Walnut, Oak, etc... Torch Set... Welders... Kennedy Tool Box... Drill Press... Ladders... Extension Ladders... Battery Chargers... Gas Chainsaws... Rope... Old Wrenches... Electric Drills... Extension Cords... Trouble Lights... Several Flights of Hand Tools... Allen Wrenches... Socket Sets... Files... Crescent Wrenches... Easy Outs... Micrometers... Grinding Wheels... Come-A-Longs... Chisels... Punches... Wire Brushes... Air Compressor... Hammers... Screwdrivers... Shop Vac... Homemade Work Bench with Varibale Speed Grinder, Saw, Sander, etc... Oil Cans... Bolt Bins and Organizers... Pulleys... 2-man Cross Cut Saws... Vices... Bottle Neck Jacks... Sledge Hammers...
AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is a very large auction. Items are in very nice condition. We will be selling in 2 rings most of the time. Bring a friend, there's something for everyone! Lots of unique and unusual items. Still unboxing and sorting. Food and Concessions will be provided on the day of sale by the Highland Township Fire Department with all proceeds benefiting the community! Visit our website for more information at www.gorrellbrothers.com
WATCH OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS, PICTURES, AND UPDATES... INSPECTION FOR ALL ITEMS WILL BE October 1st and 2nd, 2026 FROM 3:00-6:00PM AND BEGINNING AT 8:30AM DAY OF THE AUCTION... TERMS: CASH, GOOD CHECK, OR CREDIT CARDS (with a 4% convenience fee) AT THE DAY OF THE AUCTION.
SELLERS: Todd and Carrie Kent
Gorrell Bros. Auctioneers LLC 112½ N Water St Paulding, Ohio 45879
AUCTIONEERS: Kenneth D. Thomas: Auction Manager, Zach Gorrell: Broker, Chris Aufrance: Auctioneer
Call Today to Reserve Your Auction Date!

NEW ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTS FUTURE HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS



Pictured are Defiance Area Foundation Grant Chair Sue Strausbaugh and fund creators Paula and Jeff Sprow.

The Defiance Area Foundation is pleased to announce the establishment of the Jeff & Paula Sprow Family Scholarship Fund, created in 2026 through an endowed gift from Jeff and Paula Sprow. The fund was established to encourage local students to pursue registered nursing education while creating a lasting source of scholarship support for future generations.

The scholarship reflects the Sprow family's personal connection to healthcare. Paula became a Registered Nurse in 1985 and earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing four years later. With Jeff's support, she continued her education and completed her Master of Science in Nursing and Family Nurse Practitioner certification in 2000. Jeff's career in agriculture has spanned several decades, and their daughters, Carly and Emese, both work in health-related careers.

Through their endowed fund, Jeff and Paula hope to encourage students to enter a profession they recognize as essential to a strong healthcare system.

The $1,000 non-renewable scholarship is available to graduating seniors from Central Local Schools or Hilltop High School who have been accepted to an accredited two-year or four-year college and intend to pursue an associate or bachelor's degree as a Registered Nurse. If no nursing applicant qualifies, consideration may be given, in order of priority, to students pursuing pharmacy, speech therapy, occupational therapy or physical therapy.

Applicants should demonstrate academic achievement or perseverance and academic engagement, along with a strong work ethic and character through activities such as community service or faith-based involvement. Preference will also be given to students who demonstrate financial need.

Applications must be postmarked or emailed by March 31. Applications may be mailed to the Defiance Area Foundation, 613 West Third St., Defiance, OH 43512, or emailed to dani@defianceareafoundation.org by the deadline.

PAULDING COUNTY PROBATE COURT MARRIAGE APPLICATIONS

Kaleb Michael Brown (29), Oakwood, OH, Village Employee; Kayla Wesleigh Matney (31), Oakwood, OH, John Mansville

Wyatt Joel Stauffer (24), Oakwood, OH, Repair operator; Cassidy Danielle Posey (26), Oakwood, OH, Teacher

Dylan Jacob Tacker (28), New York, NY, Actor; Dana Jane Bixler (29), New York, NY, Actor

COMMUNITY BANKING MATTERS

Finding the Right Balance

Over the past year, you may have noticed a lot of change at The Antwerp Exchange Bank.

We have welcomed new employees, invested in new technology, expanded our services, and recently opened our newest office in Paulding. We are excited to be serving the Paulding community, and we look forward to celebrating our Grand Opening on October 2. It is an important milestone for our bank and one that we are proud to share with our customers and communities.

