

NSCC HONORS AREA VETERANS WITH FREE VETERANS LUNCHEON



Northwest State Community College invites area veterans to enjoy a complimentary Veterans Luncheon on Thursday, November 7th, starting at 11:30 a.m. in the Voinovich Auditorium on the College's Archbold campus. NSCC currently has approximately 120 student-veterans pursuing coursework, credentialing, certificates and/or associate degrees.

NSCC President Dr. Todd Hernandez, a US Navy veteran, will open the event with welcoming remarks. As a highlight, our Keynote speaker will be Chief Master Sergeant Michael Haas from the Air Force, 180th Division (Retired). Offering entertainment during the event, Kerry Patrick Clark will provide his heartwarming blend of music and storytelling.

RSVP BY NOVEMBER 7th
Those interested in attending are asked to RSVP by Tuesday, November 5th to Kyrin Grime in the NSCC Foundation office – phone 419.267.1418 or email kgrime@NorthwestState.edu. Additional information on NSCC events is available any time online at NorthwestState.edu/events.

PASTOR PITTS SPEAKS AT HANDS OF HOPE PREGNANCY SERVICES BANQUET



Pictured are (L-R) Pastor Derrick Pitts, Doug Roop (HOHPS Board President), and two of Pastor Derrick's interns.

Pastor Derrick Pitts was the speaker of the Hands of Hope Pregnancy Services banquet on October 24. He operates a free crisis pregnancy center in Belize where most of the moms are single parents. Hands of Hope has partnered with God Cares Pregnancy Center by sending overflow supplies, resources, and our previous ultrasound machine to the clinic.

Center has completed the first stage of opening, and once a few renovations are completed, the center will operate as the first medical pregnancy center in Belize. Pastor Derrick is passionate about reaching those in his country with the love of Christ, and showing care to families and children (born and unborn). Thanks to all who attended and/or supported both pregnancy centers!

WOODBURN 7th ANNUAL BUSINESS PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST



Woodburn Police Department

The winners of the 7th Annual Woodburn Businesses Pumpkin Contest are:
1. Woodburn Police Dept. 219 votes
2. Maumee Valley Veterinary Clinic 169 votes
3. Greg's Getaway 105 votes
Congratulations to the winning businesses!
Shout out to the Chop Shop Meat Market for donating the pumpkins.



Maumee Valley Veterinary Clinic



Greg's Getaway

This contest was sponsored by Woodburn Main Street.
ACPL PRESENTS THE 2024 MCMURTRY LECTURE IN HONOR OF VETERANS DAY
The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) and the

Friends of the Lincoln Collection (FOLC) are pleased to present the 2024 McMurtry Lecture "Held in War's Grasp: The Ordeals of Veteranhood after the Civil War" featuring renowned historian Brian Matthew Jordan, Ph.D in honor of Veterans Day. The lecture will be held on November 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Library Theater at the Allen County Public Library, as well as, virtually via Zoom.

"The legacy of the Civil War continued to haunt its survivors long after the last shots were fired," said Friends of the Lincoln Collection President Todd Stephenson. "This lecture aims to shed light on the complex experiences of those who fought and the often-overlooked struggles as they reintegrated into civilian life."

Dr. Jordan's presentation will begin where many historical accounts conclude, revealing the harsh realities confronting Civil War veterans after demobilization. Drawing from extensive research—including letters, medical records, and pension files—Dr. Jordan illuminates the profound psychological and physical challenges that veterans endured, highlighting the enduring impact of the war on their lives.

What: "Held in War's Grasp: The Ordeals of Veteranhood after the Civil War,"
When: Monday, November 11 at 7:00 p.m.
Where: ACPL Main Library Theater, Lower Level 2
(Continued on Page 2)

ANTWERP CHAMBER TO HOST TRIVIA NIGHT

Antwerp Chamber of Commerce are hosting a Trivia Night, Tuesday, November 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Oasis Bar & Grill, 111 S. Main St. Antwerp, OH.

Dust off your thinking caps, grab your smartest friends and/or family members, and come out and join the fun! Teams of 4 or less. Pre-register on Antwerp Chamber Facebook Page. Call or text 208-596-9245 with questions.

PAULDING AREA CHAMBER HOLIDAY WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST RETURNS

By: Erica Noggle
It's never too early to plan for another season of festive

competition! The Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce the return of the Holiday Window Decorating Contest, an eagerly anticipated event that brings creativity and holiday spirit to our community. Over the past three years, local businesses have wowed us with imaginative, vibrant window displays, and we can't wait to see how each will elevate their designs for the 2024 season!

Participation Details: There is no participation fee for the contest beyond the cost of decorations. All interested businesses are invited to bring their unique flair to their storefronts for the chance to win the coveted People's Choice Award.
Guidelines for Entry:
• Windows must be fully decorated by noon on Monday.
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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
- November 5**
- Election Day Supper @ Oakwood Comm. Ch., 3:30-7p
- November 7**
- Turkey Supper @ Rose Hill Church of God, 4-6:30pm
- November 8**
- Huber Beer & Wine Tasting Event
- November 9**
- Mix Mingle & Jingle @ Christ Luth Ch, Woodburn, 9a-3p
 - Fall Festival (Lifewise-Antwerp, MAC gym 11a-2p)
- November 8-16**
- Festival of Trees @ PC History Museum, Paulding, (M-F, 4-8p; Sat, 10a-8p, Sun, 11a-4p)
- November 10**
- Divine Mercy Kids Choir @ Festival of Trees, Paulding, 1-1:30pm; Adult Choir, 2pm
- November 11**
- Old Crown Band @ A Veteran's Day Salute
- November 12**
- Alzheimer's Education Series @ Defiance Library, 3pm
 - PHS Jazz Band @ PC History Museum Festival of Trees
 - PCED Annual Banquet @ Grant's, 6pm
- November 13**
- St. Paul Luth Ch Bell Choir @ Festival of Trees
- UMYU PAULDING COUNTY'S OWN
Add your event to the calendar info@westbendprinting.com

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OBITUARIES

ANTWERP, OH:

David N. Miller, 76, formerly of Antwerp, passed away Saturday, October 19, 2024 at his home in New Haven. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W River St, Antwerp, OH 45813.

ANTWERP, OH:

Bonnie Marie Carr, 101, of Antwerp, Ohio passed away Thursday October 24, 2024 at Vancrest of Payne. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W River St, Antwerp, OH 45813.

WOODBURN, IN:

Ruth Helen Woebbecking, 87, of Woodburn, Indiana passed away Saturday, October 26th, at Lutheran Life Villages. Arr by Dooley Funeral Home, 202 W River St, Antwerp, OH 45813.



MARYSVILLE, OH:

Derric R. Brown, a devoted husband, loving father, and compassionate Funeral Director, passed away on October 27, 2024, at his residence in Marysville, surrounded by his loving family. Born on June 22, 1973, in Paulding, Derric dedicated much of his life to serving others, a lasting impact in both his professional and personal lives.

For years, Derric served the community as a caring Funeral Director with Mannasmith Funeral Homes. His profession was not just a job; it was a calling. Derric believed deeply in supporting families during their most difficult times, offering comfort and assistance with his warm presence and kind heart.

Derric was a proud graduate of Paulding High School in 1991, followed by Bowling Green State University in 1995 and the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science in 1996. These accomplishments reflect not only his dedication to education but also his commitment to his lifelong vocation. He was a compassionate listener and a guiding light for many in the community.

As a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church and an active participant in organizations such as the Marysville Kiwanis Club, United Way, Ohio Funeral Directors Association, National Funeral Directors Association, and the Ohio Embalmers Association, Derric's spirit of service shone brightly. He coached MJBSA and played softball with the Padres from Our Lady of Lourdes, coaching the team from 2006 to 2014. His involvement extended beyond mere participation; he was instrumental in bringing joy and excitement to the community, evidenced through organizing an exhibition softball game featuring the Wounded Warriors.

Derric was an avid fan of the Ohio State Buckeyes, Cincinnati

Reds, and Cincinnati Bengals. He often found joy in watching games with his children, Noah and Leah, with whom he made it a priority to be involved in their lives, attending their activities and cherishing every moment spent together. Derric's quick wit, charming smile, and delightful sense of humor made him a beloved figure not just in his family but in the hearts of his friends and those he worked alongside.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Deedra (Weaver) Brown; his cherished children, Noah and Leah Brown; his caring parents, Robert "Bob" and Sue (Dobbelaere) Brown; his sisters, Deedi (Mike) Miller and Darsi (Mark) Everson; as well as his supportive in-laws, Mike and Pam Weaver, Angie (John) McLain, and Eric (Jill) Weaver; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Derric's legacy will continue through his family and in the community he so dearly loved. He is preceded in death by his son, Zachary; as well as his grandparents, Gerard "Paps" and Elvene "Nan" Dobbelaere, and Robert and Virginia Brown.

As we remember Derric, we celebrate a man who truly gave of himself unconditionally, a person with a heart of gold who touched countless lives. His laughter, love, and compassionate spirit will forever remain etched in the hearts of those who knew him.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 - 8:00 PM on Friday, November 1, 2024 at the Wilson Funeral Home, Mannasmith Chapel, located at 621 W. 5th St, Marysville, OH 43040. A Mass of Christian Burial in his memory will follow at 12:00 PM Saturday, November 2, 2024 at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, located at 1033 W. 5th St, Marysville, OH 43040. Father Kevin Kavanagh will officiate and burial will follow at Oakdale Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to Ohio's Hospice or Memorial Mobile Meals. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.wilsonfuneralhomesinc.com



FORT WAYNE, IN:

Anna Louise (Fisher) Nelson was born on May 9, 1929 in Fort Wayne, Indiana to Harry and Clara (Boyd) Fisher.

Anna married Billy Joe Nelson on March 3, 1948 and started their life together in Payne, Ohio. They went on to raise 7 children and celebrated 64 years of marriage until Billy's passing on October 22, 2012.

Anna was a stay-at-home mom, raising children Rita Glass, Sharon (Ray) Johannis, Richard (Lydia), William, Donald (Lonna), Roger (Faith), and Kent (Dunia) Nelson. She also had the

joy of loving 20 grandchildren, 33 great grandchildren, and 6 great-great grandchildren who will continue to cherish Anna's memory.

Preceding Anna in death are spouse, Billy Joe; son, Richard Allen Nelson; daughter-in-law, Faith Nelson; and parents, Harry and Clara.

