

## PAULDING COUNTY PURPLE HEART PROCLAMATION



Paulding County Purple Heart recipients recognized on June 1, 2024: Dan English, Jonathan Lichty, Vincent Shaffer, Jerry VanCleve, and Bob Bakle

On Saturday Morning, June 1st the John Paulding Historical Society unveiled their latest exhibit and announced their entrance to be a dedicated Purpose Heart Museum, along with the

Paulding VFW, Honor Guard and the Veteran's Service Office. The service opened with John Daeger, Commander of the Paulding VFW, opening the ceremony  
(Continued on Page 3)

## PAULDING HISTORIC DIST. MEETING TO FOCUS ON INFORMATION, BENEFITS

Much of downtown Paulding is now federally recognized as a historic district.

What does that mean for property owners, business owners and the community? Historic district benefits and opportunities will be presented by four state experts at a public meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18 in Paulding.

The free event will be held at Branch Christian Fellowship on the east side of the square, one of the 53 buildings contained in the new district. Doors will open at 5 p.m. for pizza and refreshments.

The organization Community Revitalizing Paulding (CoRP) spearheaded the historic district application process, which began in 2018,  
(Continued on Page 2)

## COUNTY TRACKSTERS CLOSE OUT YEAR AT STATE MEET



Back Row: Kayden Winslow Dayne Sholl Carson Altimus Kam Johnson Tavin Sholl Jack Woods Caleb Larson. Front Row: Luke Stouffer Ben Gurney Hudson Myers Maddox Treece Eli Treece Cole Morehead. Missing: Landon Foltz

All three Paulding County schools were recommended at the 2024 Division III state track meet that closed out the high school season.

For Antwerp, junior Tavin Sholl posted a 17th place finish in the 400 dash with a time of 52.55 seconds.

The Archer 1600 relay quartet of Carson Altimus,

Dayne Sholl, Kayden Winslow and Tavin Sholl finished ninth overall after finishing in 3:28.58.

Paulding senior Caleb Larson wrapped up his high school career by tying for 14th place in the high jump with a leap of 6-0.

In the Division III boys shot put, both Wayne Trace

and Paulding showed up in the top three placers.

Junior Luke Stouffer recorded a second-place finish for the Raiders with a toss of 57-3 while Panther junior Jack Woods took third place following a throw of 57-0.

Wayne Trace senior Maddox Treece finished eighth in-

(Continued on Page 6)

## DEFIANCE CO. RECEIVES \$2,737,200 IN STATE FUNDING FOR CRITICAL WATER INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

Defiance County is one of 76 projects receiving state grants to address critical water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Ohio communities. In total, 59

counties will receive \$122.7 million.

The funding is part of the sixth round of the Ohio BUILDS (Broadband, Utilities, and Infrastructure for Local Development Success) Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program. Funding will provide \$84.5

(Continued on Page 4)

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

## Community Calendar

- MON & WED**
- Antwerp Comm. Food Pantry @ Antwerp GMC, 9a-12p
- June 10**
- Ballet Folklorico @ Fort Grounds, Defiance, 6pm
- June 13-15**
- Heritage Lions @ Monroeville Car Show
- June 13**
- Red Cross Blood Drive @ 1st Church of Christ, Hicksville
  - Stone Dragon Stew @ Huber, 7pm
- June 15**
- Woodburn Lions Donuts @ Hardware parking lot, 7-11a
  - Food Pantry open @ Cecil Comm. Church, 12-3pm
- June 21**
- Paulding Chamber Golf Outing @ Auglaize GC, 9am
- June 22**
- Festival @ Cecil Community Church, 1-5pm
  - Game Con @ NSCC, 11a-8p
- June 23**
- Miracle Night @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm
- June 24-28**
- VBS "Life of Moses" @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6-8:30pm
- June 29**
- Ice Cream Social @ Cecil Comm. Church, 4-7pm
- June 30**
- Bluegrass Praise Concert @ Cecil Comm. Church, 6pm
  - Art in the Park @ Fort Grounds, Defiance 10a-4p

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# 2024/25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFR HERITAGE LIONS INDUCTED



District Governor Terry Marker inducted the 2024-2025 Board of Directors for the Heritage Lions. The Heritage Lions motto is "We Serve" and we welcome anyone who wishes to help their local community to contact a Heritage Lion. Pictured l-r: Pam Birch, Dan Will, Jan Hockemeyer, Tom Wolf, Larry Smith, Rick Boys, Cindy Wolf, Jack Clear, Marvin Sorg, Ken Sorg.

## BRYAN FAMILY MEDICINE OFFICE WELCOMES NURSE PRACTITIONER



Tara Garza, FNP, MSN, BSN, has joined Parkview Physicians Group (PPG) – Family Medicine in Bryan and is welcoming patients at the office, 442 W. High St., second floor.

"Tara is an experienced nurse practitioner, and we are very glad she's chosen to serve the Williams County community as part of the Parkview family of providers," noted Sally Taylor, vice president of operations, PPG, Ohio.

Garza began her nursing career as a telemetry nurse at Parkview Randallia Hospital, working with patients who had past or ongoing cardiac conditions. Garza received her master's degree in nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner) from Graceland University in Independence, Missouri. She earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana, after having received an associate degree from Northwest State Community College (NSCC) in Archbold, Ohio. She has been recognized among NSCC's Distinguished Alumni.

Board certified by the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, Garza is a member of the AMDA – The Society for Post-Acute and Long-Term-Care Medicine as well as the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Drawn to a medical career in childhood, Garza found satisfaction in nursing and has challenged herself to perform at a higher level for the benefit of her patients.

"I loved bedside nursing, but I felt I had the skills to help community members even more as a nurse practitioner, so I obtained further education," she said. "Being a family medicine nurse practitioner enables me to build a trusting medical relationship with people from birth until their final days. I like that I'm able to take the time to get to know my patients – not just their medical conditions, but who they are and what they enjoy – so I can individualize their plan of care and find what will work best for them. I have experience with the elderly and enjoy the stories my older patients share; helping them live their best lives is very important."

Outside of work, Garza enjoys reading and family time with her spouse, four children and three grandchildren. She finds travel therapeutic, especially the sun and ocean breezes of cruising.

A believer in community support through volunteerism, in recent years, she has served on the Four County Career Center Health Occupations Advisory Board, as a board member of Community Memorial Hospital Rural Health Clinic and as a Gateway Woods mentor to a

teen mother. Garza is welcoming patients of all ages. To schedule an appointment, call 419-636-4517. Garza's office hours are 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Friday. Lab and imaging services are also available at the PPG – Family Medicine office. Lab hours are 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Mon–Fri. Imaging is open 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Mon–Fri.

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## PARKVIEW HEALTH'S DR. RAY DUSMAN ON BALLOT FOR INDIANA U BOARD OF TRUSTEES VACANCY

Parkview Health President



of Physician and Clinical Enterprise Dr. Ray Dusman is on the ballot to fill an alumni seat on the Indiana University Board of Trustees. He is the only candidate from northeast Indiana and the only physician seeking the seat.

According to IU, alumni help steer and steward the university by electing three of the nine members of the board of trustees. Indiana's governor appoints the other six. IU alumni are eligible to vote in the trustee election now through June 30, 2024.

"My interest is simple—being able to give back to the university a unique perspective as a physician, healthcare and community leader, educator, and long-standing supporter of IU," Dr. Dusman shared in his candidate statement.

"If elected, I would be the only physician and trustee from northeast Indiana, providing a balance and expertise that would complement fellow trustees and university executives as they tackle known and future challenges, and continue to strengthen the university to thrive for decades to come. I pledge an objective, prepared, collaborative ap-

proach to governance in the best interests of Indiana University."

Dr. Dusman received his bachelor's degree from IU in 1979 and went on to complete an internal medicine residency at the IU School of Medicine from 1983-1985. He completed a fellowship in cardiology from 1985-1988 and served as chief resident from 1988-1989.

Dr. Dusman has served as a cardiologist in Fort Wayne and northeast Indiana for over 30 years. He joined Parkview in 2010 as a member of Fort Wayne Cardiology and was named chief physician executive in 2013, before transitioning to his current role as president.

"Parkview has grown significantly under Dr. Dusman's leadership, and I'm confident that his experience as a physician and healthcare executive will provide a new and valuable perspective to the IU Board of Trustees," said Parkview Health CEO Rick Henvey.

If elected, Dr. Dusman would serve a three-year term beginning July 1, 2024. IU alumni may click here to place their vote.

## OVERWHELMING VICTORY

By: Doris Applegate

Scribed by: Jessica Stevens

Mediate on the following lines: Tempted and tried we are oft made to wander, will it be thus all the day long? Looking to Jesus, we know He will help us, giving us strength and even a song. We often bring troubles upon ourselves by not knowing and obeying the word of God which gives us direction for our lives.

In Hosea 4:6 we read: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" We are responsible as believers in the Lord Jesus Christ to know and understand what the Bible says. This is why many troubles and sorrows came our way. We cannot blame God because "He cannot be tempted and He does NOT tempt any person: (James 1:13) we sing a song: "Farther along we'll know all about it, farther along we'll understand why, cheer up my people, live in the sunshine we'll understand it all by and by." Waiting for the time when we will understand and not wonder anymore, we "look" unto Jesus, Thee author and finisher of our faith." (Hebrews 12:2)

In Jesus Christ we are VICTORIOUS!! We sing a song "Victory in Jesus, my savior forever, he sought me and He bought me with His redeeming blood. He loved me before I knew Him and all my love is due Him. He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood." Even tho' we have troubles and sorrows here on earth and victory seems far away, that does not mean that victory is not ours now.

This is where our faith comes in. As a believer we walk with Jesus Christ and in the spirit knowing the truth of God's holy word. "Overwhelming victory is ours through Jesus Christ who loved us, we are convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love." (Romans 8:37)

The love of God is greater far, than tongue or pen can ever tell, it goes beyond the highest star and reaches to the lowest hell. This love of God is our "Ark of Safety". Amen

## Scripture of the Week

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

— Hebrews 11:6

## FAITH CONFESSION



saying it now: Out of the good treasure of my heart, only good things will come to pass.

I am the righteousness of God, a new creation, an heir of God, and a joint-heir with Jesus. I have been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the Kingdom of God's Dear Son. I have been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb - redeemed from the curse of the Law; redeemed from sickness and disease, poverty and death.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. I am more than a conqueror. He never leaves me nor forsakes me. Since the Greater One dwells within me, I can overcome every situation. The faith of God resides within me, and through it I have the victory that overcomes the world.

I thank you, Father, that I can have all these things. I believe in my heart. I have released it with my mouth. So be it. It will surely come to pass, in Jesus' name, Amen!

Peace & Love,

—Pastor Dwayne

(Paulding Historic... continued from Page 1)

and is sponsoring this meeting. All building owners, businesses, investors, community leaders and interested residents are urged to attend and learn the facts about what a historic district designation can do for them.