While growth and change are exciting, they also come with an important responsibility: ensuring that we never lose sight of who we are.

Banking today looks very different than it did even a few years ago. Fraud continues to become more sophisticated. Technology continues to advance. Customer expectations continue to evolve. At the same time, regulatory requirements continue to increase. Community banks must adapt to these changes to protect customers, provide modern services, and remain strong for future generations.

The challenge is finding the right balance.

At The Antwerp Exchange Bank, we want to continue improving. We want to embrace technology where it enhances the customer experience. We want to provide services that meet the needs of today's customers. We want to grow into new communities and build a talented team that is prepared to serve them well.

At the same time, we believe that what makes community banking special has never been technology, buildings, or products.

What makes community banking special is people.

It is knowing our customers by name. It is understanding the businesses, farms, and families that make up our communities. It is taking the time to listen, answer questions, and help people make informed financial decisions. Most importantly, it is earning trust.

Trust is something that is built over time and earned every day. It comes from doing what we say we will do, treating people fairly, and making decisions that are in the best interests of our customers, communities, and shareholders.

That trust is especially important in today's environment. Many of the procedures customers encounter at banks are designed to protect them from fraud and financial loss. Questions about identification, endorsements, check deposits, or funds availability are not about creating inconvenience. More often, they are safeguards designed to protect both customers and the banking system.

For example, customers occasionally ask why a bank may place a hold on a check deposit or choose not to cash a check immediately. The answer is that when a bank provides funds before a check has been collected from the issuing institution, the bank is taking a risk. While most checks are legitimate, some are returned due to insufficient funds, fraud, altered information, or counterfeit activity.

The important thing to remember is that the risk does not belong solely to the bank. Community banks manage a significant amount of money, but much of that money belongs to our depositors, who are our friends, neighbors, local businesses, and community members. As stewards of those funds, we have a responsibility to balance convenience with prudent risk management. That responsibility influences many of the decisions community banks make every day.

Likewise, properly endorsing checks can help prevent unnecessary complications. If a check is being deposited into your account, it is generally best to wait until you are at the bank or preparing a mobile deposit before endorsing it. A check that has been signed but not deposited can create additional risk if it is lost or misplaced.

There is often a perception that a community bank must choose between being customer-focused and being a safe and sound institution. We do not believe that is true. We believe our responsibility is to do both.

We do not want to be the bank with the loosest policies, nor do we want policies to replace sound judgment and personal relationships. We want to be a bank that exercises good judgment, treats people fairly, protects its customers, and earns trust through every interaction.

Our goal is not simply to be a safe bank. It is not simply to be a growing bank. It is not simply to be a technologically advanced bank.

Our goal is to be a good bank.

We want to be a bank that serves its customers well, supports its communities, makes sound local decisions, and continues to earn trust every day. We believe those goals can and should go hand in hand.

As we continue to grow, our commitment remains unchanged. For more than 140 years, The Antwerp Exchange Bank has been focused on helping individuals, families, farms, and businesses succeed. While the banking industry will continue to change, that purpose remains the same.

Whether you have banked with us for generations or recently opened your first account, thank you for the trust you place in us. It is a responsibility we do not take lightly. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you, and we look forward to continuing to grow alongside the communities we are privileged to call home.

If you are not currently a customer of The Antwerp Exchange Bank, we would welcome the opportunity to earn your business. Whether you visit us in Antwerp, Payne, Harlan, or our new Paulding office, you will find a team committed to serving our communities with the same personal approach that has guided our bank for more than 140 years. We are proud of our new Paulding location, proud of the team serving it, and excited about the future ahead.

—Jeff Mumma
President & CEO
The Antwerp Exchange Bank

ARCHERS FINISH FOURTH AT SECTIONALS; LUCAS ADVANCES TO DISTRICTS

The Antwerp boys golf team wrapped up its 2026 season with a strong showing at the sectional tournament at Pike Run Golf Course, placing fourth out of 12 teams with a score of 337.

Leading the Archers was Lincoln Lucas with a 77, followed by Kyler Johnson with an 81, Emerson Morrow with an 88 and Noah Lucas with a 91.

While the team season came to an end, Lucas earned the opportunity to continue competing after finishing among the top three individuals. He will represent Antwerp at the District Championships next week in Bowling Green.