Memorial donations in Anna's memory may be directed to: Alzheimer's Association, 225 North Michigan Avenue, Floor 17, Chicago, IL 60601

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER DINING CENTER NOVEMBER DINING MENU

11/1 - Chili Spaghetti, Peas & Onions, Orange Juice, Garlic Bread

11/4 - Creamed Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Cinnamon, Applesauce, Cookie, Biscuit

11/5 - Turkey Ham and Cheese on Rye, Vegetable Soup w/ Crackers, Potato Salad, tropical Fruit, Oatmeal Raisin Bar

11/6 - Smothered Steak, Hash brown Bake, Fiesta Corn, Dinner Roll, Carrot Raisin & Pineapple salad, Birthday Cake

11/7 - Hamburger Gravy, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Wax Beans, Hot Apples, W.W. Bread, Jello

11/8 - Seasoned Pork Cutlet, Rice Pilaf, Brussel Sprouts, Fruit Crisp, Dinner Roll, Apple Juice

11/11 - Closed for veteran's Day

11/12 - Chicken & Broccoli Casserole with Rice, Warm Applesauce, Biscuit, Grape Juice

11/13 - Pork Chop, Scalloped potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Mixed Fruits Dinner Roll, Rice Krispy Treat

11/14 - Tuna Salad Sandwich, Vegetable Soup, Tropical Fruit, potato Salad, Cookie, Crackers

11/15 - Beef Lasagna, Green Beans, Tossed Salad, Garlic Bread, Pears

11/18 - BBQ Pork Burger, Herbed potatoes Country Style, Spinach, Mandarin Oranges, Apple Juice

11/19 - Baked fish, Scalloped Potatoes, Seasoned Cauliflower, Strawberry Hash, Dinner Roll, Goldfish Crackers

11/20 - Baked Ham, Sweet Potato Casserole, Wax Beans, Pumpkin Pie, Orange Juice, Dinner Roll

11/21 - Beef Stew, Coleslaw, Peaches, Cookie, Biscuit

11/22 - Stacked Turkey Sandwich, Potato Salad, Apple Juice, Lettuce, Tomato, Onion, Pumpkin Cookie

11/25 - BBQ Chicken, Baked Potato, Brussel Sprouts, fruit Cocktail, W.W. Bread,

Fruit Snacks

11/26 - Beef Goulash, Mixed Vegetables, Mixed fruit, Garlic Bread, Grape Juice

11/27 - Turkey, Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy, Green Beans Casserole, Cranberry Salad, Dinner Roll & Pie

11/28 - Closed for Thanksgiving

11/29 - Closed for Thanksgiving

PAULDING COUNTY SENIOR CENTER NOVEMBER ACTIVITY CALENDAR

11/1 - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

11/4 - Flu Shots @ 9:00-11:30 a.m., 1:30-3:00 p.m.; 10:00 a.m. Exercise; 10:30 a.m. Cornhole; 12:30 p.m. Bridge Club

11/5 - 8:15 a.m. Vantage Bus Trip, Hair, Mani/pedis; 9:45 a.m. Euchre; 12:00 p.m. Bingo with The Country Inn

11/6 - 9:00 a.m. Rummy; 10:00 a.m. Witts Workout; 11:30 a.m. Birthday & Anniversary Party with Alan Seibert; 12:30 p.m. Diamond Art with Mike & Barbara; 1:00 p.m. Grocery shopping

11/7 - 9:45 Euchre; 10:00 a.m. Exercise; 12:00 p.m. Dementia Trivia with Marybeth Trowel from the Alzheimer's Assoc.

11/8 - 9:00 a.m. Veteran's Day Brunch; 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

11/11 - Closed in Observance of Veteran's Day

11/12 - 9:45 a.m. Euchre; 9:45 a.m. Festival of Trees & Lunch at Paulding County Historical Museum

11/13 - 9:00 a.m. Rummy; 10:00 a.m. Witts Workout, 12:00 p.m. Diamond Art with Mike & Barbara, 1:00 p.m. Grocery Shopping

11/14 - Toenail Clinic @ 9:45 a.m.; Euchre @ 10:00 a.m.; Exercise @ 12:00 p.m.; Bingo with Kingsbury Place

11/15 - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study; 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Commodity Distribution

11/18 - 10:00 a.m. Exercise; 10:30 a.m. Cornhole; 12:00 p.m. Steering Committee Meeting; 12:30 p.m. Bridge Club

11/19 - 9:00 a.m. The Shops at Grabill and lunch at The Woodhouse; 9:45 a.m. Euchre; 10:00 a.m. Caregiver Support Group

11/20 - 9:00 a.m. Rummy; 10:00 a.m. Witts Workout; 10:30 a.m. Bingo with The Gardens of Paulding; 12:00 p.m. Diamond Art with Mike & Barbara; 1:00 p.m. Grocery Shopping

11/21 - Digital Navigation @ 9:45 a.m. Euchre; 10:00 am Exercise; 5:00 pm Evening Meal with The Electric Bal-

(Continued from Page 1)

(900 Library Plaza, Fort Wayne) and virtually via Zoom.

Who: The McMurtry Lecture is free and open to the. Pre-registration is required at www.acpl.info/mcmurtry.

About the ACPL

The Allen County Public Library has fostered lifelong learning and discovery in northeast Indiana for more than 125 years. The ACPL consists of fourteen branches throughout Allen County, serving more than one million visitors per year. The ACPL's collection includes more than 2.7 million items, with a circulation total of 3.6 million items borrowed annually. It also houses The Genealogy

Center, the nation's largest public library genealogy research center, and The Roland Center for Lincoln Research, consisting of more than 30,000 artifacts related to President Abraham Lincoln.

About the Presenter

Dr. Brian Matthew Jordan is an esteemed Associate Professor of U.S. Civil War History and Chair of the Department of History at Sam Houston State University. Dr. Jordan has authored multiple books on Civil War soldiers and veterans, and he currently serves as Book Review Editor for The Civil War Monitor. His first book *Marching Home: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War* was a finalist for the 2016 Pulitzer Prize in History.

Scripture of the Week

"having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,"

— Ephesians 1:18

COVENANT OF DIVINE HEALTH CONFESSION



Father, Thank You for the covenant of divine health that I have as a child of God. I declare that I am redeemed from the curse, sickness, disease, and the Covid-19 Virus. The law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus permeates every cell in my body and has made me free from the law of sin and death. Lord, Thank You for sending Your Word and healing me and delivering me from destruction. I declare that every disease, germ, and virus that tries to attack my body dies instantly. Every cell

lader

11/22 - 10:00 a.m. Bible Study; 12:00 p.m. Bingo with Antwerp Manor; 23 Shop The Village 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

11/25 - 10:00 a.m. Exercise; 10:30 a.m. Cornhole; 12:30 p.m. Bridge Club

11/26 - 9:45 a.m. Euchre; 12:30 p.m. Penny Pitch with Meadows of Kalida

11/27 - 9:00 a.m. Rummy; 11:30 a.m. Thanksgiving Luncheon; 12:00 p.m. Diamond Art with Mike & Barbara; 1:00 p.m. Grocery Shopping

11/28 - Happy Thanksgiving

11/29 - Closed to celebrate Thanksgiving

WOODBURN LIONS CLUB COSTUME PARTY RESULTS

The following individuals were winners at this year's Woodburn Lions Halloween Costume Contest:

Birth - 3 Yr. Old - 1st - Stormie Garcia - Clown; 2nd - Blair Klatcher - Elsa; 3rd - Capri Long - Ladybug.

4 & 5 Yr. Old - 1st - Stevie Garcia - Witch; 2nd - Camille Long - Repunzel; 3rd - Carson Mueller - Mario.

K - & 1st Gr. - 1st - Caleb

of my body is virus-free and full of life.

My immune system is strong and continuously quickened with the life of God. I am healed by the stripes of Jesus Christ. I plead the blood of Jesus over myself and my family and declare that no weapon formed against our health shall prosper. I dwell in the secret place of the Most High, and I abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Lord, You are my refuge and fortress, and in You do I trust. There shall no evil befall me, neither shall any plague, disease or virus come nigh my dwelling, because I have made the Lord my habitation. You have given Your angels charge over me to keep me in all my ways. You will deliver me and honor me, and with long life will You satisfy me and show me Your salvation. In Jesus' Name, amen!

Galatians 3:13-14; Romans 8:2; Psalm 107:20; Psalm 91; Isaiah 54:17; 1 Peter 2:24; Isaiah 53:5

Peace & Love,

—Pastor Dwayne

Long - Invisible Man; 2nd - Aria Garcia - Scary Pumpkin; 3rd - Serenity Jarvis - Dorothy.

Grades 2 & 3 - 1st - Mae Wagner - Happy Meal; 2nd - Brielle Klatcher - Cowgirl; 3rd - Monroe Eichel - Dragon Fly.

Gr. 4 & 5 - 1st Anthony Lengacher - Clown; 2nd - Madalyn Wagner - Fries; 3rd - Ian Jones - Marshmallow.

Gr. 6 - 8 - 1st - Hannah Miller - Witch; 2nd - Lyam Burton - Grimace; 3rd - Nadie Reynolds - Yoshi; HS & Adult - Sophia Tarter - Pumpkin; Best Halloween Character - Madison Wolfe - Witch; Best Group - Jaxson, Ryley & Abby Hostetler - Harry Potter Characters; Most Original - Addilyn Ashbaugh - Wednesday Adams.

We appreciate the great turnout and wonderful costumes. See you next Year.

FARM BILL UPDATE

An important date for farmers has passed. The Farm Bill officially expired on September 30, 2024. What happens next? Various farm bill commodity support programs

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SEA MONKEYS AND SOMETHING IN A BOX

Penny For Your Thoughts

By: Nancy Whitaker

I think I am somewhat of a different person because I am very curious about everything. Of course I know some things about different things, but I am likely to make cookies or a cake at 11 pm just because it sounds good. Strange? Not for me!

After I was married and had my kids, holidays and birthdays were celebrated with gifts and parties. One year around Christmas time, my 2 daughters saw an advertisement in a magazine for sea monkeys. The ad said that these little creatures jumped around in their bowls of water and were sooo much fun to watch. So I ordered Sea Monkeys.

Well the sea monkeys came in the mail along with certain additives to put in their water, which had to be cold. Those sea monkeys floated around and looked like specs of dust. If you looked real close you may see them actually do a little jumping motion.

One day the girls came home from school and unbeknownst to me, the chilled sea money water with the chemicals had disappeared.