The agenda includes four distinguished speakers, who are traveling from Columbus for the event:

- Matt Wiederhold, executive director of Heritage Ohio
- Frank Quinn, director of preservation at Heritage Ohio
- Lisa Brownell, Ohio Department of Development, program manager for Ohio Historic Preservation Tax Credit

- Sam DeCilis, Ohio History Connection, State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

CoRP expects there will be time for questions. The informational program also will include a look at before and after view of successful historical and revitalized downtowns in Ohio, as a well as a look at vintage photos of Paulding compared to today.

Paulding Downtown Historic District was listed in the National Register in late March.

"There are a lot of myths and misinformation about historic districts," notes CoRP board member David Burtch. "Some think they lose control

of what they can do with their buildings, for example. That isn't true. We hope to dispel the incorrect information at this meeting."

CoRP pursued the historic district status because it is a vital, proven resource for economic and community development.

"Preserving, rehabilitating and utilizing heritage buildings has economic benefits for owners, businesses, individuals and communities," says Burtch. "Maintaining the authentic character of a town's central business district helps its 'curb appeal,' which in turn attracts new shops and businesses, increases employment opportunities, brings in visitors and fuels economic development."

He adds, "It makes more sense, from economic, environmental and community standpoints, to take care of the buildings you have, instead of tearing down and burying the debris in a landfill. The streetscapes and buildings we see every day, and take for granted, are a visual link to our community's past. Most are more than 100 years old. They hold generations worth of memories."

Questions concerning this release may be directed to the attention of David Burtch, CoRP board member and Paulding Village Councilman, at 419-567-4043 or valley-phonguy@gmail.com.

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**THE CHRISTMAS CACTUS**

**Penny For Your Thoughts**  
By: Nancy Whitaker

I was chatting with my friend, Mary Partin, the other day and she sent me a picture of her 80 year old Christmas Cactus. I was surprised because I did not know a cactus could live that long.

In fact, I have never had a green thumb and any kind of plant just withers for me. So, I asked Mary, "How do you care for it?"

She replied, "I just water it once a week every month except for October"

"Then I water it in November and it will bloom in about 2 weeks."

She told me that the cactus was as big as a piece of furniture and one year had over 300 blooms on it.

So I asked her where she got the plant and she replied, "My mother-in-law gave it to me about 40 years ago."

So I surmised that her mother-in-law must have had it for 40 years.

Many stories have been told about the origin of this holiday plant.

A bit of research leads to a charming bit of history. One story goes: "A Jesuit missionary known as Father Jose was trying to convert Bolivian natives. However, in spite of his good works and attempts to

pass along the Word, he was met with failure. The native people appreciated his help but did not believe in the Christmas story he tried to convey. As he was praying at his crude altar on Christmas eve, he heard his congregants singing a hymn he had taught them. When he looked up, the children of the village were heading his way bearing plant stems decorated with beautiful flowers. These were the blooms of what became the Christmas cactus which they gave to him to decorate the altar."

Another story was about a family traveling in a covered



wagon, a long time ago. They were carrying supplies during a cold winter to a newly formed town, Phoenix. The family got lost. Then they came upon a cactus, in a fork of the trail, wearing a Santa hat. It was kind of leaning towards the trail on the right.

They thought it was cute and that perhaps someone from town used it to give them a hint as to which direction they should go. The family wished and hoped that they were right because it was getting cold as the sun went down.

If you've ever been to the desert in the winter, you know

how cold it can get. They followed the trail that the cactus was leaning towards and made it!

The interesting part is that nobody in town actually put a Santa hat on the cactus! Nobody knew anything about it. The Legend began.

One old Christmas Cactus belongs to Marci Kraft of Bozeman, Montana. Her Christmas cactus once belonged to her great-great-grandmother.

"We know that it goes back to the 1860s," said Kraft's mother, Leona Martha Kent (the great great great grandmother) had brought the cactus by wagon train when her

family homesteaded in Cottonwood Canyon in 1863 or 1864.

Kraft's mother, Leona, has records of everyone of the family who has had the cactus. She said "We're keeping it in the family and hope it lasts another 100 years."

Mary, my friend, said that she did not know if any of her daughters would want it or not. Who knows where it will wind up but we know it's 80 years old now.

Have you ever had a Christmas Cactus? How old is it and where is it going and where has it been? Let me know and I'll give you A Penny For Your Thoughts



**SCHOOL'S OUT - VBS IS COMING**

It's a jungle out there! You'll need all your senses to survive! You'll learn how at Vacation Bible School at the Antwerp Global Methodist Church this year.

Listen! Can you hear a howler monkey screeching and insects buzzing? Look! Do you see a sloth hanging from a tree and a jaguar crouching ready to pounce? Smell! Is that the aroma of tropical flowers wafting through the air? Touch! Do you feel soft grass under your feet and gentle rain on your skin? Taste! Is that delicious coconut milk and exotic spices from the rainforest?

The staff at Antwerp GMC on East River Street is preparing for this year's big event. The theme is The Great Jungle Journey. Don't worry. The children will be safe on the ship as they travel through jungle rivers and learn at each of the seven ports-of-call

along the way. The seven port names each begin with a "C" representing the seven key biblical events in time.

On day 1 we will learn about Creation. On day 2 the lesson will be Corruption and Catastrophe. On day 3 we will study about Confusion. Day 4 the lesson focus will be Christ and the Cross. On the final day, Friday, the lesson will be on Consummation.

Students will be energized with lively songs, mission moments and prayer. They will also travel in groups to Exploration Stations, Lesson Time, snacks, games and crafts. Along the river cruise there will be unexpected rainforest adventures.

All of this excitement will happen beginning Monday, July 15 through Friday July 19 from 6:00 until 8:30 each evening. Children pre-school and potty trained through sixth grade are welcome and my pre-register by visiting the church website: <https://www.antwerpmethodistchurch.org/v-b-s>.

In the past a CD (compact disc) has been available for children to become familiar with the music. These are not available this year. The music is available at these venues - Pandora, Spotify, YouTube. Search for The Great Jungle Journey.

**DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION GRANT: SUFFICIENT GRACE MINISTRIES**



We would like to congratulate @sufficientgraceministries on their \$5,000 grant received during our last grant cycle, ending in March. This grant was given from the Defiance Area Foundation Community fund for training manuals, supplies, and materials to be used during the SGM Volunteer Training. Pictured (l-r) presenting the grant to SGM is Deb Hensch - Defiance Area Foundation Grants Committee member and receiving is Kelly Gerken - Sufficient Grace Ministries founder and executive director.

**ANTWERP VFW AUXILIARY RAFFLE WINNERS**

V.F.W. Post 5087 Auxiliary announce raffle winners that were drawn recently. A \$300 Visa Gift Card went to Amy Rickman of Hicksville,

OH. A \$200 Visa Gift Card went to Jo Berenyi of Antwerp, OH. Congrats to all who participated for supporting the VFW auxiliary and especially the winners of the drawings.

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



The new fallen soldier board at the Museum.



The unveiled Purple Heart Display.

*(Purple Heart... continued from Page 1)*

followed by Dan Wilder singing the National Anthem for the service. Eileen Kochensparger gave the prayer Melinda Krick, Museum President, read the dedication read the proclamation on behalf of the members and proclaimed that JPHS is now a Purple Heart Museum.

John Lichty, was the speaker and gave his experiences in Iraq, reminding everyone that freedom is not free. He presented the history of the Purple Heart award since the time of George Washington. John Daeger then asked how many people had received a purple heart and several had. There were many who know those who had make great sacrifices there. Kim Sutton also spoke on the bravery. The 3 volley salute then took place to honor the fallen followed by the playing of Taps.

The plaque mounted on the building was then unveiled to the public.

The new display behind the glass has received quite the attention just as intended by those who made it. The men and women who gave their lives in service to this country were honored by all of those who came and watched. The display is filled with certificates, awards, pictures, and most of all those

who donated theirs or their loved one's Purpose Heart awards.

Along with the new designation the museum also presented the new fallen soldier display with the names of those who were died during their service to the nation, sent from Paulding County.

This was also the 40th anniversary of the opening of the John Paulding Historical Museum.

June 1st was a special day at the John Paulding Historical Museum also because the Phillips family visited to pay their respects to their ancestor, George Phillips.

If you would like to donate Purple Heart commemorations, contact the Museum for assistance.

**Thank You...**

V.F.W. Post 5087 Auxiliary would like to thank all the local businesses who donated to one of our Antwerp Days Raffle.

And a big thank you to our Auxiliary members who worked hard setting up, selling tickets and tearing down.

*Thanks Mike!*



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## AMERICAN PICKERS TO FILM IN OHIO



The American Pickers are excited to return to Ohio! They plan to film episodes of The History Channel hit television series throughout your area in August 2024.

AMERICAN PICKERS is a documentary series that explores the fascinating world of antique "picking" on The History Channel. The hit show follows skilled pickers in the business, as they hunt for America's most valuable antiques. They are always excited to find historically significant or rare items, in addition to unforgettable characters and their collections.

As they hit the back roads from coast to coast, the Pickers are on a mission to recycle and rescue forgotten relics. Along the way, they want to meet characters with amazing stories and fun items. They hope to give historically significant objects a new lease on

life while learning a thing or two about America's past along the way. The Pickers have seen a lot of rusty gold over the years and are always looking to discover something they've never seen before. They are ready to find extraordinary items and hear fascinating tales about them.

The American Pickers TV Show is looking for leads and would love to explore your hidden treasure. If you or someone you know has a unique item, story to tell, and is ready to sell...we would love to hear from you! Please note, the Pickers DO NOT pick stores, flea markets, malls, auction businesses, museums, or anything open to the public. If interested, please send us your name, phone number, location, and description of the collection with photos to: americanpickers@cinemax.com or call (646) 493-2184 facebook: @GotAPick

(Continued from Page 1)

million in support of 43 new critical infrastructure projects and \$38.2 million in gap funding for 33 previously funded projects with costs that exceeded initial estimates.

Since 2021, the Ohio BUILDS Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant Program has provided nearly \$620 million to support hundreds of local water projects in all of Ohio's 88 counties.

"The investments we've made through this program have been transformational in many Ohio communities," said Ohio Governor Mike DeWine. "The projects we're funding are about more than new pipes - they're about protecting the health and wellbeing of Ohioans across the state."

The grants announced today will help reduce or eliminate the financial burden community leaders face in addressing critical infrastructure needs such as new water distribution systems, waterline extensions, water tower replacements, and new pipes and water mains. Grants will also fund projects to replace sanitary sewer systems, prevent sewer system backups, and extend sewer lines to support economic growth.

Today's award will support Defiance County with the replacement of the Evansport Wastewater treatment plant. Project activities include installing an influent spiral screen and grit removal system, installing new aeration blowers and diffuser systems, cleaning and rehabilitating existing concrete tanks, installing a new UV disinfection system, adding new effluent flow meters and pH and aeration monitors, and more. The project will benefit 252 people.

"Investments in our communities' infrastructure are key to expanding sites for new businesses and housing that the people who work at these businesses will need to live and thrive," said Lt. Jon Governor Husted. "This program is a key part of our efforts to ensure every community has the foundation in place to improve the quality of life to make Ohio a great place to live, work, and raise a family."

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds were appropriated by the Ohio General Assembly and awarded through three rounds in October, November, and December 2021, as well as rounds in June and July 2023. The sixth round of funding was made possible through continued support in the 2023 biennium budget bill, which included more than \$120 million to support water infrastructure projects. The Ohio Department of Development administers the program.