Classified Ads

Sell it in the Classifieds!

Classified ads are $8.50 for 20 words or less and $.15 for each additional word.
Bold is $1.00 additional.
Ph: (419) 258-2000 • Email: info@westbendnews.net
P.O. Box 262, Antwerp, OH 45813
Classifieds MUST be paid up front!!

RAIN TECH SEAMLESS GUTTERS, 419-258-1818 38-40

DESIGN - PRINT - ADVERTISE: West Bend Printing can get you what you need FAST! 419-258-2000.

TOM TRAUTERMAN ESTATE SALE: Antiques, Indian artifacts, Antique tools, Bottles, Railroad lanterns, Military, Knick-knacks, Lowered prices & NEW items… 9 to 6 Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. 4730 Rd 192 Antwerp. p

FOR SALE: Steel 11 drawer cabinet. Good condition, no rust. Dimensions: 27.5″ x 21″ x 37.5″. Each drawer about 3″ tall. $50. Call 419-782-9898

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

BUYING OLD Collections, coins, postcards, comics, toys, knives, watches, jewelry, trading cards, paper antiques, pens, zippos & lighters, pins. 419-786-9514. Text or call. tf

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

ANTWERP CLASS OF 1977: Attention classmates, we are in the planning stages to host our 50th reunion on July 17, 2027. We have reserved the Antwerp VFW. Please help us find our missing classmates. If you have any contact information for yourself or others please reach out to Susan (Mosier) Gladieux at the following: 419-367-9000 or gladieuxsusan@gmail.com

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

Sudoku solution from page 9

(Continued from Page 1)

Approved spaces or equipment may also be available for a partner's scheduled use when that use does not interfere with Head Start operations or regulatory requirements.

"We love working with community partners and want to explore joint ventures that are genuinely beneficial to everyone involved," Simmons said. "The right opportunity may be a building that is underused, space an organization is willing to share, or simply a connection to someone we should call. Any lead could help bring Head Start home to Paulding."

Head Start offers much more than preschool education. It helps children enter school healthy and ready to learn while connecting families with nutrition, health, disability, mental health, and family-support services. In a rural community, keeping those services nearby can make a meaningful difference for children and parents.

Community members can help by suggesting a possible property, connecting NOCAC with a property owner or organization, exploring a lease or partnership, or sharing this request. Allpotential locations and agreements are subject to licensing, regulatory, funding, legal, and governing-board approval.

To share a lead or discuss a partnership Contact Anna Cifranic, Assistant Director of Child Development, at 419-784-5136 ext. 1126 or acifranic@nocac.org.

HELP WANTED:

Innovative Assembly Services, LLC
109 Victory Lane, Antwerp, OH 45813
Phone: 419-399-3886
Email:
InnovativeAssemblySvcs@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

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YOU'RE INVITED!

ANNUAL WCCH

BENEFIT AUCTION

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

BEGINS AT 4PM

WOODBURN CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME



KINGDOM FELLOWSHIP
Join friends and neighbors for a meaningful evening.

A DELICIOUS MEAL
Enjoy a great dinner with your family.

OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPACT CHILDREN
Every bid and every gift helps change a child's life in Christ.

SILENT AUCTION & DINNER
BEGINS AT 4:00 PM

LIVE AUCTION
BEGINS AT 5:00 PM

WOODLAN JUNIOR / HIGH SCHOOL
17215 Woodburn Rd. • Woodburn, IN 46797

HELP US MEET THE $35,000 CHALLENGE!

Two generous Premier Event Sponsors — Nucor Building Systems and an anonymous family — have committed a combined $35,000 to the 2026 WCCH Benefit Auction.

Now they challenge our community to match it!

$11,200 RAISED TOWARD THE $35,000 MATCH!

$11,200 RAISED — $35,000 GOAL

Sponsorship matching is a terrific way for churches, families, and businesses to impact children.

All sponsorship funds help children thrive at WCCH regardless of their family's financial participation.

EVENT SPONSOR OPPORTUNITIES

PREMIER EVENT SPONSOR	$20,000
DIAMOND SPONSOR	$2,000
GOLD SPONSOR	$1,000
SILVER SPONSOR	$750
BRONZE SPONSOR	$500

Your partnership helps provide Christ-centered hope, healing and a home for children in need.

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WCCH exists to proclaim Christ-centered hope and healing into the lives of discouraged children.

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