I asked both daughters if they had seen the cold sea monkey water. Well of course oldest daughter said, "I think I might have drank it." Oh no!

We waited and thought she might get ill but she was alright. Years later I found out sea monkeys are actually baby shrimp (I just recently found that out).

That gift was fun at first but became boring as the sea monkeys didn't really do much.

One year I recall it was Christmas time and I had went down town to do some shopping. Back in the day there were numerous stores downtown and streets were alive with shoppers who were trying to find that perfect gift.

Well we went into a store and my eyes beheld a gorgeous coat. It was red and blue and was made of shiny mate-

rial that I loved. So I tried it on and pranced around and asked my husband, "Don't I look good in this coat?" He replied, "Yes but look at that price tag. I looked at the price of the beautiful coat and it was \$40. I knew we couldn't really afford that coat, but I could dream of it. Christmas Eve arrived and hubby and I went to a relatives house where we stored all the gifts. It so happened my gift was handed to me to carry and husband said, "Be careful carrying that box because it is fragile and it's your gift." Oh no! If it just happened



to be the coat I wanted, the box was tall and thin and had fragile written on it. I carried my gift very carefully so I wouldn't break it.

Then later it was time to open gifts. Should I open that fragile box? I was thinking that it was probably just an oversized glass vase. Opening the box I had to keep it upright because I knew if I broke it, I would feel bad.

After going through many layers of tissue papers trying not to break anything, I spied something red and blue in the bottom of the box. Oh my, it was the beautiful coat I had asked for. I felt like Joseph in the Bible with his coat of many colors. This was a gift that I wore and used for years. Lots of secretive things happened to make that gift mine.

Another time it was my birthday and I decided I wanted an ant farm. I liked to watch ants outside with their ant hills working and carrying food back to their homes. Just think if I had a special ant farm it would be so much fun..... however, that's a whole other story for next week.

Let me ask this "Have you ever had sea monkeys? Did you know they were baby shrimp? Has anyone ever surprised you with a gift you really wanted? Let me know and I'll give you a Penny For Your Thoughts.

tion programs and that does not run out until 2031. Examples include the Conservation Stewardship Program, Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), Ag Conservation Easement Program, and Regional Conservation Partnership Programs.

Some programs stay and have no expired date. They are apart of permanent law. These programs include the Crop Insurance Program and Nutrition Programs. Farmers rely on crop insurance to survive various weather events so this is good news. The nutrition program includes Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs and Emergency Food assistance. Another program that is under permanent law are the Disaster programs which include emergency assistance for livestock, forage, honey bees, farm raised fish, and trees.

A very large percentage (76%) of the farm bill goes for supplemental food programs like food stamps. Why? Farmers make up less than 2% of the USA population, so to get urban support for largely rural farm bill programs, urban and rural programs are combined. Without the Nutritional Supplementation programs, Agriculture would probably get almost nothing.

Why should we expect a new farm bill soon when it has been put off or extended several times? It is possible that the farm bill will be extended again, but it has many problems. Farmers want a new bill. Hurricanes, drought, transportation issues, low commodities prices, high fertilizer prices, and slow or low exports are hurting agriculture profitability. To keep farmers in business, a new farm bill or at least an extension will be required.

When a farm bill expires, Congress built into the program that prices go back to programs in the 1930's and 1940s. Commodity prices were then based on parity of what prices were in 1915 adjusted for inflation. For example, July milk prices were roughly \$22/hundred weight, and based on parity, they would now be \$66/hundred weight and the government has to pay 75% or \$49/hundred weight.

For honey, the July price was about \$2.53 per pound but parity is \$4.75 per pound. Corn parity is \$7.45/bushel and wheat parity is \$15.08/bushel, well above current prices. Soybeans have no parity and are not included in the program. The problem is that the government has to buy up some commodities which disrupts markets. Then later, once a new farm bill is passed, they sell it back on the market, which greatly lowers the price for an extended period of time. This potential market disruption plus the high cost of administering the program almost guarantees that Congress will act on a farm bill, either extending it or passing a new farm bill.

Several program have already expired. They are already hurting agriculture. Market Access and Foreign Market trade promotions for agricultural products have been suspended. Bio-energy and biobased market programs have stopped. Several animal health programs are no longer funded. Programs for veteran, young or beginning farmers, and farmers with disabilities have stopped. The National Organic Certification

Cost-Share Program and Specialty Crop Grants have also stopped until a new farm bill or extension is passed.

In a lame duck session of Congress, they will have until November 12th to come up with some agreement on the farm bill before all benefits for the current crop year run out. January 1st is the date that parity starts kicking in for various commodities. The farm bill costs around 1.5 Trillion dollars and Congress is struggling to come up with the funds to pay for a farm bill.

The good news is that both parties, Republicans and Democrats, recognize that there needs to be a farm bill in place, whether it be an extension or a new farm bill, which would be preferable. Both parties have listed the farm bill as one of their top three priorities for remaining legislation needed in 2024, before this session of Congress closes out its term. Good Luck! Sources: Farm Bureau and USDA Farm Bill provisions.

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

While working on litter enforcement at Deer Creek Wildlife Area, State Wildlife Officer Josh Elster, assigned to Pickaway County, State Wildlife Officer John Coffman, assigned to Fayette County, and State Wildlife Officer Nick Oliver, assigned to Champaign County, observed two groups of anglers dispose of trash on the shore. As the groups left the area, the officers contacted them about the litter. Five individuals were issued summonses for stream litter and ordered to appear in Washington Court House Municipal Court. The individuals were found guilty and ordered to pay \$150 in fines and court costs.

In October, State Wildlife Officer Jade Heizer, assigned to Fairfield County, attended the Pheasants Forever Southeast Ohio Chapter youth hunt. Pheasants Forever partnered with the Fairfield County Bird Dog Club, which hosted the event. The event gave hunters under 18 years old a chance to hunt ring-necked pheasants with the help of a bird dog. The Fairfield County Bird Dog Club is hosting a Chukar Challenge, open to the public, Dec. 14-15, 2024, and March 15-16, 2025. Participation requires preregistration. Spots are limited, but it is a great opportunity for individuals to learn about upland bird hunting.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

State Wildlife Officer Matt D. Smith, assigned to Huron County, contacted several individuals hunting Canada geese in a field. Officer Smith found that one individual was using lead shot, which is unlawful to possess when hunting waterfowl. The individual was issued a summons for hunting waterfowl while in possession of any shot other than nontoxic shot. The hunter paid \$225 in fines and court costs in Norwalk Municipal Court.

State Wildlife Officer Reid Van Cleve, assigned to Ottawa County, contacted five goose hunters after he noticed cracked corn amongst their goose decoys. He found that 50 pounds of corn was placed in

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 field just before the goose season began. All five hunters were issued citations for hunting waterfowl over bait and had their hunting licenses revoked.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

While patrolling the Rocky River, State Wildlife Investigator Brian Bury, assigned to Lake Erie, and State Wildlife Officer Zach Hillman, assigned to Summit County, contacted steelhead anglers to check for license compliance. Three misdemeanor summonses were issued to individuals for fishing without a valid fishing license. Each individual was found guilty and sentenced to pay \$187.20 in fines and court costs.

Northeast Ohio state wildlife officers refined their defensive tactics with the help of the ODNR training team and several local agencies led by the Geauga County Sheriff's office. A law enforcement training facility was established to allow officers from a variety of law enforcement agencies to train alongside instructors with backgrounds in martial arts. These trainings provide officers a controlled environment to expand their defensive tactics and practice skills vital to law enforcement.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

In June, State Wildlife Officer Levi Boggs, assigned to Gallia County, patrolled Crown City Wildlife Area with Wildlife Officer Supervisor Lee Van Allen, State Wildlife Officer Tyler Fields, assigned to Scioto County, and State Wildlife Officer Cole Tilton, assigned to Vinton County. The officers responded to the sound of gunshots and located two individuals firing rifles and handguns. Officer Boggs issued both suspects a summons for discharging a

firearm in a nondesignated area. Both suspects pleaded guilty and were ordered to pay \$235.

In October, while on patrol at Monroe Lake Wildlife Area, State Wildlife Officer Jacob Parker, assigned to Monroe County, noticed a truck with a dog box in the bed and individuals standing nearby. Officer Parker stopped to talk with the individuals, who were training dogs. For this family, dog training is a way of spending time together and they were excited to share their experience with Officer Parker. Dogs can be exercised or trained on state public hunting areas from September 1 through April 30. From May 1 through August 31 dogs can only be trained or exercised in designated dog training areas. For a list of designated areas and more information about dog training in Ohio visit wildohio.gov.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officer Trent Weaver, assigned to Montgomery County, contacted an angler along the Great Miami River. Officer Weaver found that the individual did not have a fishing license and issued a citation for the violation. The individual paid \$145 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officers Andrew Dowdell, assigned to Butler County, and Micah Collier, assigned to Brown County, recently attended Career Day Trunk or Treat on the University of Cincinnati campus. The officers engaged students with details on their careers and educational requirements to work for the Division of Wildlife. Officer Dowdell also highlighted the recent addition of e-bikes for patrol duties.

(Continued from Page 1)

day, December 2, 2024.

• Designs must be original, with no repeats from prior years.

Businesses that wish to compete and be included on the People's Choice voting ballot should complete the registration form by Monday, November 18, 2024. Registration is available at bit.ly/HolidayWindowContest24.

Voting Information: Vot-

ing for the People's Choice Award will open at 5:00 p.m. on December 2 and will close at noon on December 9, 2024.

We encourage everyone in the community to cast their vote and support the creativity of our local businesses!

Join us in celebrating this season by transforming Paulding into a festive holiday destination! For additional details, please contact the Paulding Area Chamber of Commerce.

will be extended until the end of the year, but then they need to be replaced. Congress has a guarantee, built into the law, based on parity, but almost all experts expects that Congress will need to prevent return of these old programs, so expect some type of action soon on a farm bill.

The current farm bill has been in place since 2018 and

extended. The last several years, climate focused conservation programs have been a major focus. Programs on storing carbon long-term and reducing green house gasses has been a priority, but the base money for that program has run out. The new Inflation Reduction Act added \$18 billion dollars for climate smart or climate related conserva-

Eight years, has come so fast, but I still have never forgotten you. I have you in my thoughts the whole time. I have come to except what happened a little bit. But I know this I will try to do all the stuff that you wanted me to do for us. You were my whole life. The only woman I trusted because you know I just don't care for a lot of people. I hope you are in Heaven thinking of me, I will love you for ever as long as I live.