"Whenever I travel the state, I'm inevitably greeted by Ohioans who share the transformative impact water/wastewater projects have had on their communities," said Lydia Mihalik, director of the Department of Development. "But our work is far from over, and thanks to Governor DeWine, Lt. Governor Husted, and our partners in the Ohio General Assembly, we have the opportunity to create sus-

## ACPL ANNOUNCES CAMPAIGN TO BRING DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY TO ALLEN COUNTY



The Allen County Public Library and the ACPL Foundation announced a new fundraising campaign to bring Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to the children of Allen County. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting books each month to children from birth to age five, free of charge through funding shared by state and local community partners. Children must be registered by a parent or guardian to receive the books. There is no charge to register or receive the books. Age-appropriate books are mailed directly to the homes of registered children each month.

Out of Indiana's 92 counties, 77 are already fully covered by the program. At its February board meeting, the ACPL Foundation voted to create a committee dedicated to bringing the program to Allen County. Upon launch, Allen County would be the largest county in Indiana with the program. Nearly 900 Allen County families have already expressed interest in the program via Dolly Parton's Imagination Library website.

"Here at the ACPL, our children's services are second to none. I have complete confidence that when a child uses our library, they will leave with the foundation to be a lifelong reader. But equally important is the need for children to have books in their homes," said ACPL Executive Director Susan P. Baier. "We know that 1 in 5 young children do not have a book of their own and that's why I am so thrilled our Foundation wants to help us close that gap through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library!"

The State of Indiana is also putting its support behind the project through Governor Eric Holcomb's 2023 Next Level Agenda. According to imaginationlibrary.com, the State allotted \$6 million as part of "a community share to expand the program to every zip code in the state."

"I learned from a very young age that reading is the key to education and opportunity," Gov. Holcomb said. "The ability to read can transport children to places they have never been before and open doors they never knew existed. By making Dolly Parton's Imagination Library available in every zip code, we are giving Hoosier children

the tools they need for literary success."

In order to make the program a reality, the ACPL Foundation must raise \$100,000 to fund the launch and sustain the first two years. Today's press conference kicked off a fundraising campaign to encourage donations of any amount to the project.

Among the first to donate to the project were Baier and former ACPL Executive Director Jeff Krull who led the library for 28 years.

"I dedicated my career to serving the families of Allen County and when I was given the opportunity to continue that work by donating to this project, I knew I wanted to be involved," said Krull. "There is nothing this library, and this community, cannot do when it rallies around a common goal. It's just like the little engine in Dolly's favorite book says - 'I think we can, I think we can!' But for this project, I'll go the little engine one better: I KNOW we can!"

Fundraising will continue until the goal is met. The community is invited to make donations at acpl.info/imaginationlibrary or by visiting any ACPL branch.

Gerber placed 22nd in the discus as well with a distance of 116-8.

New Haven senior Makenna Dommer placed 11th in the discus on a throw of 129-9 and Leo freshman Rowyn Norris recorded a time of 5:13.80 to take 24th in the 1600 run.

## IHSAA HOLDS GIRLS STATE TRACK MEET

The Indiana High School Athletic Association held its girls state track and field meet on Friday at Robert C. Haugh Track & Field Complex on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington with several athletes taking part.

Heritage senior Madilyn Scheumann placed 12th in the shot put with a toss of 40-6-3/4 while senior Maya Gerber took 19th place after a throw of 37-11-1/2.

Call or Email your classified ad today!  
419-258-2000  
info@westbendnews.net

## ANN'S BRIGHT BEGINNINGS DAYCARE TOUR RED ANGEL PIZZA



Ann's Bright Beginnings Preschool & Daycare recently toured Red Angel Pizza, where they got to make their very own pizzas! They learned so much about this local business and were treated so kindly! To sign your 3, 4 or 5 year old up for fall preschool, call 419-399-KIDS (5437) to get on the list. Shown here in back are worker Ava Foltz, Ariya Lockwood, Savannah Coil, Manager Rachael Price, Everett Wilhelm, Eli Hernandez, Worker Laurie Carnahan. In front are Wyatt Wilhelm, Levi Lockwood, Garrett Wilhelm and Johanna Federighi.

## 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

## PAULDING COUNTY WMEA RECYCLING

**New Schedule For Large Villages**  
**1st Weekend- Paulding , Fair Grounds**  
**2nd Weekend- Grover Hill , VFW**  
**3rd Weekend- Payne , (Paved lot east of Homier's)**  
**4th Weekend- Antwerp , (13744 CR 43, sewer treatment plant)**  
**New Schedule For Smaller Villages**  
**3rd Wednesday of each month**  
 Cecil 11:30-12:00 (Fire Station)  
 Junction 12:30-1:00 (Catholic Church)  
 Haviland/Scott 1:30-2:00 (SR 114 at Haviland Park)  
 Latty/Briceton 2:30-3:00 (Latty Park)  
**For Questions Call : 419-399-3630**  
**or Visit : www.pauldingcountywmea.com**

*Editor's Note: We here at the West Bend News print all "Letters to the Editor" because we believe that everyone has a Constitutional right to freedom of the speech and press. In saying that, we do not hold agreement with the content that is printed. We are just the messengers. However, any letters that attack a person rather than the discussion will not be printed. The name of the person who wrote the letter is placed at the end of each article. To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 1000 words, and you must provide a name along with a phone number and/or address to confirm validity of content for our readership area. You can respond or submit a new letter by email, USPS or fax.*

*Responses need to be received by Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. to be considered for the next publication. We reserve the right to edit for length, content and worthiness.*

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Antwerp, OH 45813*

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**COMMUNIST DRIVEN DEMOCRATS**

This letter needs a little history lesson for our liberal Democrat friends. I concluded this from all I've heard and observed over many years telling me Democrats are less likely to believe in truth and God, thus are aiding in America's destruction and funeral. Based on Washington Democrats, America is doomed. I view them as atheists with great hate for us

Christian conservatives without even knowing us. It wasn't always like today. During my first 25 years and long before, Democrats believed in God and were good Christians. Deterioration became obvious after the 1950's when they caught the infectious ACLU bug. They got the taste of power and money but like an alcoholic had to have more. After power and money became their gods, they needed total control.

Check the following before voting. In addition to liberals changing history books and telling lies, they control much of major media who then censor conservatives and Christians. I myself was even censored.

By now most of you readers know my feeling toward those attacking my God or my America. I speak out the best I can without lies. I started with two area papers plus I've had letters in Fort Wayne, Dayton and Greenville papers. I started in 2001 with about 80% of what I sent being printed. Many agreed with me and a few didn't. I even went to our county sheriff on two occasions.

One of the papers was sold to a liberal organization and I was only able to get one letter printed in a whole year. That upset me but as with all upsets happening to you, There is a good size to all bad things. That is when I discovered West Bend News.

If you have not already started preparing for our 2024 election you had better quit procrastinating. If you are a CNN follower, try News Max for a refreshing change. Forget who you like and don't like. Look only at what they can and do for America. I don't

like how Trump talks, but I place him far above anyone in the Democrat party. I probably don't care for his language because of me turning 88 in July, I have never uttered a single swear word.

Why did our very liberal Democrat seated Supreme Court declare separation of church and state? Are you aware that it was a communist organization that requested it? Why did our Democrat controlled three branches of government agree with it and then remove prayer, God and Bibles from schools? Democrats caught a bug that I will explain later as to why they approved this communist request.

Our first 100 colleges like Harvard, Yale and Princeton were started and run by Christians for about 200 years. It was about then that the ACLU epidemic bug that frequently brings death. They just don't like Christians.

This dangerous death bug originated in the 1930's. Its formal name is Humanist Manifesto and was created by the anti-God, anti-America ACLU lawyers.

More than once I've said this crooked Democrat party would stoop to any low level to win this 2024 election. I hope you are aware that should they win, your safe America will end up being like Russia and China.

America's day to day life will be just like this unconstitutional sham Democrat trial of President Trump. You will wish you were in Hell before they finish you off. It's like they're inoculated with the ACLU bug. They will take away your freedom of speech just as that communist style did to Trump. I never dreamed an American judge could be such a fake as that New York judge was. But as I say, this Democrat party probably took their lessons in Russia. They will do it to you if they win 2024.

Are you aware that Democrat Senator Schumer publicly "threatened" our supreme court? He said they would regret it if they reversed Roe vs Wade. They did reverse it and right away the names and addresses of the conservative justices were made public. Some of them were then threatened.

Schumer also said our present supreme court isn't normal. That is because liberals have controlled this court for so long that they thought it belonged only to them. President Trump had to seat three justices because of death or retirement. Today Democrats

talk of enlarging the court so that they can always reign over it.

Why did Biden authorize the use of "deadly force" to raid Trump's family home? I will answer that for you. It was part of their big picture to make Trump look bad.

Why is this anti-God Biden administration taking the Horowitz Freedom Center in a sham court like they did with Trump? It's only because this Freedom Center is basically Christian and they hate us Christians. This group's prime purpose is to expose crooks and crooked deals where they find them. They must have gotten too close to some top Democrats.

Are you aware of the whole Biden family being millionaires because of communist China buying them off? I believe people make good sense when they call them "The Biden Crime Family."

Why did Biden remove our southern border and invite 10 - 12 million illegals in? I say he wants to bankrupt America, making it easier for their communistic government take over. Time to wake up and see these Democrats for what they are. A people without borders isn't a nation.

—Richard Mastin  
Hicksville, OH

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in You? (1 Corinthians 3:16)

God wants all of us to take care of our bodies and our minds from conception to death. I have had a good experience with the Glucose Goddess Method in having a clearer mind, having more energy, better digestive health, no more glucose spikes, losing weight and better concentration.

—Judy McCalla  
Respect for Life  
Hicksville, OH

**FINANCIAL TIPS FOR WIDOWS & WIDOWERS**

Losing a spouse is one of the most painful experiences anyone can have. Unfortunately, widows and widowers have to deal with more than just the emotional trauma — they also must consider a range of financial issues. If you've recently been widowed, what financial moves should you consider?

For starters, don't rush into any major decisions. If you're still in the grieving process, you are unlikely to be in the best shape to make significant choices affecting your finances and your life.

But once you feel ready to look at your situation objectively and make appropriate choices, consider the following steps:

- Review your finances. Look at your entire financial picture — your assets, investments, debts and income. If you and your spouse had communicated well about your finances, and you shared decisions, you hopefully won't encounter any big surprises. But if your spouse was the partner who mostly handled financial matters, you may need to get up to speed quickly on what you have and what you owe. And if your spouse had provided a large amount of your household income, you will also need to determine what changes you may need to make to your lifestyle.

- Address insurance issues. If you will receive a death benefit from your spouse's insurance policy, what will you do with the money? It may prove helpful in funding your own retirement or meeting other financial goals. But you'll also want to be clear about what other beneficiaries, such as your children, might receive. And while you're looking at insurance, you also might want to look at your own policies — do you need to change beneficiaries?