I will love you always,
Michelle McCoy

Love,
Darrin Lee Cottrell

THE BASEMENT LADIES
Mix, Mingle & Jingle

NOVEMBER 9th

Silent Auction | Lunch Served | Bake Sale | 9AM TO 3PM

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FUN DAY OF SHOPPING AND FELLOWSHIP!

CARRY-OUT MEALS AVAILABLE

There will be many vendors offering handmade and unique items!

Christ Lutheran Church
4412 Park Street - Woodburn, Indiana

CHAPTER OF THE OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INDUCTS 2025-26 OFFICERS



Pictured above are the officers of the Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society for 2025-26: (l-r) Bob Carpenter, Summer Searfoss, Mary Williams, Rhonda Casler, Diane Kline, Dawn Hasch, and Dan Hasch.

The Defiance County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society met recently at St. John's United Church of Christ in Defiance to hold their annual business meeting and elections. Officers elected for 2025-2026 are: President - Rhonda Casler; Vice-President - Summer Searfoss; Recording Secretary - Mary Williams; Treasurer - Dan Hasch; Corresponding Secretary - Dianne Kline; Trustees - Kim Bercaw, Bob Carpenter, and Dawn Hasch. The members also honored several long-time volunteers and two Charter Members in attendance, Diane Hill and Caroline Longardner. Three deceased members of the chapter were celebrated: Fred Marckel, Irene Winnie and

Roena Bayes.

Some of the upcoming programming for 2025 was announced and includes: Taylor Moyer speaking on the Underground Railroad in Northwest Ohio; Pam Lash with Black Sheep Vignettes; Jeanne Calvert on Defiance County Murders; and Julia Chase on Family Search: Boldly Go Beyond the Basics. A field trip to the Fulton County Historical Society is planned for July.

2025 Memberships cost \$15.00 per person or \$18.00 per family. Membership includes our quarterly newsletter, "Yesteryears Trails", with unlimited queries, our latest research guide, and eligibility to participate in the annual attendance prizes and to apply

for our lineage societies of the First Families of Defiance County. Membership forms and details are on our website www.defiancecountygenealogy.org

The next meeting of the Defiance County Genealogical Society will feature Tanya Brunner presenting information on the village of Evansport. Annual attendance prizes will be also awarded and include a cemetery cleaning kit, genealogy research supplies, family tree charts, and handmade wooden creations. Meeting time is 7:00 pm, November 24, 2025 at the St. John's United Church of Christ, 950 Webster Street, Defiance. Our meetings are open to members and visitors are always welcome.

ANTWERP JH/HS SCHOOL 1ST NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2024-25

* Denotes 4.0

Gold Card 4.0-3.67 (with no grade less than a B-)

SENIORS:

Noah Bradbury, *Allison Carnes, Elle Clem, *Derek Hines, *Aiden Lichty, *Braylen Moreno, Brynn Reinhart, Keira Sargent, *Eden Shuherk, *Gracelyn Stoller

JUNIORS:

Marcelo Cruz, *Leigha Doster, Halley Hathaway, Miley Jewell, Mara Philipot, Hampton Rogge, mRaelynne Zuber

SOPHOMORES:

*Briley Bagley, Lucy Conley, Maddilan Doster, *Maclaren Ehrhart, Maddox Friend, Blake Gribler, Josie Hahn, Aiden Hook, *Eliana Hornmann, Isabella Krenkel, Jennifer Lawhorn, *Alyssa Lawson, Ethan Marlin, Tyler Overman, Nathan Sanders, *Gabriella Snyder, *Keira Spyker

FRESHMEN:

Bryceton Barker, Braxton Peters, Aubrey Skinner, Kora Zuber

EIGHTH GRADE:

Braxtyn Bauer, *Simon Conley, Pearce Cottrell, Charlotte Hook, Brooklyn Lawson, Robert Montgomery, Emerson Morrow, Annabelle Mowery, Alaina Reinhart, Garrett Robbins

SEVENTH GRADE:

*Layla Bermejo, Parker Bermejo, Eliza Cline, Bradyn Coleman, Conner Fidler, Isaac Friend, Hayden Grant, Anderson Honigford, Alivia Kiracofe, Isaac Meyer, Mackenzie Myers, Jordan Steel, *Bentley Taylor, Emma White, *Briggs Zartman

SIXTH GRADE:

*Carter Bagley, Carter Beregszazi, *Conley Bissell, *Quinne Bradbury, Keigan Custer, *Aubree Feehan, Braxton Fidler, Destiny Getz, Dalton Hines, Adrian Hogans, Juliet Jones, *Charlotte Kauser, Jocelyn Laker, *Josephine Laker, Colt Lockhart, Jameson Malfait, *Rilee Martin, Makenzie Muir, Sophira Partin, Julian Rivera,

*Luke Saylor, Adelyne Slattman, Serenity Smith, *Brady Stairhime, Edwin White, *Sylvie Zartman, *Lily Zijlstra, *Cy Zuber, Kennedy Zuber

Blue Card 3.66-3.33 (with no grade less than a C+)

SENIOR:

Drew Eaken, Madisyn Peters, Magdaline Trabel, Kayden Winslow

JUNIORS:

Kalli Billman, Krystal Bradbury, Sara Farr, Dylan Hahn, Estee Lichty, Lillyanna McKay, Zaine McMichael, Harlee Moore

SOPHOMORES:

Hailey Clem, Jonnothan Coker, Avalon Coney, Roman DeLong, Payleigh Dickess, Reese Durbin, Aliyah Friend, Keegan Gray-Wyckoff, Lexy Hicks, Emily Laker, Kara Pierce, Holly Ritchey, Allison Sproles, Lucas Sproles

FRESHMEN:

Hudsyn Bagley, Gage Barker, Alia Clem, Tucker Doster, Reese Franklin, Avery Honigford, Noah Lucas, Elise Meyer, Corey Moore, Franco Rivera, Anabelle Saylor, Izahia Thompson

EIGHTH GRADE:

Teagen Eaton, Gianna Laker, Evan Overman

SEVENTH GRADE:

Serenity Camarillo, Jameson Graham, Tyler Johnson, Luke Jones, Heidi Rice, Marshall Rice, Benton Rogge, Kolton Stuckey, Gabriel Wenzlick, Christopher Yanez

SIXTH GRADE:

Audreylynn Comer, Adysonn McKay, Bradyn Miller, Samuel Montgomery, Owen Parisot, Stella Schmidt, Lane Sensabaugh, Devin Smith

Honor Roll 3.32-3.0 (with no grade less than a C)

SENIORS:

Caroline Rohrs, Tavin Sholl, Brittlynn Sitton

JUNIORS:

Addisen Lehman, Lauren Walters

SOPHOMORES:

Gage Clevinger, Aiden

Dunderman, Danica Lehman, Alexis Otto, Zacrey Salas, Madison Schmidt, Riley Smith

FRESHMEN:

Gabriella Brandenburg, Brayden Fuller, Gabriella Gross, Camden Herber, Kaira Jones, Kati Phares, Allison Rice, Anneliese Zijlstra

EIGHTH GRADE:

Brennan Barker, Mallory Barker, Tyler Bradbury, Liam Bryant, Auston Fish, Alexis Halker, Caleb Keeler, Aleta Sorrell, Bailey Traxler

SEVENTH GRADE:

Mary Adams, Hannah Bradbury, Ava Dunham, Krayston Eicher, Jayde Hitzman, Carson Hughes, Alexandros Isidoro, Chance Lehman, Cooper Nestleroad, Braelyn Putnam, Kaydence Saylor, Rylan Winslow

SIXTH GRADE:

Ian Clark, Owen Dangler, Maddix Foust, Maddox Gladieux, Kloe Goudy, Landyn Hermiller, Emma Justinger, Jaxton Leinback, Easton Ryan, Aleeah-Ann Wolfe

PAULDING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 1ST NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL 2024-25

* Denotes all A's

THIRD GRADE:

Mrs. Doster: *Mason Horner, Lute Gross, Sebastian Houck, Gwendalyn LaBoe, Andrea Manz, Eddie Manz, Emma Sue Walz, Wyatt Wilhelm

Mrs. Agler: *Aubrey Manz, Da'Lonnice Banks, Adeline Brown, Dean Font, Ryker Johnson, Macyn Krill, Nora Rosalez, Adriana Smith, Sophia Spangler, Everett Wilhelm

Mrs. Rohlf: *Quynn Arend, *Marshall Wilhelm, Ellie Branch, Elizabeth Chapman, Carl Kosch, Trent Reinhart, Hudson Stork

FOURTH GRADE:

Mrs. Bostelman: *Boston Foltz, *Jesse Hull, *Grace LaBoe, *Kolby Ringler, *Emma Steingass, *Ashlynn Vance, Allison Ball, Ranger Helms-Grubb, Liam Jones, Paul Lee, Santino Maritnez, Arabella Niemasz, Hadlee Webb

Miss Arellano: *Elizabeth Cortes Becerra, *Evelyn Dangler, *Rylan Dunakin, *Miracle Eutsler, *Nora Gochenour, *Kye Rohlf, *Lilly Thomas, *Leo Wannanmacher, *Lincoln Worman, *Noah Miller, Braxton Dasher, Landyn Harshman, Madison Salisbury, Logan Schuchart, Liberty Sprow, Merrick Wolfe

Miss Tressler: *Mallory Coressal, *Kenan Foltz, *Ella Hale, *Jaxon Kline, *Abby Leal, *Jacob Schaffer, Brayden Ramierz Coretes, Jayden Perfecto, Damian Pena, Angel Marcos Lara, Harlow Kipfer

FIFTH GRADE:

Mr. Harder: *Caroline Miller, *Lexis Smith, *Isabella Wesley, Kiersten Arend, Ava Brownell, Carter Crossland, Nolan Doctor, Charles Frye, Zendaya Kinnie, Cooper Laney, Boe Martin, Carson May, Briggs Stoller, Avery Parrett

Mrs. Stoller: *Logan Dasher, *Leigha Hahn, *Sienna Harris, *Mackenzie Reilly, *Nolan Rosalez, *Rya Wirts, Graeson Heller, Ella Spangler, Bristyl Stoller, Landen White, Milo Workman

Mrs. Richards: *Cadence Lee, *Kendra Manz, *Rebeka Mericle, Jase Frederick, Hadlyn Hunt, Zarla Ross, Jeremiah Sajuan, Sophia Smith



SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS

ANTWERP CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTS SMALL BUSINESS SATUR- DAY

All across the US small businesses and customers alike are getting excited for Small Business Saturday this year. Antwerp is going to celebrate Shop Antwerp First on November 23rd, a week before the traditional Small Business Saturday. This is a very important way to support the small businesses in your own towns and communities. Small businesses are often run by friends, family and neighbors that we all know so supporting them is not just a personal thing but it is critical to their success. Local small businesses create jobs, boost the local economy and preserve small town and neighborhoods across the country.