- Review your Social Security options. If you are at least 60 and you were married at least nine months, you may be entitled to Social Security survivor benefits. (If you remarry before age 60, you typically cannot receive survivor benefits, but

you can reinstate them if this subsequent marriage ends.) The amount of your survivor's benefits depends on your age and the age of your deceased spouse. You can't claim your deceased spouse's benefits along with your own retirement benefits, so if you qualify for survivor and retirement benefits, you'll receive the larger amount. Depending on your situation, you might come out ahead by delaying your retirement benefits, giving them the chance to grow, while you accept survivor benefits. For more details on receiving Social Security benefits, visit the Social Security Administration's website at [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov).

- Review your estate plans. The death of a spouse can certainly affect your family's estate plans. So, it's a good idea to review these plans to see what changes, if any, need to be made. When conducting this review, you'll benefit from working with an estate-planning professional.

Finally, keep in mind that you don't have to go it alone during this difficult time. If you're already working with a financial professional, they can help. If you aren't currently working with one, now might be the time to start. By looking at your finances and your family situation holistically, a financial professional can provide guidance that can help ease the stress you are naturally feeling.

Few events are as sad as losing a spouse. But when you feel ready, start taking the steps necessary to continue forward on your life's journey.

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

*Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

**READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS**

**OHIO LOCATIONS**

**Antwerp:** Antwerp Pharmacy, H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Village Hardware, Small Town Bliss  
**Bryan:** Chief, Town&Country, Walmart, Bryan Hospital, CVS, 4 Seasons, Dollar General  
**Cecil:** 127 Maramart, Paulding Pancake House

**Payne:** Village office, Panchos, Vancrest of Payne, Dollar General, Lichy's Barber Shop, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Puckerbrush Pizza, Maramart, Library  
**Sherwood:** Post Office, Village Food Emporium, Sherwood Bank, Sherwood Library  
**Scott:** Scott Post Office  
**Van Wert:** CVS, Ace Hardware, Chief, Walmart, Orchard Tree

**INDIANA LOCATIONS**

**Continental:** Okuley's Pharmacy, Dollar General, ACE Hardware  
**Defiance:** Newmar's Marathon Carryout, Smoke Stop, Chief, Dollar General (Clinton St), Junction Dollar General, Senior Center, Cabbage Patch, Advanced Auto, Marathon Main Stop, Rite Aid, Defiance Public Library

**Fort Wayne:** Hahn Systems, Walmart, Walgreens, Goodwill (Maysville Rd.), Golden Years Nursing Home, Golden Years Assisted Living  
**Grabill:** Save-A-Lot, Grabill Hardware, Grabill Country Sales

**Harlan:** Marathon, Harlan Donuts, Dollar General, Harlan Cafe, Antwerp Exchange Bank  
**Hoagland:** Mel's Town Market, Hoagland Pizza Pub  
**Milan Center:** Milan Center Feed & Grain

**Edgerton:** Kaiser Supermarket, USPS, Utilities Dept, H&W Napa, Marathon Main Stop, Marathon (East)  
**Grover Hill:** N&N Quick Stop, GH Branch Library, Dollar General  
**Hicksville:** Sailors, Vancrest, Shell Station, Citgo, Marathon, Dollar General, Subway, Senior Center, Village offices, Johnson Memorial Library, Red Angel Pizza, McDonalds,  
**Ney:** Marathon  
**Oakwood:** Oakwood Market, The Oakleaf, Dollar General, Cooper Library, Landing Strip  
**Paulding:** Stykemain, Chief, Corner Market, Integrity Ford, Holly, Wood & Vine, Napa Do It Best, Bargain Bin, Maramart, Dollar General, Dairy Queen, Rite Aid, Ace Hardware, Gorrell Bros, Courthouse, VFW Post 587, PC Sheriff's Office, Board of Elections, Gardens of Paulding, PCH, Kwik Mart, PC Carnegie Library

**Monroeville:** Mel's Deli, Phillips 66, Village of Heritage Assisted Living, Dollar General  
**New Haven:** ACPL Library, McDonalds, Ken's Meat Market, Paterson Hardware, Crumback Chevrolet, CVS, Clips, NH Bakery, Chamber of Commerce (Old City Hall), Richard's  
**Woodburn:** Clip-N-Tan, Woodburn Hardware, Woodburn Xpress, Country Oasis, Financial Partners, Heckley Automotive, S&V Liquors, Post Office, Dollar General, Phoenix Manor, Chop Shop, ACPL Library, Willies Cafe II

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# ANTWERP DAYS KICKS OFF THE SUMMER FESTIVAL SEASON!



Antwerp Days parade kicked off the morning on June 1st with a beautiful sunny sky. There were over 20 entries in this year's parade of Summer Fun.



Gem of the Year was presented to this year's recipient during the Opening Ceremonies of Antwerp Days. Presenting the award is Antwerp Chamber President, Christy DeLong to the 2024 Antwerp Gem of the Year: Lofton Brown. (see article in last week's newspaper to learn all about Lofton & why he was chosen as this year's gem.)

## WARRIORS TAKE FIFTH IN SECTIONAL GOLF 'MOORE, DALMAN ADVANCE TO REGIONALS'

Homestead, Fort Wayne Bishop Dwenger and Blackhawk Christian claimed the top three spots in the IH-SAA Golf Sectional at Chestnut Hills Golf Club Friday in advancing to regional action.

Individually, Woodlan's Mason Moore, Heritage's Jake Dalman and Fort Wayne Bishop Luers' Alex Schenkel punched their tickets to the regional tournament as the top trio of players not on teams advancing.

Homestead won the tournament with a 294 while

Bishop Dwenger finished second at 327 and Blackhawk Christian took third with a 340.

Bishop Luers just missed moving on with a 348 followed by Woodlan (377) and Heritage (395) while New Haven took 11th with a 429.

Dalman topped the Patriots with an 81 and Noah Taylor posted a 99 for Heritage. Completing the list of players for the Patriots were Alex Zell (107), Kobe Meyer (108) and Brandon Burnham (110).

Moore led the way for the Warriors with an 84 and Dylan Carvey just missed advancing after finishing with an 85. Connor Roth totaled a 92 for Woodlan and Grant

Graber recorded a 116.

Jared Suarez led the Bulldogs with a 95 while Patryk Johnson carded a 100 and Robert Castro chipped in a 111. Adrian Ramirez finished with a 113 and Lucas Wilson posted a 121 for New Haven.

## BOYS TRACK WRAPS UP STATE MEET

Saturday, June 1, saw the high school boys track season come to a close with the Indiana High School Athletic Association state meet held at the Robert C. Haugh Track and Field Complex on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington.

Nine local athletes wrapped up a very successful spring sports season in the meet.

Heritage senior Logan Teichman recorded a throw of 49-4-1/2 to finish 18th in the shot put.

New Haven junior Kevion Mitchell took 24th in the 110 hurdles after crossing the finish line in 15.60 seconds with junior teammate Aaron Hoffer taking 14th in the 300 hurdles with a time of 39.98 seconds.

The Bulldog 1600 relay team of sophomore Bryan Garcia, junior Aaron Hoffer, senior Alex Hoffer and Mitchell recorded a time of 3:29.49 in finishing 26th.

Leo also took part in the 1600 relay as the quartet of junior Drew Sauder, senior Jaydon Steidinger, senior Fernando Flores and junior Nolan Miller was 23rd in 3:27.84.

Miller placed 15th in the 400 dash with a time of 49.61 seconds and Steidinger was 22nd in the 1600 run after posting a time of 4:30.25.

## RAIDERS SWEEP RAMS IN ACME ACTION

Wayne Trace opened the ACME portion of the baseball season with a doubleheader sweep of Green Meadows Conference rival Tinora Friday night at the home of the Raiders.

The red, white and blue used a two-hit, 11-strikeout performance by senior-to-be Conner Davis on the mound in blanking Tinora 2-0 in the opener of the evening. In the nightcap, Brady Miller

tossed three innings and Wayne Trace held off the Rams 6-4 in a five-inning affair.

Game one saw the Raiders strike for all three runs in the first to pick up the victory.

Tyson Gerber had a single, scored once and drove in one run for the red, white and blue with Caden Sinn doubling twice and driving in two runs. Carter Clemens and Davis added a single apiece for the Raiders with Brody Rosswurm and Jack Schoenauer also touching home plate once each.

Ayden Moser and Josh Lieb each had a single for the Rams.

Logan Stein took the loss, pitching six innings giving up five hits, three unearned runs and two walks while striking out ten.

In game two, the Raiders plated two runs each in the third and fourth innings to record the 6-4 win.

Miller picked up the win for the red, white and blue, fanning three while allowing two three hits, two earned runs and two walks.

Brody Rosswurm pitched 1-1/3 innings in relief with a pair of strikeouts while Micah Sinn garnered the save, throwing the final 2/3 inning.

Cooper Replogle took the loss for the Rams, allowing five hits, four earned runs and five walks while striking out one in 2-2/3 innings. Kaiden Massengale finished the contest for Tinora, striking out one.

Tyler Head singled once and scored twice with Carter Clemens singling and scoring once. Tyson Gerber and Dylan Coffman both singled and drove in one run for Wayne Trace while Caden Sinn doubled, scored once and picked up a run batted in.

Jack Schoenauer and Blake Osborn both touched home plate for the Raiders with Rosswurm recording a run batted in.

Owen Ferrell finished with a trio of singles for the Rams while driving in two runs. Trenton DeLarber added a single with Ayden Moser scoring twice for the green and white. Josh Lieb and Nolan Rittenhouse also scored for Tinora.

## PAULDING HIGH SCHOOL 4<sup>th</sup> NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2023-24

### SENIORS

**4.0:** Casey Agler, Drake Ankney, Elli Barton, Kobe Foor, Joshua Funez, Ronnie Goodwin, Aiden Herman, Mattie Hirschy, Jamy Hunt, Maci Kauser, Brayden Kingen, Allyson Merriman, Zachary Metcalf, Kelcie Pack, Ashlyn Paisley-Eaton, Jocelynn Parrett, Trinity Salazar, Denis Santillan-Rodriguez, Tyler Schlatter, Adam Stahl, Riley Stork

**3.5-3.99:** Harley Collins, Hunter Coutts, Madison Dunmire, Jesus Estrada, Landrey Fitzgerald, Vanessa Garcia, Meagan Hirschy, Sammie Jones, Lucas Kennedy, Sarah Lewis, Layla Logan, Wesley Ludwig, Tytus Manz, Charles McClure, Patrick Paholak, Esther Rocha, Morgan Szurminski, Evalyn Wallen-Henderson

**3.0-3.49:** Chloe Boyd, Emily McCrory, Raeden Smith

### JUNIORS

**4.0:** Kiara Adams,

## TABLE & CHAIRS TO BE RAFFLED BY PC HABITAT FOR HUMANITY



Paulding County Habitat for Humanity will be hosting a Raffle for a beautiful hand-crafted hardwood table and chairs set. This table and chairs set was made from an elm tree that was donated by Etzler Family Farm located in Defiance, Ohio to the Tinora FFA's Forestry class.

The tree was cut down, milled, and dried by the 2022-2023 forestry class: Nathan Boyd, Preston Burk, Jason DeWyse, Lucas Gerschutz, Dominik Mills, Bethany Openlander, Hailey Schultz,

Cole Sheaks, Trent Wiemken, and Mr. Bryan Etzler. The class designed the table and jointed, planed, shaped by all of these young craftsmen.