Small Business Saturday was founded in 2010 by American Express as a response to small business owners' most pressing concern: getting people through their doors, rallying communities to support their local businesses and helping kick of a successful holiday season.

According to the US Chamber of Commerce there are 33.2 million small businesses in the U.S. and they make up 99% of all businesses. Ohio itself has 99,000 small

businesses impacting the economy of the state. For the past 20 years, small businesses have accounted for roughly 40% of the United States' gross domestic output (GDP), which equate to trillions of dollars of economic activity.

According to Connect Our Future- buy local campaign several studies have shown that money spent at a locally owned business stays in the local economy and continues to strengthen the economic base of the community. A 2003 case study in Austin, Texas, showed that local merchants generate substantially greater economic impact than chain retailers. In fact, the study found that for every \$100 in consumer spending at a national bookstore in Austin, the local economic impact was only \$13. The same amount spent at locally-based bookstores yielded \$45, or more than three times the local economic impact.

When you support a local business, you're also supporting your town, city, and neighborhood by way of paying sales tax. The sales tax money is used to support public schools, parks, roads, and sidewalks, as well as fund public service workers, like firefighters.

Please plan to come out and support Shop Antwerp First in Antwerp on Nov. 23rd. The Welcome Center will be at the VFW beginning at 9:00 where we will have shopping bags filled with goodies, a page of special feature items in the businesses, a chance to win Chamber Bucks with a Scavenger Hunt and a receipt raffle. Watch the West Bend News and The Antwerp Chamber of Commerce Facebook page for more details.

FIVE PARKVIEW NURSES RECEIVE DAISY AWARD

Five Parkview nurses were recognized this summer by The DAISY Foundation for extraordinary nursing.

The DAISY Foundation was founded in memory of Patrick Barnes, a 33-year-old man who spent eight weeks in a hospital being treated for an autoimmune disorder. During his stay, Barnes received excellent nursing care, and, in his memory, his family created The DAISY Foundation to honor nurses who go above and beyond for their patients.

Recognized in 40 countries and territories, the Foundation has honored 220,000+ nurses across 6,500+ health-care organizations and schools of nursing — with more than

2.5 million nominations submitted by patients, families and colleagues. The award not only recognizes nurses for exceptional care, but helps to inspire and engage co-workers, build team spirit and reinforce the importance of providing patient and family-centered care.

Between July 1 and Sept. 30, the following five nurses received DAISY awards. For their individual award stories and photos, follow the below links to The DAISY Foundation website:

- Aubrey Dunnuck, emergency department, Parkview Hospital Randallia
- Madelyn Heckaman, med/surg, Parkview Regional Medical Center
- Tara Luker, medical intensive care unit, Parkview

The Paulding County Veterans' Service Office

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

There are two basic services the agency provides:
1 – EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – Provide short term financial assistance to eligible veterans and their families who demonstrate a need. This includes, but is not limited to, food, gas, mortgage/rent and assistance with utility payments.

2 – CLAIMS ASSISTANCE – Provide services for veterans and other claimants for help with VA claims for any federal, state, or local benefits.

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

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



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Hospital Randallia

• Megan Morse, pediatrics, Parkview Regional Medical Center

• Angela Smith, surgical trauma intensive care unit, Parkview Regional Medical Center

"The patient nomination stories for these five nurses all share common themes - thanking nurses who are attentive, supportive, compassionate and willing to make the extra effort for their patients," said Linda Francies, chief nursing officer, Parkview Regional Medical Center and Affiliates. "Our nurses understand that high-quality care and a great experience means serving both our patients and their families during their time at Parkview, and we're proud to welcome another five nurses to our growing roster of DAISY honorees."

In total, 73 Parkview nurses have been honored with a DAISY award since 2021, including 19 so far this year.

For more information about The DAISY Award, visit daisyfoundation.org.

ACPL REACHES \$100,000 FUNDRAISING GOAL TO FUND DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY CAMPAIGN

The Allen County Public Library (ACPL) is excited to announce it has successfully reached its \$100,000 fundraising goal for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program dedicated to fostering early childhood literacy by providing free, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five.

"This milestone reflects the generosity of our community,

the trust they have in our library, and the value they place on nurturing a love of reading in our youngest neighbors," said ACPL Executive Director Susan P. Baier. "With these funds, the library will be able to launch the Imagination Library program in the coming months, ensuring that children will begin receiving books in their homes even sooner than we'd hoped."

With this funding in place, the ACPL is on track to accomplish one of its goals from its 2024-28 Strategic Plan "Allen County's Window to Lifelong Learning and Discovery" in the first year of the plan. That goal aims to celebrate reading and learning by increasing focus on early literacy. This includes an action item dedicated to "exploring partnerships and offering support to increase in-home access to books, including...Imagination Library."

"We are so pleased to be able to move quickly on this strategic project thanks to the generosity of our community and driven by the hard work of our Foundation and staff," said Baier. "It means we will reach more children, more quickly, and at the most critical

time to get books in their hands. Those early years are when we can really have an impact on their vocabulary, comprehension, and their love of learning. When children love books - there is no limit to what they can accomplish!"

The funds were raised from a combination of sources including donations from individuals, family foundations, social and civic organizations, businesses, library employees, and members of the Friends of

the Library. The ACPL Foundation also stirred fundraising during the middle of the campaign with a generous \$25,000 match from its own funds. A \$5,000 gift from the employees at the Meijer on Dupont Rd. presented on October 14 pushed the campaign well over its goal.

In the weeks to come, the Library's leadership will work with the Imagination Library of Indiana to facilitate training and establish the processes to launch the program. Until then, interested parents/caregivers can join the waitlist at: www.imaginationlibrary.com and they will be notified with the program launches.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library has distributed millions of books to children around the world, helping to create a foundation for literacy and a lifelong love of reading. In Allen County, the program already has a list of more than 1500 children awaiting the program. Upon launch, Allen County will join the other 87 Indiana counties who already host the program.

The \$100,000 campaign will be matched by funding from Governor Eric Holcomb's Next Level Agenda and will fund the first two years of the program. The program requires continued support and the community is invited to make donations at acpl.info/imaginationlibrary or by visiting any ACPL branch.

HELPFUL SSI CHANGES REDUCING CUSTOMER BURDEN TAKE EFFECT

Social Security Administration policy updates that expand access to Supplemental Security Income (SSI) in line with the law go into effect today. The agency no longer includes food in In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM) calculations, has expanded its rental subsidy policy exception, and has expanded the definition of a public assistance household.

"These changes will help more people access crucial SSI benefits," said Martin O'Malley, Commissioner of Social Security. "By simplifying and expanding our policies, we are making SSI smarter, removing barriers to accessing payments, and reducing the burden on the public and agency staff."

Starting today, the agency no longer includes food in ISM calculations. The new policy removes a critical barrier to SSI eligibility that an applicant or recipient might encounter if they get informal food assistance from friends,

family, and community networks. The agency estimates this change could increase monthly SSI payments by about \$131 per month for over 90,000 people and allow more people to qualify for benefits. (Refer to Press Release | Press Office | SSA)

Also today, the agency is expanding a rental subsidy exception to all SSI applicants and recipients nationwide that previously applied in only seven states. This uniform nationwide policy will ensure that people paying at least a certain amount toward rent are not subject to ISM in the form of rental assistance. It is estimated this change could increase monthly SSI payments by about \$132 per month for about 41,000 people and allow more people to qualify for SSI. (Refer to Press Release | Press Office | SSA)

Also today, the agency is expanding the definition of a public assistance household in two important ways. First, the agency will add Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to the types of public assistance listed in the policy. Second, the agency will no longer require that all household members receive public assistance to be considered a public assistance household. The expanded definition allows more people to qualify for SSI, increases some SSI recipients' monthly payment amounts, and reduces reporting burdens for individuals living in public assistance households. These two changes could decrease the amount of ISM charged to applicants and recipients, resulting in increased SSI payments to about 277,000 people and making more people eligible for SSI in the coming years. (Refer to Press Release | Press Office | SSA)

SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults aged 65 and older, who have limited income and resources. SSI benefits help pay for basic needs like rent, food, clothing, and medicine. People applying for and receiving SSI must meet eligibility requirements, including income and resource limits.

For more information on the SSI program, including who is eligible and how to apply, visit Supplemental Security Income (SSI) | SSA.

CUTTING SPENDING CAN HELP BOOST RETIREMENT SAVINGS

Like most of us, you may someday want to enjoy a comfortable retirement. Your ability to achieve this goal will depend on how much you save - but it also matters how much you spend.

And saving and spending are certainly related: The more you can reduce your spending, the more money you could have available to save for retirement through your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. Over many years, even relatively small amounts diverted from spending to saving and investing could add up substantially.

How can you go about potentially reducing your spending? Here are a few suggestions:

- Use a budgeting tool. If you're not already doing so, you might want to consider using a free online budgeting tool. Among other capabilities, these apps can place your spending in categories - groceries, travel, entertainment, and so on - which can reveal redundancies that, once eliminated, could save you money. For example, you might find that you're spending a not-insignificant amount on streaming services you rarely use. Or you might be surprised at how often you go the grocery store, rather than consolidating your visits and reducing the likelihood of "impulse" purchases.

- Take advantage of employee benefits. If you work for a mid-size or large company, you may have an extensive employee benefit plan, which could include discounts on some products and services. Also, if you are enrolled in a high-deductible health plan through your employer, you might have access to a health savings account (HSA) or flexible spending account (FSA), either of which may let you lower your out-of-pocket health care costs by using pre-tax dollars to pay for deductibles, copay-

ments, coinsurance and some other qualified expenses.

- Shop around for insurance. To some extent, we are all creatures of habit, which can be good in some circumstances and not so good in others. In the "not so good" category, many people stick with their auto, homeowners and life insurance policies year after year, even though they might be able to save some money by switching to another company. But even if you stay with your current company, you might find ways to save money by taking steps such as adding a home security system. Check with your insurer to learn more.