Josh Bishop finished the assembly during the 2023-2024 school year.

This table and chair set was then donated to the Paulding County Habitat for Humanity to be used to raise funds for future builds. Contact Laurie Lucas at 419-789-8902 or any Habitat board member for more information.

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY ANNUAL CLINT VANCE MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING: HOLE IN ONE



Stykemain Chevrolet sponsored the Hole in One contest for the Clint Vance Memorial Golf Outing benefitting Habitat for Humanity of Paulding County held at The Auglaize Golf Course. Pictured is Jay Dachenhaus of Stykemain Chevrolet and Michelle Ferguson, manager of Auglaize Golf Course. The golf outing was held on Saturday, June 1st.

Matthew Bail, Lucas Beckman, Elizabeth Dotterer, Ximena Enrigue-Roldan, Grace Goyings, Jocelynn Hawk, Emily Keezer, Jalyn Klopfenstein, Curtis Langsdorf, Giovanni Linares, Peyton Manz, Claire Miller, Marley Parrett, Emma Porter, Ashley Rickels, Brooklyn Schlatter, Dominic Stahl, Cully Thompson, Ethan Warner, Jack Woods

**3.5-3.99:** Brooklynn Bakle, Alexander Baughman, Aameah Carr, David Dulaney, Kaitlyn Goings, Brooke Kilgore, Christiana Martinez, Samuel Reinhard, Hopeful Rose, Brandon Schroeder, David Slawson, Ameriona Stiltner, Kadence Thomas

**3.0-3.49:** Ryan Cantu, Allison Carnahan, Anna Clemens, Gavin Coil,

Makenna Dunham, Carter Evans, Courtney Good, Piper Kochel, Aniyah Sajuan, Alexis Wharry

### SOPHOMORES

**4.0:** Xander Bartley, Lilian Daniels, Hayden Gill, Jacob Harris, Hunter Harwell, Jared Manz, Trenton Manz, Aleah Matty, Tessa Metcalf, Abigail Panches, Thad Schneider, Jack Schweller, Shelleyner Shepherd, Laila Stiltner, Adan Zacarias

**3.5-3.99:** Grady Barton, Ingrid Bautista Salto, Bailey Bennett, Olivia Breckler, Lucy Breier, Makayla Carr, Isaac Coutts, Landen Danberry, Jackson Griffith, Hannah Griffiths, Addison Hunt, Colten Hunt, Molly Iler, Damien Iliff, Brooklyn King, Cole Kochel, Layla Kremer, Jackson Laker, Isabelle Lamb, Clayton Manz,

(Continued from Page 1)

individually in the 200 dash and the Raider 1600 relay team of Eli Treece, Ben Gurney, Hudson Myers and Cole Morehead crossed the finish line in seventh place with a time of

3:29.00. Raider senior Landen Foltz recorded a throw of 143-10 to grab 15th place in the discus and red, white and Morehead finished 13th in the 800 run after recording a time of 1:59.10.

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Renee McCabe, Addison Pease, Hope Peters, Luke Ray, Blake Rhonehouse, Rileigh Sanders, Xander Schwab, Addison Shull, Logan Winke

**3.0-3.49:** Kaitlynn Breedlove, Teegan Cameron, Grace Cantu, Katelynn Gersbers, Alfonso Gonzales, Gerald Hartzell, Samantha Leal, Kellen Manz, Miguel Martinez, Emma McCray, Leticia Mendez, Dylan Perez, Adam PUNCHES, Madison Ramey, **FRESHMEN**

**4.0:** Anija Acevedo, Braylon Barnes, Remington Borroff, Isabella Burtch, Max Daeger, Landon Dasher, Kayleigh Dunham, Jayla Griffith, Alexis Hankinson, Reina Kleman, Mariah Klopfenstein, Mackenzie Leatherman, Esther Lemieux, Camdyn Manz, Megan Manz, Myrriah Manz, Vivienne Myers, Estie Pease, Noah Pollock, Lucy Porter, Leonel Reyes, Tori Schlatter, Audrey Stoller, Darcy Taylor

**3.5-3.99:** Destiny Aldred, Jolene Branham, Avery Cooper, Silas Foltz, Esperanza Kline, Kate Manz, Cadence Schwab, Lailah Smith, Makayla Spears, Lily Speelman, Rj Wirts

**3.0-3.49:** Trenton Bail, Domanick Bullinger, Hadassa Cantu, Madalyn Dierksheide, Maleigha Evans, Quinlyn Gonzales, Kyra Jackman, Brody Lindsey, Olivia Mccrory, Achilles Mead, Eli Pessefall, Evan Petrey, Jasmine Smith, Janee Tousley

**LOCAL STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY**

TIFFIN, Ohio (June 6, 2024) - The following students are members of the graduating Class of 2024 at Heidelberg University who graduated on May 12.

A total of 176 undergraduate students received bachelor's degrees and 102 graduate students received degrees in counseling, business administration and athletic training.

Graduating senior Kelsey Stanfield was selected to represent her classmates in delivering the student Commencement speech. Madison Sharp, who received her master's degree in Athletic Training, represented graduate students. The class also heard from Sylvia Taylor, Chief Human Resources Officer for SafeGuard International, who gave the keynote address titled "You You're your Degree ... Now What?"

Founded in 1850, Heidelberg offers 26 majors, 26 minors and 10 pre-professional programs, awarding the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees, as well as master's degrees in Counseling, Business Administration and Athletic Training. Heidelberg has been consistently ranked by U.S. News & World Report as a top college in the Midwest, as a "best value" for providing a high-quality education at an affordable price and as a "top performer" on the Social Mobility list. For more information visit the website at www.heidelberg.edu.

**ANTWERP, OH:** Siera Octaviano, Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and History, Summa Cum Laude

**DEFIANCE, OH:** Levi Ramirez, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology

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# THE LEFT TURN



Kalib Henry gets his first 410 win at Fremont. Action Photos Ohio.

**By: Ron Burt**  
Race fans you can log onto Ohio Sports Blitz on Facebook for more tracks, detailed information and pictures. I cover Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan tracks, asphalt and dirt. I have full updated coverage of The Dream at Eldora, Indiana USAC Midget Week, and Ohio Sprint Week.

Last week was a big night at Fremont Speedway. It was Hall of Fame night besides racing. Kalib Henry made a last lap, last corner pass to win his first ever 410 sprint car feature event at Fremont Speedway. Henry thought he had shown his hand too soon by passing Zeth Sabo with just four laps to go. Sabo, was running the bottom groove, drove back under in turns one and two and regained the lead and immediately went to the top side to block Henry. Entering the final set of turns on the last lap, Sabo went back to the bottom to try and get around a lapped car and Henry sailed across the top and it was a race to the finish line. Henry won by .123 seconds with Sabo coming in 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Cale Thomas, 4<sup>th</sup>, Cap Henry, and 5<sup>th</sup> Trey Jacobs.

wins in 2024 at Attica, now has 50 career victories at Fremont Speedway. Zack Kramer took the initial lead in the 305 A-main with Paul Weaver, Stroup and Miller giving chase. Stroup had a nearly two second lead by lap seven when Miller, who started fifth, drove into second. Miller steadily chipped away at Stroup's lead and pounced on lap 15 and drove to the win over Stroup, Bryan Sebetto, Weaver and Kramer.



Brian Bergakker Takes care of business. CJ Photography

In the Truck feature, Shawn Valenti seemed to have things in control when a caution came out for debris with just two laps remaining. That put Jamie Miller right on the leader's rear bumper. On the restart Valenti went high and Miller low as they raced side by side to the white flag. Valenti, a four time truck champion at Fremont, nailed the top line in turns three and four on the final lap to score his 75th career win at Fremont over Jamie Miller, Keith Sorg, Dustin Keegan, and Dave Golembewski

The Fremont Speedway Hall of Fame inductees included drivers Clay Corbitt, Bobby Clark, Bill Kraylek, Bobby Foster and Tom Beam with car owners Sharon Burmeister, Gary Heller and Dick "Soup" Sabo also inducted. Builders/mechanics being inducted were Rollie Alvers, Zane Scott and Lester Miller with lifetime contributors/supporters Joe Darr and Stan Barnes with Fort Ball Pizza Palace honored as the



Sawyer Stout wins at Flat Rock. Photo Credit: Weaverville Studios .com

Fremont, Ohio's Jamie Miller also used the high side of turns three and four to take the lead from Dustin Stroup in the 25-lap, 305 Sprint feature and sliced through heavy lapped traffic late to score his third win of the season in the division. Miller, also three

business inductee. The 350 Outlaw Super-modifieds ran at Flat Rock Speedway (Michigan), in the first ever Flat Rock Grand Prix. Sawyer Stout was the winner. The recent Midwest Modified Tour (UMP Type) at Berlin Raceway was won by Brian Bergakker. The opening night of Indiana Midget week was rained out at Circle City Raceway. Ryan Timms won the following night at Lawrenceburg Speedway. Until next week, keep your wheels down. Ron out!

## PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

### Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

**Jason Friend**, Antwerp, OH; Theft (2 counts); Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs waived

**Bethany Friend**, Antwerp, OH; Theft (2 counts); Case dismissed per state, without prejudice; Costs waived

**Ted A. Smith**, Huntington, IN; Seat belt/drive; Count B dismissed

**Nick A. Hissong**, Harlan, IN; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Denver M. Greer**, Van Wert, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Adam J. Snipes**, Cloverdale, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**John M. Ratliff**, Paulding, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Tracy K. Lee**, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jason M. Chester**, Antwerp, OH; Driving under suspension; Case dismissed at defendant's cost

**Giovanni A. Mercado Nieves**, Paulding, OH; Driving under suspension/non pay judgement; Count A dismissed

**Staffan C. Townsend**, Maple Heights, OH; Highway tax; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Dominique G. Patterson**, Indianapolis, IN; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Ziyad D. Kadhim**, San Antonio, TX; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Brandon A. Moser**, Bryan, OH; Breaking and entering, Preliminary hearing waived, Bond reduced to \$15,000 with 10%, all other bond conditions continued, Case shall be bound over to the Paulding Common Pleas Court; Theft, Bound over to Common Pleas; Flee/elude, Bound over to Common Pleas

**William M. Ramseyer**, Ossian, IN; Possession of marijuana; Case dismissed per state; Costs waived

**Andrew D. Plumley**, Portland, IN; Possession of marijuana; Case dismissed per state; Costs waived

**Jeffery C. Spoor**, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Tiffany A. Scott**, Holgate, OH; Driving/texting, guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

**Chance M. Elliott**, Grover Hill, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Ronald L. Kline**, Defi-

# HID'N TREASURES RIBBON CUTTING



The Paulding Chamber welcomed new business Hidn Treasures to the Paulding business community on Tuesday, June 4th with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Pictured above is the Hidn Treasures family with Heather Sherburn cutting the ribbon surrounded by supporting community members. Welcome Hidn Treasures!