- Compare credit cards. There's a piece of financial advice that essentially says: "Pay cash for everything" - and this isn't a bad idea. Ideally, you might want to use a credit card strictly for items such as car rentals or hotel reservations, and you should pay off the bill each month to avoid interest charges. Sometimes, though, you may need to use your card for other purposes, and it may not always be possible to pay your bill in full. That's why you'll want to review credit cards periodically to find one with lower interest rates, a favorable balance transfer offer and a better rewards program.

It's not always easy to cut down on your spending, but when you do, it can provide more peace of mind - and an opportunity to boost your savings for what could be a long and active retirement.

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



Edward Jones
Member SIPC



Bryan R Post
Financial Advisor
117 E High Street
Hicksville, OH 43526
419-542-6260

edwardjones.com

MKT-58940-A AECSPAD

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.

READER PICK-UP LOCATIONS

OHIO LOCATIONS

Antwerp: H20, Antwerp Exchange Bank, Family Dollar, Pop-N-Brew, Pit-Stop, Antwerp Manor, Library, Genesis House, G-Mart, Dollar General

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

Cecil: 127 Maramart, Paulding Pancake House

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

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

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

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

Hicksville: Sailors, 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

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

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

Scott: Scott Post Office

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

INDIANA LOCATIONS

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

Grabill: Save-A-Lot, Grabill 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

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

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

Subscription information for the West Bend News follows: If you would like to have the West Bend News newspaper delivered to your home, subscriptions are \$58.00 per year. The newspapers are available for free at pickup locations throughout Northeast Indiana and Northwest Ohio.

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PANTHERS CLINCH PLAYOFF BERTH WITH WIN OVER ARCHER



Antwerp senior Tavin Sholl receives the pass from quarterback Hampton Rogge! More pictures at westbendnews.net



Paulding's Jordan Manz, sophomore, receives the pass from QB Colten Hunt and scores the touchdown! More pictures at westbendnews.net

Paulding scored 46 straight points and captured a county rivalry win as the Panthers cruised to a 46-6 victory over Antwerp at Archer Field Friday night in Green Meadows Conference football action.

The victory, which moves the Panthers to 7-3 overall

on the season and 4-3 in the league, clinches a second straight playoff berth for Paulding as the maroon and white will travel to Bluffton to open the postseason.

Colten Hunt and Jordan Manz hooked up on touchdown passes of 22 and 38 yards to lead the way for the

Panthers while Hunt also had a 34-yard scoring strike to Blake Rhonehouse.

Hunt ended the night 12 of 22 passing, throwing for 225 yards and the trio of touchdowns.

Jordan Manz totaled five receptions for 100 yards to top Paulding with Rhonehouse hauling in three passes for 57 yards. Kane Jones chipped in pair of receptions for 49 yards.

Avery Cooper paced the Paulding ground game with 73 yards on 13 carries, including a pair for scores. Sammy Reinhard added 24 yards on six tries for the maroon and white with Jalen Manz totaling 22 yards on four carries.

Jack Woods finished with seven tackles for the Panthers while Carter Evans and Jordan Manz both recorded four stops. Jackson Griffith, Miguel Martinez, Kane Jones, Colton Bashore and Rhonehouse picked up three tackles apiece for Paulding.

Hampton Rogge found Kayden Winslow on a seven-yard touchdown toss for the lone Antwerp score of the contest. The blue and white was held to 81 yards of total offense in the contest with 58 coming through the air and 23 on the ground.

The Archers wrap up the season with a record of 3-7 in all games and 1-6 in the conference.

GMC 2024 FALL SCHOLAR ATHLETES

The Green Meadows Conference is proud to announce the Scholar Athletes for the fall of 2024.

To be eligible for this honor, the athlete must be a senior, participate and letter in a recognized sport or cheerleading and have a 3.5 GPA or better after 6 semesters.

ANTWERP
Braylen Moreno, Madisyn Peters, Derek Hines, Jonah Keys, Elle Clem, Caroline Rohrs, Drew Eaken

AYERSVILLE
Rylan Becher, Addison

Zartman, Taurean Knueven, Zoah Wineland, Anna Alvarado, Courtney Ledkins, Autumn Kreigh

EDGERTON
Casey Everetts, Cory Herman, Andy Meyer, Heidi Meyer, Keira Myers, Corinne Cape

FAIRVIEW
Aiden Casterline, Jesse Coolman, Brett Grine, Cash King, Casey Lucas, Cole McStoots, Summer Hiler, Kayla Mavis, Heidi Romero, Natalie Timbrook, Elizabeth Bok

HICKSVILLE
Elise Baldwin, Parker Bassett, Adilyn Crawford, Braedon Dix, Mackenzie Enderle, Gabriella Fisher, Baron Graber, Bronson Graber, Brant Langham, Phinehas Phillips, Austin Sanders, Zackary Schooley, Josie Smith, Skylar Suffel

PAULDING
Matthew Bail, Lucas Beckman, Curtis Langsdorf, Sam Reinhard, Jack Woods, Grace Goyings, Marley Parrett, Brianna Bermejo, Claire Miller, Jeremiah Koenig, Cully Thompson, Nico Stahl, Austen Kinder, Max Stork, Christiana Martinez

TINORA
Dominic Graziani, Cooper Ferrell, Devon Luellen, Jacob Bishop, Alex Homier, Alec Schaublin, Hunter Bostelman, Aleana Ankney, Sophia Stark, Avery Morris, Kenzi Nagel, Kallie Snyder, Paige Sebring, Zoe Roesti, Grace Meyer, Paul Westrick, Logan Baldrige, Grayson Delarber, Rose Billing, Autumn Henry, Danica Rath, Julia Plassman, Addison Tussing

WAYNE TRACE
Luke Stouffer, Dylan Coffman, Harper Myers, Isabella Knowles, Ava Stoller, Lorie Sinn, Anna Meraz, Natalie Stoller, Ryan Bostelman, Tyson Gerber, Makenna Johnson, Tori Young, Brady Miller, Blake Osborn

2024 GREEN MEADOWS ALL-CONFERENCE FOOTBALL SELECTIONS

The Green Meadows Conference is proud to announce the All-Conference selections and

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

William Zeedyk, (11) Fairview High School

CO-DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE YEAR

Alex Homier, (12) Tinora High School; Jack Woods (12) Paulding High School

FIRST TEAM

Offensive Ends: Logan Olinger (10) Fairview, Blake Rhonehouse (11) Paulding, Scottie Krontz (12) Edgerton

Offensive Tackles: Kaden Booher (11) Ayersville, Alex Homier (12) Tinora

Offensive Center: Alec Schaublin (12) Tinora

Offensive Guards: Hunter Bostelman (12) Tinora, Noah Parady (12) Wayne Trace

Quarterback: William Zeedyk (11) Fairview

Offensive Running Backs: Taurean Knueven (12) Ayersville, Joel Walkup (12) Edgerton, Cross Zeedyk (11) Hicksville

Place Kicker: Jacob Bishop (12) Tinora

Tight End: Josh Leib (10) Tinora

Punter: Jacob Bishop (12) Tinora

Defensive Ends: Alex Homier (12) Tinora, Cooper Ferrell (12) Tinora

Defensive Tackles: Luke Stouffer (12) Wayne Trace, Hunter Bostelman (12) Tinora, Keegan Gray-Wyckoff (10) Antwerp

Linebackers: Jack Woods (12) Paulding, Alec Schaublin (12) Tinora, Joel Walkup (12) Edgerton

Defensive Backs: Scottie Krontz (12) Edgerton, Logan Olinger (10) Fairview, Braden Leppelmeier (12) Edgerton

SECOND TEAM

Offensive Ends: Brant Langham (12) Hicksville, Dominic Graziani (12) Tinora, Gavin Meade (10) Fairview

Offensive Tackles: Austin Gates (12) Fairview, Dylan Coffman (12) Wayne Trace

Offensive Center: Colt Bashore (12) Paulding

Offensive Guards: Lucas Bonar (12) Fairview, Luke Stouffer (12) Wayne Trace

Quarterback: Maddox Baker (11) Edgerton

Offensive Running Backs: Avery Cooper (10) Paulding, Gavin Garza (10) Fairview, Cooper Replogle (10) Tinora

Place Kicker: Landric VanerMade (11) Fairview

Tight End: Cory Herman (12) Edgerton, Owen Stuckey (12) Hicksville

Punter: Cory Herman (12) Edgerton

Defensive Ends: Dyson Scott (12) Wayne Trace, Brody Williams (10) Fairview

Defensive Tackles: Carter Radzik (10) Tinora, Colt Bashore (12) Paulding, Austin Gates (12) Fairview

Linebackers: Lance Whitman (11) Wayne Trace, Brett Grine (12) Fairview, Amos Sinn (12) Wayne Trace

Defensive Backs: Dominic Graziani (12) Tinora, Tyler Head (12) Wayne Trace, Jacob Bishop (12)

HONORABLE MENTION

Offensive Ends: Kayden Winslow (12) Antwerp, Brody Williams (10) Fairview, Jacob Bishop (12) Tinora, Jordan Manz (10) Paulding, Tyler Head (12) Wayne Trace, Jaxon Jones (12) Antwerp, Kellen Sanchez (9) Edgerton, Dylan Schaufele (11) Tinora, Brady Miller (12) Wayne Trace

Offensive Tackles: Keegan Gray-Wyckoff (10) Antwerp, Evan Stark (12) Edgerton, Cash King (12) Fairview

Offensive Center: Jackson Brody (11) Fairview, Blake Osborn (12) Wayne Trace, Zack Schooley (12) Hicksville

Tight End: Eli Berner (11) Ayersville

Quarterback: Colt Hunt

(11) Paulding, Owen Ferrell (10) Tinora

Offensive Guards: Jackson Flower (11) Edgerton, Bryce Schroeder (11) Edgerton, John Yagel (12) Fairview, Bronson Graber (12) Hicksville, Miguel Martinez (11) Paulding, Matt Bail (12) Paulding, Nathan Sattler (10) Tinora, J.J. Avalos (11) Hicksville

Offensive Running Backs: Zac Salas (10) Antwerp, Lance Whitman (11) Wayne Trace, Devon Louellen (12) Tinora

Punter: Brant Langham (12) Hicksville, Jalen Manz (10) Paulding

Place Kicker: Parker Eiden (11) Edgerton, Owen Stuckey (12) Hicksville, Aleksander Makowski (12) Ayersville

Defensive Ends: Karter Gibson (11) Edgerton, Luke Beckman (12) Paulding, Carter Evans (12) Paulding, Adam Spangler (11) Fairview

Defensive Tackles: Hayden McConnell (12) Ayersville, Orlando (11) Edgerton, Noah Weaver (11) Edgerton, Luca Bonar (12) Fairview, Bronson Graber (12) Hicksville, Brock Bailey (11) Tinora

Linebackers: Michael Rohrs (10) Antwerp, Zac Salas (10) Antwerp, Gavin Garza (10) Fairview, Trentin Darlber (12) Tinora, Josh Lieb (10) Tinora, Cole Morehead (12) Wayne Trace

Defensive Backs: Kayden Winslow (12) Antwerp, Jon Huffman (11) Fairview, Jordan Manz (10) Paulding, Jackson Griffith (11) Paulding, Tavin Sholl (12) Antwerp, Jesse Coolman (12) Fairview, Blake Rhonehouse (11) Paulding, Kane Jones (12) Paulding, Clay Stoller (11) Wayne Trace, Dayne Sholl (12) Antwerp, Brant Langham (12) Hicksville, Jalen Manz (10) Paulding, Mason McQuillin (12) Tinora

CC ENDS FOR COUNTY

The 2024 high school cross country season came to an end in Paulding County as the final two individual runners came up just short of advancing at the Division III regional meet in Tiffin.