## PAULDING FFA OFFICER TEAM ATTENDS OFFICER RETREAT IN HOCKING HILLS



Pictured left to right is the 2024-2025 FFA Officers: Tori Schlatter, Blake Rhonehouse, Johnny Lipps, Jalyne Klopfenstein, Brooklyn Schlatter, Addy Hunt, Brooke Kilgore, Myrriah Manz and Grace Goyings before their team building activity.

### By: Addy Hunt Paulding FFA Reporter

The Paulding FFA officer team this year consists of President Grace Goyings, Vice President Jalyne Klopfenstein, Secretary Brooklyn Schlatter, Treasurer Brooke Kilgore, Reporter Addy Hunt, Sentinel Tori Schlatter, Student Advisor Blaker Rhonehouse, Parliamentarian Johnny Lipps, and Chaplain Myrriah Manz, along with Ag Education Teacher and FFA advisor Mrs. Staci Miller, and FFA advisor Jen Bradford.

On May 28th-30th, the Paulding FFA officer team went to a cabin in Hocking Hills, Ohio for their officer retreat. Officer retreat provides a time for the students

to get to know each other and work better as a team. Along with fun activities, during this time, the budget and the yearly calendar are made so the FFA is prepared for the upcoming year.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the team performed many team-building exercises to help strengthen their relationships with each other. On Wednesday, the team also got to go kayaking as a group. They also took some time to develop the Program of Activities (POA) for the year.

The team discussed the goals they had for the chapter and some new ideas to help the chapter grow with their FFA advisors. They were also able to work on new ideas for

the National Chapter application, which they hope to implement this year.

On the last day, the team talked about their favorite parts of the retreat and some things they had learned. Then it was time to head back home. The team learned a lot of new skills, bonded during this trip, and are ready for an exciting new year full of Agriculture Education, Career Development Events (CDEs), Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs), community service projects, and FFA!

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

ance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Trace H. Brister**, Willshire, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Ashleigh D. Bugher**, Madison Height, MI; Child restraint; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**David J. McCarty**, Union City, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Garrett O. Zinser**, Defiance, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Nathan M. Schrenk**, Antwerp, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Isaac P. Yenser**, Antwerp, OH; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jonathan D. Dawson**, Haviland, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Jesse R. Murphy**, Poplar Bluff, MO; Permit violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Christy M. Sarka**, Paulding, OH; Seat belt/pass; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

**Alyssa R. Aldred**, Huntington, IN; Marked lanes, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Distracted driving, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant; Seat belt/drive, Guilty, Case was waived by defendant

**Emily P. Leatherman**, Paulding, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant



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# 2024 BUCKLE UP – BATTER UP: 13 “SAVED BY THE BELT” RECIPIENTS RECOGNIZED DURING THIS YEAR’S EVENT



The Findlay and Bucyrus districts of the Ohio State Highway Patrol teamed up with the Toledo-Lucas County Health Department (TLCHD), AAA and the Toledo Mud Hens for the 2024 Buckle Up – Batter Up “Saved by the Belt” event at Fifth Third Field.

The “Saved by the Belt” Club is a joint effort by the Ohio Department of Public Safety and the Ohio State Highway Patrol, designed to recognize people who have benefited from their decision to wear safety belts.

“Those who were recognized before tonight’s game were involved in traffic crashes here in northwest Ohio – and in each instance, their choice to buckle up saved them from sustaining life-threatening injuries,” said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. “Thank you to all of our partners for your involvement in tonight’s event. The “Saved by the Belt” program has proven to be a very successful way to recognize people who have benefited from the life-saving benefits of safety belt usage.”

During a pregame ceremony on Saturday, 13 people joined the “Saved by the Belt” Club before a game between the Toledo Mud Hens and the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Rail-Raiders. The recipients were saved from sustaining life-threatening injuries in northwest Ohio crashes due to their decisions to wear safety belts. Each inductee was presented a “Saved by the Belt” certificate signed by Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Andy Wilson and Colonel Charles A. Jones, and Patrol superintendent. In addition to the certificate, they also received a “Saved by the Belt” commemorative license plate.

Those honored as the newest members of Ohio’s “Saved by the Belt” Club include:

- Andrew R. Ellerbrock, 31, Ottawa. The crash occurred on April 25 on County Road M at Old State Route 65 in Ottawa, Putnam County.
- Nicholas D. Marvet, 59, Toledo. The crash occurred on April 17 on U.S. 23 near milepost 5 in Pitt Township, Wyandot County.
- Angela K. Roth, 52, West Unity. The crash occurred on March 11 on U.S. 6 at U.S. 127 in Pulaski Township, Williams County.
- Caleb T. Kinney, 16, Bellevue. The crash occurred on January 14 on state Route 269 near milepost 3 in Thompson Township, Seneca County.
- Kathy A. Albert, 61, and Dennis L. Albert, 74, both of Greenwich. The crash occurred on December 23 on U.S. 250 near milepost 15 in Fitchville Township, Huron County.
- Dominiqu C. S. Kinnamon, 18, La Rue. The crash occurred on April 27 on County Road 37 near state Route 203 in Big Island Township, Marion County.
- Kelly A. Miller, 48, Perrysburg. The crash occurred on May 3 on U.S. 23 near milepost 4 in Pleasant Township, Marion County.
- Jonathon D. Barnes, 36, and Jonah W. Barnes, 9, both

of Payne. The crash occurred on February 6 on U.S. 24 near milepost 19 in Emerald Township, Paulding County.

• John M. Maxey, 74, and Judith A. Maxey, 74, both of Bowling Green. The crash occurred on December 12 on state Route 25 at Sugar Ridge Road in Center Township, Wood County.

Prior to the game, the inductees were recognized on the field and had a group photo taken. Troopers presented the colors and Trooper Jerome A. Thomas sang the National Anthem. “Saved by the Belt” award recipient Jonah W. Barnes, 9, Payne, TLCHD Deputy Health Commissioner Shannon Jones and Trooper Casimir A. Von Sacken, Findlay District Trooper of the Year, threw out ceremonial first pitches. In addition to the event, “Teddy Trooper” visited with children during the game, the Cleveland Police Historical Society and Museum in partnership with the Ohio State Highway Patrol Retirees’ Association displayed vintage cruisers outside the stadium and a Patrol bagpiper played.

A Quick Click Challenge public safety announcement about safety belts from Lieutenant Rustun K. Schack, Toledo Post, and Muddy, Toledo Mud Hens, can be found here.

Data from 2023 shows 472 people in Ohio were killed in traffic crashes where a safety belt was available, but not in use. This means 60% of those traffic fatalities with a safety belt available were not wearing it at the time of their crash. Of the lives lost across the state, 84 were on northwest Ohio roadways.

serve as a visual reminder to remember our veterans who bravely fought to protect our freedoms,” said Klopfenstein. “We owe our service men and women a debt that can never be truly repaid. May God bless our fallen heroes and military members at home and abroad.” The measure awaits a bill number and committee assignment.

## KLOPFENSTEIN INTRODUCES LEGISLATION HONORING PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS



Klopfenstein (R-Haviland) today introduced legislation that honors service members who received the Purple Heart.

A portion of U.S. 24 to the Paulding County Line will be designated as the “Paulding County Purple Heart Memorial Highway.” Purple Heart recipients are service members who have been wounded or killed while in the line of duty.

“As we honor our service members during Military Appreciation Month, I wanted to introduce legislation that will

serve as a visual reminder to remember our veterans who bravely fought to protect our freedoms,” said Klopfenstein. “We owe our service men and women a debt that can never be truly repaid. May God bless our fallen heroes and military members at home and abroad.” The measure awaits a bill number and committee assignment.

## KLOPFENSTEIN INTRODUCES ROAD NAMING LEGISLATION HONORING VETERANS

State Representative Roy

Klopfenstein (R-Haviland) today introduced road naming legislation that will honor the sacrifices made by veterans.

In recognition of their service, a portion of U.S. 30 to the Van Wert County Line will be designated as the “Van Wert County Veteran’s Memorial Highway.”

“Ohio is home to more than 830,000 former service members – the sixth-largest population of veterans in the United States,” said Klopfenstein. “We are thankful for those who answered the call to serve. Introducing this legislation is one way to show appreciation to our military population.”

The measure awaits a bill number and committee assignment.

## YELLOW JACKETS POST WIN OVER WT

Wayne Trace hit the road Tuesday night for a non-league baseball game at Division II power Perrysburg with the host Yellow Jackets recording an 8-3 victory.

A two-run double by Kyle Forrer put the Raiders in front 2-0 in the top of the first before Perrysburg responded.

The Yellow Jackets scored a quartet of runs in the third, highlighted by a run-scoring double from Connor Kessinger and a solo home run by Matt Hubbard.

Perrysburg plated three more runs in the fourth to extend the margin to 7-2 before a Cooper Wenzlick run-scoring single plated Cale Winans to get the Raiders within 7-3 in the fifth.

Kessinger then completed the game’s scoring with a sacrifice fly in the bottom of the sixth to wrap up the 8-3 Yellow Jacket victory.

Trent Bezek and Hubbard both recorded two hits for Perrysburg with Bezek scoring three runs and Brady Zilles touched home plate twice. Kessinger drove in three runs for the Yellow Jackets while Hubbard picked up two runs batted in.

Tucker Antoine, Breven Anderson, Cale Winans, Cooper Wenzlick and Kyle Forrer each finished with one hit for the Raiders.

Winans scored twice and Anderson touched home plate once.

Antoine suffered the loss for the red, white and blue, allowing two hits and a pair of walks while striking out one. Conner Davis and Brady Miller also pitched in relief for Wayne Trace.

## The West Bend News

# Sudoku Puzzle

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

Answers to “Sudoku puzzle on Page 11”

## MCCOLLEY HONORS OHSAA DIVISION III WRESTLING STATE CHAMPIONS



Brodie Dominique and Senator Rob McColley

COLUMBUS - State Senator Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) honored Brodie Dominique, a senior at Archibald High School who won the 144-pound weight class and Adam Mattin, a sophomore at Delta High School, who won the 113-pound weight class in the OHSAA Division III Wrestling State Championship.

Dominique scored the only points he would need with a takedown after 50 seconds into the first period. He scored 3-0 over his opponent to conclude his senior season with a record of 56-1. He will attend and wrestle at Michigan State University next year.

Mattin concluded his junior year winning his second state title and ending his season with a record of 45-2. This championship marks the eighth for the Mattin family.

“It is always a great honor to bring state champions to the Statehouse for some well-deserved recognition,” said McColley. “I wish both of these young men success in their future athletic and professional endeavors.”

Both of the athletes have been quick to acknowledge, although this is an individual sport their community, family, and teammates ultimately support them to reach their full potentials.

## NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF PAULDING COUNTY, OHIO

STATE OF OHIO, Plaintiff

vs. WILFREDO LEONEL AGURCIA PONCE: Address Unknown Defendant

TO: WILFREDO LEONEL AGURCIA PONCE

LAST KNOWN ADDRESS: UNKNOWN

Case No. CI 24 077

Please take notice that a complaint has been filed in the above-captioned action against Defendant, Wilfredo Leonel Agurcia Ponce, seeking a forfeiture of a 2004 Volkswagen Sedan (“Volkswagen”) with Vehicle Identification Number 9B WGR61J344042584 titled of Defendant, Wilfredo Leonel Agurcia Ponce.