Kamren Johnson of Antwerp and Max Daeger of Paulding both put up outstanding efforts in regional race action but saw their seasons end.

Johnson recorded a time of 16:42.83 to finish in 30th place at the regional meet while Daeger posted a time of

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IRAN KECK PRESEASON NATIONALS IN DES MOINES, IOWA



Corbin Kimmel finished in the top 16 of a 64-man bracket. Photo by Carrie Kimmel.



Photo by Carrie Kimmel

Three wrestlers from the Wayne Trace wrestling program traveled to Des Moines, Iowa to compete at the Brian Keck Preseason National Tournament on October 25th and 26th. The event brings high level competition represented by all states.

Corbin Kimmel wrestled in the 120-pound weight class for the tournament. The senior finished in the top sixteen of a 64-man bracket. Kimmel received a bye for the first round. In round two Corbin was defeated by Cooper Jackson, the Oklahoma state runner-up, with a close score of 6-4. In round 3, Kimmel ad-

16:52.48 in recording a 33rd place finish.

The top 28 runners advanced to the Division III state meet.

APACHES MOVE ON TO PLAYOFFS AFTER WIN OVER ACES

The Fairview Apaches wrapped up an 8-2 regular season with a 34-12 victory over Hicksville in Green Meadows Conference football action Friday evening.

It was the visiting black and gold that struck first, getting a three-yard touchdown

rumbled 23 yards to push the Apaches in front 28-6.

Following a 56-yard touchdown run by Hicksville's Cross Zeedyk, Garza closed out the game's scoring with an eight-yard scamper for a score to wrap up the 34-12 Fairview victory.

Fairview outgained Hicksville 427-285 in the contest as the Apaches totaled 335 passing yards and 92 rushing yards. The Aces posted 118 yards on the ground and 167 yards via the air.

William Zeedyk ended the night 23 of 32 passing in the contest with Olinger posting 11 receptions for 151 yards. Brody Williams added six catches for 57 yards as well for Fairview.

Owen Stuckey completed 17 of 31 passes for Hicksville with Brant Langham recording seven receptions for 68 yards. Garrett Turnbull picked up four catches for 49 yards and Collin Leavell posted three receptions for 23 yards. Cross Zeedyk ran for 59 yards over four carries to lead the Hicksville rushing attack.

GMC HONORS SCHOLAR ATHLETES

The Green Meadows Conference recently released its list of fall sports scholar athletes with 97 students across the league being recognized.

Tinora led the way with 23 honorees while Paulding had 15 with Hicksville and Wayne Trace each totaling 14. Fairview (11), Antwerp (seven), Ayersville (seven) and Edgerton (six) completed the list of schools.

On the list from the Aces are Elise Baldwin, Parker Bassett, Adilyn Crawford, Braedon Dix, Mackenzie Enderle, Gabriella Fisher, Baron Graber, Bronson Graber, Brant Langham, Phineas Phillips, Austin Sanders, Zackary Schooley, Josie Smith and Skylar Suffel.

Panther athletes on the list included Matthew Bail, Lucas Beckman, Curtis Langsdorf, Sam Reinhard, Jack Woods, Grace Goyings, Marley Parrett, Brianna Bermejo, Claire Miller, Jeremiah Koenig, Cully Thompson, Nico Stahl, Austen Kinder, Max Stork and Christiana Martinez.

Students from Wayne Trace included were Tyson Gerber, Dylan Coffman, Lorie Sinn, Luke Stouffer, Harper Myers, Isabella Knowles, Ava Stoller, Anna Meraz, Natalie Stoller, Ryan Bostelman, Makenna Johnson, Tori Young, Brady Miller and Blake Osborn.

Braylen Moreno, Madisyn Peters, Derek Hines, Jonah Keys, Elle Clem, Caroline Rohrs and Drew Eaken were the Archer athletes recognized.

IHSAA NEW HAVEN CROSS COUNTRY REGIONALS



Woodlan runners compete at the IHSAA New Haven Cross Country Regionals. Katy Niles ran a season PR of 19:13.4 and qualified for the

IHSAA State Cross Country meet November 2nd in Terre Haute. Other Woodlan Warriors that competed at the regional cross-country meet was

Layla Hodson (22:31.2), Jeremiah Troyer (17:25.8) and Collin Klepper (18:42.8). Congratulations to Woodlan Warrior Runners!

SEASON ENDS FOR PANTHERS

Ottawa Glandorf proved to be too much for Paulding in Division III district volleyball action as the Lady Titans swept past the Panthers at Miller City High School.

The Putnam County squad recorded a 25-6 decision in the opening set before taking complete control by rolling to a 25-9 win in game two. Ottawa Glandorf then finished off the match with a 25-19 victory over the maroon and white.

Pacing the way for the Lady Panthers were Lucy Breier with eight kills while Tori Schlatter added five and Brianna Bermejo posted four. Kayleigh Dunham and Estie Pease both recorded two slams for Paulding.

Schlatter picked up a team high nine digs followed by Addison Pease (eight), Addison Shull (eight), Bermejo (seven), Pease (four), Marley Parrett (two) and Addison Arend (two).

Pease and Grace Goyings dished out eleven and four assists, respectively, with Dunham finishing with two blocks.

Paulding ends the season with a record of 11-13 overall.

WARRIORS CLAIM REGIONAL TITLE

The Woodlan Lady Warriors captured a Class 2A Regional Volleyball championship on Saturday with a four-set victory over Lakeland.

Woodlan took the opening set of the match, posting a 25-17 victory, before Lakeland evened the match with a 25-23 win in game two.

However, the Lady Warriors rebounded to defeat the Lakers 25-20 in the third set and then wrapped up the match by dominating Lakeland 25-10 in game four.

Alyssa Anderson led the way for Woodlan with 21 kills in the match and Katy Bottoms had ten slams. Bree Peoples and Carsyn Wills posted six and five kills, respectively, for the Lady Warriors.

Jade Lichty picked up a pair of aces for the Lady Warriors with Anderson and Makenna Smith getting one apiece.

Anderson also had three blocks to lead Woodlan while Makaila Gruber and Wills picked up one each.

Alix Jacquay picked up 16 digs in pacing the Lady Warriors and Makenna Smith aided the Warrior cause with 15. McKenna Smith chipped in nine digs followed by Alyssa Harvey (eight), Gruber (five), Victoria Crozier (four), Anderson (four), Wills (three), Peoples (two) and Bottoms (two).

Crozier dished out 24 assists to top the Woodlan effort and Harvey finished with 13 assists.

Woodlan, now 22-9 on the season, advances to take on Jimtown (15-16) in the 10:00 a.m. match at Delta on November 2.

THIRD QUARTER BLITZ ENDS WARRIORS SEASON

Host Tippecanoe Valley scored 23 unanswered points in the third quarter to pull away for a 51-25 victory over visiting Woodlan in sectional football action Friday night.

It was a tight contest after one quarter as the Vikings held a slim 7-6 advantage before Tippecanoe added to the margin in the second stanza.

The Vikings picked up a pair of touchdowns in the period while limiting Woodlan to one score as the hosts expanded the margin to 21-12 at the halfway point of the contest.

Quarter number three, though, was dominated by the hosts.

Tippecanoe Valley scored 23 points in the stanza and blanked the visiting Warriors, breaking the game open and expanding the margin to 44-

12 entering the final quarter.

Woodlan did score a pair of touchdowns in the fourth period but it wasn't enough as the Vikings went on to post the 51-25 victory.

Tippecanoe Valley piled up 21 first downs in the contest while the Warriors recorded 11 while the Vikings racked up 464 yards of total offense compared to Woodlan's 297.

Wes Parker totaled 154 rushing yards on a dozen carries with Brock Derf recording 132 yards over a dozen tries. Grady Moriarty picked up 71 yards on seven attempts as well for the Vikings.

Shaiden Snyder rumbled for 153 yards on seven carries to pace Woodlan's rushing attack and Drew Fleek picked up 84 yards on 16 attempts.

Both quarterbacks completed three passes in the contest as Tippecanoe Valley's Hunter Stage was a perfect three of three for 54 yards while Woodlan's Ty Loudon finished three of eight for 42 yards.

Moriarty and Derf each totaled a dozen tackles to lead the Vikings while Brandon Stiles posted six.

Eli Funk led the way for Woodlan with a dozen tackles on the night with Ashton Jacquay totaling nine stops. Gavin Vachon and Loudon both recorded eight for the Warriors and Ryan Kline picked up seven.

Woodlan closes the season with a record of 5-5 overall while the Warriors finished 3-3 in ACAC play.