You are required to answer in the above-captioned cause twenty-eight (28) days after the last

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2024 MAY 23 PM 12: 37

publication hereof, or a judgment granting forfeiture of the Volkswagen will be sought. Your answer should be filed with the Clerk of Courts, Courthouse, 15 N. Williams St. Paulding, Ohio 45879.

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

By: *Kay Petersen* Deputy

Respectively submitted,

*Joseph R. Burkard*

Joseph R. Burkard, (#0059106) Paulding County, Ohio Prosecuting Attorney 120 S. Walnut Street Paulding, Ohio 45879 419-399-8270

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## UNITED WAY OF DEFIANCE COUNTY RECEIVES DONATION FROM PREMIER BANK



Pictured left to right: Kenna Wagner, Market and CEC Director, United Way of Defiance County; Gwen Anderson, Office Manager, United Way of Defiance County; Abby Wolfrum, Executive Director, United Way of Defiance County and Jim Williams, EVP, Northern Market Area President, Premier Bank

Premier Bank recently donated a check to United Way of Defiance County for \$10,000. The funds will be used for the presenting sponsorship level of the 2024 United Way of Defiance County Hot Air Balloon Festival.

All funds raised at the family event will benefit the United Way of Defiance County's Community Engagement Center.

"The 10th Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival will be held on Saturday, August 3 at the Defiance County Airport. Flights are scheduled for Saturday morning and evening with an encore glow event at the end of the night. The annual event will also feature live music, kids' fun zone, delicious food, and the marketplace," explained Abby Wolfrum, Executive Director, United Way of Defiance County. "We're thankful to Premier Bank and all our sponsors and volunteers that make this event a success."

Each year we have about 5,000 attendees from around the region. We're looking forward to this year being even bigger."

"We are so proud to partner with the United Way of Defiance County to support local community initiatives such as the 10th Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival," said Trish Gelsomino, Foundation Giving Coordinator, Premier Bank. "Special events like the Hot Air Bal-

loon Festival bring the meaning of LIVE UNITED to life by raising funds that are used to recruit volunteers for local community events and collect donations for local food pantries and shelters right here in Defiance County."

For more information regarding United Way of Defiance County, please call 419-782-3510 or visit [UnitedWayDefiance.org](http://UnitedWayDefiance.org)\*

About Premier Bank Premier Bank, headquartered in Youngstown Ohio, operates 74 branches and 9 loan offices in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and

Pennsylvania and also serves clients through a team of wealth professionals dedicated to each community banking branch.

The holding company for Premier Bank is Premier Financial Corp. (Nasdaq: PFC), headquartered in Defiance, Ohio. For more information, visit the company's website at [YourPremierBank.com](http://YourPremierBank.com).

### PARKVIEW HEALTH PARTNERS WITH NATIONAL HHC ORG. TO ADVANCE CARE IN THE HOME

Parkview Health and CommonSpirit Health at Home have formed a new joint venture to provide home-based healthcare throughout northeast Indiana. The partnership, named Parkview Health at Home, launched on May 19.

Parkview, a leader in providing high-quality home care services, has formed this new partnership with CommonSpirit Health at Home, part of one of the nation's largest nonprofit health systems, to enhance services, build a stronger and more versatile organization and to expand home care offerings and value-based solutions.

"As demand for home health care continues to grow, Parkview has a vision to expand access to the high-quality care our communities deserve," said Dr. Greg Johnson, regional market president, Parkview Health.

Under the new joint venture, Parkview home health co-workers became CommonSpirit employees. All home health co-workers were offered roles with CommonSpirit or similar roles within other areas of Parkview. The majority accepted roles with CommonSpirit, and many were also offered an opportunity for advancement.

"Throughout the transition, both organizations worked hard to care for our

people and respect their preferences, such as schedules and work locations," added Dr. Johnson. "Change can be difficult, and we appreciate the flexibility and teamwork we've seen over the last few weeks. Our people truly make all the difference, and we look forward to serving our community with them as Parkview Health at Home."

The partnership enables the integration of CommonSpirit Health at Home's state-of-the-art electronic medical record system, Homecare Homebase, and their successful chronic disease management programs.

"Parkview Health and CommonSpirit Health at Home share common core, organizational values and are highly aligned around long-term strategies to expand access to care in the home," said CommonSpirit Health at Home interim president and CEO, Trisha Crissman. "Both organizations will partner together as we align our strengths to home health care services to care for more people in need within the community."

### DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION GRANT: CHP



Congratulations to Community Health Professionals (CHP) for their recent grant of \$3,500 awarded from the DAF Community Fund. This grant money will be used for grief bags that will be distributed at Grief Camp for children who have lost loved ones. This grant was given as a part of the Defiance Area Foundation grant cycle which ended in March. Pictured representing the grant are (L to R) Rita Kissner - Defiance Area Foundation Grants Committee member and Brent Tow - Community Health Professionals President and CEO.

### DEFIANCE FOUNDATION GRANT: DEFIANCE DEVELOPMENT & VISITOR BUREAU



Pictured are (L to R) Terry Melton - Defiance Area Foundation Board of Trustees Secretary and Kirstie Mack - Defiance Development and Visitors Bureau Executive Director.

Congratulations to Defiance Development and Visitors Bureau on their recent grant of \$2,500 from the Defiance Area Foundation Community Fund. This grant money will be used to improve the Christmas display in

Triangle Park, Pontiac Park and Memory Park.

Keep an eye out for more grants awarded during our last grant cycle. The next grant cycle closes on September 30, 2024.

## DEFIANCE MOOSE LODGE GRANT: DEFIANCE YOUTH FOOTBALL ASSOC.



Congratulations to the Defiance Youth Football Association for the \$1,000 grant received from the Defiance Moose Lodge #2094. This grant money will be used to purchase new football helmets for the upcoming season. Pictured (l-r) are Casey Dull - Moose Lodge Administrative Assistant and Calvin Tipton - Treasurer of Defiance Youth Football Association.

## ETZLER SPEAKS TO KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Chris Etzler (New Superintendent, Paulding Exempted Village Schools) as the guest speaker at the May 30, 2024, club meeting. Chris came at the invitation of Ken Amstutz (Retiring Superintendent, Paulding Exempted Village Schools). Chris spoke to the Kiwanians about his transition into his new role.

### MERCY HEALTH COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAMS SHOW IMPACT

Since opening its doors in 2020, the Financial Opportunity Center (FOC) at Mercy Health - Franklin Avenue Medical Center has helped hundreds of area residents escape from financial uncertainty and stress.

In partnership with LISC and NeighborWorks Toledo, Mercy Health houses the FOC with the goal of alleviating the stress of financial instability leading to overall better health outcomes.

In fact, in 2023 alone, the Franklin Avenue FOC engaged 859 people in coaching, tax preparations, or workshops resulting in 84 percent

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**TRACT 1: 44± ACRES** - with frontage on Hammersmith Rd. The contour is level with an open drain along the entire road frontage and a surface drain along the south border. The soils are all Paulding Clay.

**TRACT 2: 44± ACRES** - with frontage on Hammersmith Rd and Krouse Rd. The contour is level also and has the open drain along Hammersmith Rd and the surface drain on the south property. The roadway access along Krouse Rd is level. The soils are mostly Paulding Clay with a small mix of Merrimill loam and Haskins loam.

**SELLER:** Thomas M. Webb

Preview: Tuesday, June 25 from 4-6pm  
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Thursday, June 27 • 10am

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**INSPECTION DATE:** Sat, June 22 • 9am-3pm

**Owners:** Del-Mar Farms, Inc., Kevin Appel • 419.438.5682 (please leave message)

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# A TRAGIC ACCIDENT



It was bound to happen. Both drivers were known to be fast drivers. Ted's reputation was so bad that everyone refused to ride with him. Like-wise Dr Brown was always in a hurry.. They told Dr Brown's wife that she was taking a big chance riding with her husband, but she really had no choice.

This accident was so serious that it made headlines in the Kansas City Star. For you see it took place on First street between Oak and Maple in Kansas City, Missouri. It was a head-on collision. Everyone had heard about the accident before they saw the headlines. Several had witnessed it and they said both cars were traveling at blinding speed. Witnesses said that you could hear the crash for a mile.

People said it was inevitable, some said it should never have happened. The weather was clear, no water on the road, visibility was good, traffic was light. But still the accident happened. Some thought perhaps the doctor was on his way to deliver a baby but this was not the case. Both men were simply out for a drive.

By some coincidence no

one was hurt. Considering two cars traveling at 20 miles per hour colliding would be like hitting a brick wall at 40 mph. Both drivers simply stood looking silly. You see this was the first automobile accident involving two cars. It happened May 1st 1901. What made it unique was these were the only two cars in the city. What are the odds? These were the days when Mama told the youngens to stay in the house today because the rumor was Mr So and So was bringing his car to town.

Today accidents are quite common, causing many deaths. At my age I try to be as careful as possible. I stay away from intersections that don't have a stop sign or a signal light. I try to visualize where I'm going before I travel , which lane I will need to be in to make my next turn. We live in a time when you can be parked on an interstate for hours just because someone was careless for an instant. Guess I will just have to get a self-driving car, that doesn't make wrong turns, but I'll probably still worry about the other guy hitting me.

—James Neuhouser

seeing an increase in their income; 97 percent realizing an increase in their net worth; and 48 percent experiencing an increase in their FICO score.

The program is one highlighted in Mercy Health's recently released Community Health Annual Report, which spotlights programs that address health and social needs across the organization's 12 markets.

"For more than 167 years, Mercy Health has served the health and wellbeing of communities throughout north-west Ohio. We have always understood that a community's health and sustainability extends well beyond the in-patient work being done in our hospitals and is also impacted by tackling health disparities in our neighborhoods," said Jessica Henry, Community Health director, Mercy Health - Toledo.

Mercy Health's community health work spans throughout northwest Ohio. In Willard, Mercy Health has created a paramedicine program in collaboration with paramedics

from Willard Fire and Rescue. Together, the team works to keep community members in their homes while maximizing their health and connecting them to needed community resources.

According to the 2022 Mercy Health Willard Community Health Needs Assessment, Huron County has higher preventable hospitalization rates (4,831) than the Ohio average (4,338).

Designed to help area residents with non-life-threatening chronic health issues navigate community resources, the program offers peace of mind for families and referring providers. The Paramedicine program supports individualized care plans and optimizes the health of those it serves.

In 2023, there were 39 patients enrolled in the program with a total of 264 visits. Most patients were seen for high blood pressure, diabetes, congestive heart failure, COPD, and wound management.

For more information on Mercy Health's community health work throughout the

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**CHARTER BUS TOUR: July 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>. Daniel @ Sight & Sound Theatre, Lancaster, PA, \$619. Evelyn's Excursions, 419-737-2055 or 419-367-1471 23-25**

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

region, visit mercy.com and click on the 2023 Community Health Annual Report.

### FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

#### Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

During the 2023 white-tailed deer gun hunting season, Law Operations Manager Josh Shields and State Wildlife Officer Nick Oliver, assigned to Champaign County, responded to a hunting without permission complaint. They discovered evidence of a recent deer harvest and identified a suspect, who had hunted without permission and without a valid deer permit. The individual was found guilty of hunting and pursuing game on another's land without written permission, failing to purchase a valid deer permit before hunting, and harvesting a deer without a permit. The court imposed fines totaling \$200, restitution of \$250, and a one-year hunting license revocation. The deer was seized and the meat donated to the Ohio Wildlife Center.

State Wildlife Officer Jade Heizer, assigned to Fairfield County, instructed a hunter education safety course at Millersport High School for 26 students between the sixth and ninth grades. The students learned valuable information about hunting safety and ethics, and the role that Ohio sportsmen and sportswomen play in wildlife conservation and habitat restoration. Upon completion, the students can purchase a hunting license and hunt by themselves when they reach 16 years of age.

#### Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Officer Michael Ohlrich, assigned to Lucas County, partnered with Brightside Academy in Toledo for several events. Most recently, he read A Log's Life to

teach young children about the importance of trees. During the holidays, Officer Ohlrich and Wildlife Officer Supervisor Josh Zientek participated in the 12 Kids of Christmas, an event with Feet on the Street and Brightside Academy. This event pairs local kids with law enforcement officers for a shop with a cop experience.

State Wildlife Officer Reid Van Cleve, assigned to Ottawa County, observed two individuals scatter litter around the Sandusky Bay Access Area in Ottawa County after fishing. Officer Van Cleve issued each angler a citation for the violation.

#### Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Officer Aaron Brown, assigned to Wayne County, partnered with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department regarding litter concerns. Deputy Joseph Copenhaver and Officer Brown identified a suspect, who was found guilty of three separate dumping offenses and found guilty in Wayne County Municipal Court. The individual cleaned the litter and disposed of it properly and was ordered to pay \$808 in fines and court costs. In addition, the individual is required to complete 50 hours of community service.

State Wildlife Officer Randy White, assigned to Lorain County, responded to a vehicle accident involving a truck pulling a horse trailer. Officer White assisted the uninjured driver in freeing a draft horse from the mangled trailer and restrained the injured driver in freeing a draft horse from the mangled trailer and restrained the horse in the interstate median until assistance arrived. Luckily, the horse had no significant injuries from the crash. The Ohio State Highway Patrol controlled traffic while Officer White helped the driver get the truck, trailer, and horse back on the road.

### OHIO'S ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES CEO ANNOUNCES JANUARY 2025 RETIREMENT BOARDS OF DIRECTORS FOR OHIO'S RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, BUCKEYE POWER NAME SUCCESSOR



Patrick O'Loughlin, the President and CEO of Buckeye Power and Ohio's Rural Electric Cooperatives (OREC), wholly known as Ohio's Electric Cooperatives, notified the boards of directors of the organizations of his plan to retire on January 3, 2025, after 10 years leading the organizations.

The boards of directors are pleased to announce they have selected Craig Grooms as O'Loughlin's successor. Grooms is the organizations' current Chief Operations Officer.

O'Loughlin joined Buckeye Power and OREC in 2002, first as vice president of engineering and power supply. In 2015, O'Loughlin was named president and CEO. Before joining Buckeye Power and OREC, O'Loughlin worked for Dayton Power & Light for 19 years in various management roles.

The boards of directors said O'Loughlin has been instrumental in advancing the cooperatives mission of providing reliable, affordable, environmentally responsible power to its 25 member cooperatives. O'Loughlin has been a champion in the state and in Washington D.C. for the seven cooperative principles and cooperative business model and continues to fight for the interests of electric cooperative consumers in Ohio and nationally.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Buckeye Power and OREC as CEO for the past 10 years," O'Loughlin said. "I am proud of the accomplishments we have achieved together and the positive impact we have made on the communities we serve. I am confident that Buckeye Power and OREC are well-positioned for the future and that Craig Grooms is the right person to lead the organizations."

The boards of directors

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

Sudoku solution from page 9

expressed their appreciation to O'Loughlin for his years of outstanding service and leadership, then extended their congratulations to Grooms on his appointment. The boards announced O'Loughlin and Grooms will work together through 2024 to ensure a successful transition.

Craig Grooms joined Buckeye Power and OREC in 2004, and has held numerous leadership roles, including Vice President of Engineering and Operations, before being promoted to Chief Operations Officer in 2022. Prior to joining Buckeye Power and OREC, Grooms worked for NRG Energy and Dayton Power & Light in a variety of roles related to energy marketing, electric system operations and natural gas system operations. Craig received his MBA from Otterbein University and a Bachelor of Science in engineering technology from the University of Dayton. He is a graduate of NRECA's Management Internship Program and a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

"I am grateful for the opportunity to lead Buckeye Power and OREC and to build on the strong foundation that Pat has established," Grooms said. "I look forward to working with Pat, the boards, and staff, to continue delivering on our mission of providing safe, reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible power to the member cooperative communities we serve. We have a very talented team in place and I am very optimistic about our future. We want to carry on the tradition of being a trusted partner with our cooperative

### HELP WANTED:

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

Email: InnovativeAssemblySvc@outlook.com

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

To apply contact us via phone or email

## HELP WANTED

### Full Time and Substitute Bus Drivers Needed

Paulding Exempted Village Schools has an immediate need for full time and substitute Bus Drivers for routes and extra-curricular events. Bus Driver Training will be provided and paid for.

Applications can be found under the Quick-Links > Employment tab on the website at www.pauldingschools.org or can be picked up in the Administration Office at 405 N. Water St, Paulding.

If you have any questions, you may call Adina at 419-399-4656 ext 1560.



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Apply in person (M-F 8:00-3:30pm)

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 Phone: (260) 632-4217

# HICKSVILLE ROTARY'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR



Pictured is Nathan Ferrell and Rotarian Denise Sutton, 2023 Citizen of the Year.

Each year, the Hicksville Rotary Club recognizes an individual who has made a difference in the local community. At the June 4 luncheon meeting, the award was given to Hicksville Exempted Village School's educator, Nathan Ferrell. A very surprised Ferrell was honored by family, friends, and school administrators, plus members of the local Rotary

Club. Hicksville School Superintendent, Keith Countryman, said it best: "Nathan, your contributions to our community are immeasurable, and your influence will be felt for generations to come. You are not just an educator; you are a beacon of hope, a source of inspiration and a true testament to the power of one individual

to make a profound difference."

A Grover Hill native, Ferrell graduated from Wayne Trace in 1997 and continued his education at Defiance College with a service scholarship. He was also a Pilgrim Award honoree, the most prestigious award offered by the college. From high school on, Ferrell was involved in his community, Youth for Christ, and his church. After college, he taught at Wayne Trace for several years before beginning his Hicksville teaching career. He also served as pastor of Hicksville Presbyterian Church and is currently preaching at Grover Hill Zion Community Church and Roselms Church, also near Grover Hill.

Nathan was first hired in Hicksville as a sixth-grade science teacher, but soon expanded his science teaching to multiple grades. Over ten years ago, he began a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program that later transformed into a STEAM (plus Arts) program, involving many grade levels. Most recently, he has been instrumental in beginning an Agricultural pro-

# TIMBROOK SPEAKS TO KIWANIS



The Kiwanis Club of Paulding County was privileged to have Zach Timbrook (Owner, Timbrook Bounce House Rentals) as

the guest speaker at the June 6, 2024, club meeting. Zach came at the invitation of Joe Burkard (Paulding County Prosecutor). Zach spoke to

the Kiwanians about how his business got started, what bounce houses he has available for rent, and what the rental process looks like.

gram at the local school. Whether in the classroom, in youth groups that he organized, or through his work with Youth for Christ, his caring demeanor, interest in the individual, and strong faith has been felt by all.

## FIGHT HUNGER, STOCK THE TRAILER RETURNS TO PAULDING COUNTY FAIR THIS JUNE

Farm Credit Mid-America and Paulding County Fair are excited to announce the return of Fight Hunger, Stock the Trailer. Presented by Farm Credit Mid-America and sponsored by Rural 1st, this friendly competition helps junior fairs raise food donations for local food banks across Ohio. Now in its fourth year, Fight Hunger, Stock the Trailer is just one of the many ways Farm Credit Mid-America gives back to rural communities while supporting local agriculture.

From June 8 - 15, local community members are invited to bring non-perishable food items to the Paulding County Fair. Look for stock the trailer signage at the fair for locations to donate.

At the end of the fair, the total weight of all donations will be calculated, with first, second and third-place prizes of \$5,000, \$3,500 and \$1,500 awarded to the fairs that raise the most food throughout the summer. Each participating county fair will receive \$500. All prize money awarded supports local junior fair activities, including attending statewide junior fair conferences, investing in new technologies, and in some cases, purchasing additional items

## ANTWERP WATER TOWER REHABILITATION PROJECT TO BEGIN



The Antwerp Village Water Tower Rehabilitation is scheduled to begin on or about June 17th, weather permitting. With this rehab, we anticipate some water main breaks due to the method used in completing the task. Should you need to report a water main break, please call, and leave a message or text with the street address at our water emergency number, (419) 506-0390. The water department will be required to call in a

utility emergency locate prior to performing any work. We will endeavor to provide updates over the next 60 days as to the progress of this project.

Project Name: Antwerp-Elevated Tank Rehabilitation. Project Location/Street Address: 210 W. Washington St., Antwerp, OH. Construction Cost: \$427,000. Construction Start: 6/17/2024

Brian Davis, Antwerp Village Administrator

for donation.

"We are thrilled to once again partner with Paulding County Fair for stock the trailer," said Scott Laguire, Regional Vice President for Farm Credit Mid-America. "This initiative not only helps those in need within our communities but also fosters a sense of teamwork and giving back among our local junior fairs. We look forward to seeing the impact we can make together in 2024."

Fight Hunger, Stock the Trailer is hosted on a regional basis. To learn more about which counties are participating in 2024, please

reach out to Farm Credit Mid-America at 419-695-6000.

## PERI MEETING

PERI District 1, Chapter 30 Defiance County is meeting Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. At Summit 60 Defiance Senior Center, 140 E. Broadway, Defiance, OH

Guest speaker will be Tonya Brunner, Director of Defiance County Veteran Services.

\*NOTICE: Due to Juneteenth on Wednesday, this meeting will be on Tuesday instead.

# Free Friday

Come enjoy the **PAULDING COUNTY FAIR** on Friday, June 14th and enjoy:

**FREE Admission**

sponsored by *Baughman Tile*

**FREE Sausage Sandwich with Egg or Cheese**

Redeem at FFA Alumni Building near the livestock barns

**FREE Medium Fiske French Fry**

Redeem at Fiske French Fry Stand near the grandstand

All compliments of your friends at:



Redeem this coupon for **1-FREE Sausage Sandwich with Egg or Cheese** at the 2024 Paulding County Fair on **Friday, June 14th** only



*Baughman Tile Co.* \*No purchase necessary, Limit one per person Valid June 14, 2024 - Photocopies not valid

Redeem this coupon for **1-FREE Medium Fiske French Fry\*** at the 2024 Paulding County 4-H Fair on **"Fry" day, June 14th** only



*Baughman Tile Co.* \*No purchase necessary, Limit one per person Valid June 14 2024 - Photocopies not valid

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