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PROUD GRANDPARENTS



Saturday morning we heard some great news and our buttons are popping. Our grandson, an MD in his second year of residency at County Hospital in Milwaukee, spoke at a conference of doctors this week in Chicago. He is going to be an Ophthalmologist. He showed a video of him doing an eye operation. The operation was videoed by his twin sister who is a video specialist working with the National Autism Society. The video was shown on Facebook, but it is not for the faint of heart. There was quite a bit of blood and cutting an eye isn't exactly pretty. There was also a picture of the 10 speakers at the conference, and my grandson was the only American. The other doctors were mostly of Indian descent and some wore turbans. Talk about proud grandparents and parents, their mother was in the hospital three months for them with a difficult birth. I always thought foreign students were smarter than our students but she says that is not the case. Our grandson has studied every possible moment for the last 10 years. His mother, a school teacher, says that our kids are just not

willing to work that hard. That brings up the question, are our schools teaching the importance of contributing to society, or just what are our schools teaching? Are they teaching respect for others, and being cognizant of times that they can help others? These things can be more important than readin' and writin.' I am amazed, though, that when I approach a door with my walker, quite often a young person appears from nowhere to open the door. As you get older these things seem to be more important, and knowing how to do calculus becomes less important. Young people will never learn these things unless we make a conscious effort to teach them. I often think of a baby as a blank slate. We teach them everything they know. Way to go Amanda and Adam, we are so proud of you. What good looking young people. PS: I shall never forget seeing an Indian man and his 12-year-old son talking as they were shopping together at Christmas time. You could just see the affection and respect, they had for each other.

—James Neuhaus

FIELD REPORTS FROM OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE OFFICERS

Central Ohio - Wildlife District One

While on patrol at Deer Creek Wildlife Area, State Wildlife Officer John Coffman, assigned to Fayette County, contacted an angler. When Officer Coffman conducted a license check, the individual presented a fishing license that expired in 2023. Officer Coffman could not find a valid fishing license on the angler's file in the licensing system. The individual was issued a summons for fishing without a license and paid \$130 in fines and court costs.

During the opening day of the early waterfowl hunting season, State Wildlife Officer Nicholas Oliver, assigned to Champaign County, conducted hunter compliance checks at Indian Lake. He contacted a hunter with a shotgun capable of holding more than three rounds who did not have a valid Ohio Wetlands Habitat Stamp. The stamp is required of hunters aged 18 and older who hunt waterfowl in Ohio, and migratory bird hunters are required to have their shotgun plugged if it can hold more than three shells. The individual was issued summonses for the violations.

Northwest Ohio - Wildlife District Two

In 2023, State Wildlife Officer Matt. D. Smith, assigned to Huron County, learned that an individual who was prohibited from possessing a firearm had harvested a white-tailed deer with a firearm and falsely game-checked the harvest. Officer Smith also discovered a felony warrant for the suspect's arrest. When Officer Smith apprehended the suspect, he discovered a concealed firearm and two antlered deer mounts that were untagged. He later learned of additional wildlife violations. This spring, the individual was charged for several misdemeanor wildlife violations and a felony charge of possessing a firearm unlawfully. The defendant was found guilty of the felony and sentenced to one year in prison and two years of supervised parole. A handgun and antlered deer mounts were forfeited to the state, and the individual paid more than \$1,000 in fines, court costs, and attorney fees.

State Wildlife Investigator Travis Abele was conducting a license compliance check near South Bass Island when he contacted an angler with a crankbait stuck in an ear. Investigator Abele boarded the vessel and removed the treble hook from the crankbait. He then followed the boat back to South Bass Island State Park and safely removed the hook once on shore. The angler was grateful for Investigator Abele's assistance.

Northeast Ohio - Wildlife District Three

State Wildlife Officer Aaron Brown, assigned to Wayne County, received information regarding individuals harvesting greater and lesser yellowlegs. Yellowlegs have no open season for harvest in Ohio. Officer Brown witnessed one individual harvest a bird. State Wildlife Officer Michael Greer, assigned to Cuyahoga County, arrived to assist. The officers approached the individuals, who showed their birds and

explained they were hunting for snipe. All but one bird in each hunter's possession was a snipe. Officer Brown explained the difference between yellowlegs and snipe and the habitats where snipe are found. The individuals were each issued one summons for taking a game bird for which there is no open season. The individuals paid fines and court costs of \$180.

State Wildlife Officer Michael Budd, assigned to Tuscarawas County, and State Wildlife Officer Supervisor Eric Bear hosted a white-tailed deer antler measuring training at the Ohio Division of Wildlife District Three headquarters. State wildlife officers and wildlife management staff participated in this valuable antler-scoring training. This skill is useful for determining restitution values in deer poaching cases.

Southeast Ohio - Wildlife District Four

While patrolling at Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area over Labor Day weekend, State Wildlife Officer Anthony Lemle, assigned to Noble County, observed two vehicles driving in a non-designated area. The vehicles drove across a dam to a pond and down a steep embankment. Both drivers were contacted and issued summonses in Noble County Court for operating a vehicle in a restricted area. Both drivers pleaded guilty and each paid \$140 in fines and court costs.

State Wildlife Officer Cole Tilton, assigned to Vinton County, received information from Wayne National Forest Officer Lamar Wilson about individuals digging ginseng prior to the start of the season. Ohio's ginseng harvest season is Sept. 1 to Dec. 31 annually. Wildlife Investigator Kirk Kiefer and Officer Tilton contacted a suspect and located unlawfully possessed ginseng roots. Officer Tilton, Officer Wilson, and State Wildlife Officer Levi Boggs, assigned to Gallia County, conducted a follow-up interview with another suspect, who was in possession of unlawfully dug ginseng roots. Each individual pleaded guilty in Vinton County Court for illegally possessing ginseng and paid \$250 in fines and court costs. The ginseng was seized as evidence and forfeited to the Ohio Division of Wildlife.

Southwest Ohio - Wildlife District Five

State Wildlife Officers Isaiah Gifford, assigned to Clinton County, and Alex Almeter, assigned to Greene County, operated a display at the Ohio Gun Collectors Association annual fall event. The officers also instructed at the hunter education course hosted at the event. Thirty-five students attended and successfully completed the course.

Wildlife Officer Mathew Bourne, assigned to Clark County, responded to a call from a local park regarding a fish kill in a pond. Officer Bourne located two invasive bighead carp. Wildlife District Five fish management staff surveyed the pond and found no additional bighead carp. Native to eastern Asia, bighead carp are an invasive species that threatens local aquatic habitats and fish species. Anglers can help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species by properly disposing of unused bait and cleaning all fishing and boating equipment after use.

DEFIANCE AREA FOUNDATION RECEIVES DONATION FROM PREMIER BANK



Pictured left to right: Chris Yoder, executive director, Defiance Area Foundation and Jim Williams, EVP, Northern Market President, Premier Bank

Premier Bank recently donated a check to the Defiance Area Foundation (DAF) for \$10,000. This gift will be used to sponsor the 2025 formal gala event, to be held on October 4, 2025.

"Our gala is so much more than an elaborate dinner; it is a vital gathering that will fuel the Defiance Area Foundation's mission to enhance, enrich encourage and support the Defiance County community," explained Christine Yoder, Executive Director, Defiance Area Foundation. "Our gala is an opportunity for leaders, visionaries and philanthropists to come together, united by a shared commitment to make a difference. We

are thankful for the support of our community partners like Premier Bank.

The Bank's support significantly enhances the impact of our work."

"We are proud to support the Defiance Area Foundation and their efforts to grow and expand the impact of the Foundation," said Trish Gelsomino, Foundation Giving Coordinator, Premier Bank. "Together we can spread kindness and make Defiance County stronger!"

For more information regarding the Defiance Area Foundation, please call 419-782-3130 or visit DefianceAreaFoundation.org/gala*

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ANTWERP POLICE REPORTS

On October 19 a resident of E. River St. reported that her mom and step-father had trespassed on her property by leaving a vehicle on her property.

On October 21 an unruly juvenile was reported at residence at North Garden Apartments. The officer investigated and deescalated the situation by allowing the juvenile to go with her father for the night. A report was prepared.

On October 22 a resident of the village reported someone was harassing him and his family via making comments and statements via a youtube channel. A report was prepared.

On October 24 a resident of CR 45, Antwerp, reported that he had been scammed. He received a check for \$11,570 and was told to cash the check and send back \$10,000 to the person who sent it to him. It was determined it was all a fraud.

On October 24 a vehicle was parked at a down town business appeared to be damaged and no valid license plate. The vehicle was towed.

On October 25 a domestic dispute was reported at a res-

ident on N. Main St. The case was investigated and a report forwarded to the prosecutor.

On October 25 a wallet was dropped off to the police department, the identification in it showed it belonged to a resident of Payne. The owner was contacted and came and retrieved the wallet.

On October 26 a resident of Main St reported that the neighbor mowed over her child's bat, while mowing. A report was prepared.

On October 26 a motor vehicle accident was reported on S. Main St. A vehicle had left the road and struck a building. The officer prepared a report and cited the driver.

On October 28 while on patrol an officer observed a vehicle pulling a wagon pull out in front of a vehicle almost causing a collision, and then running over some orange cones the village had set up. The driver was stopped and cited.

On October 28 a resident of Bryan called and requested an officer be present while she retrieved her items from her ex-boyfriend's house on Canal St.

On October 28 a resident of High St. said he was threatened by a resident of Woodcox St. That resident had accused him of teepeeing his home.

On October 29 a domestic dispute was reported at Leinard Mobile Home Park. An officer went to the location, investigated the situation, forwarded a report to the prosecutor.

If you would like to report any suspicious activity or if you have any questions, please contact the Antwerp

Police Department, 419-258-2627. They are always ready to serve the residents of the Village of Antwerp!

SERIOUS INJURY CRASH - FULTON COUNTY

The Toledo Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol is investigating a two-vehicle injury crash that occurred at the intersection of County Road 19 and State Route 2 in Fulton County.

On October 22, 2024 at approximately 748PM, Jonathan Fenton of Wauseon, was traveling northbound on County Road 19 in a 2012 Toyota SUV, and failed to yield at the stop sign. Jefferson Smucker of Archbold, was traveling westbound on State Route 2 in a 2012 Ford pickup truck, and struck the Toyota. Both vehicles traveled off the right side of the roadway, and Mr. Fenton's vehicle overturned.

Mr. Fenton was transported by Life Flight to St. Vincent's Hospital and sustained serious but non-life-threatening injuries. Mr. Smucker sustained minor injury and was treated at the scene.

Assisting on scene was Fulton County Sheriff's Office, Wauseon Fire/EMS, Fisher Recovery Services, and Brett's Towing.

This crash remains under investigation at this time.

PAULDING COUNTY COURT RECORDS

Criminal/Traffic Disposition Report

Brett M. Mullins, Payne, OH; Disorderly conduct with persistence; Guilty; 30 days jail, 28 days suspended; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior; Placed on standard probation; Pay restitution in the amount of \$114.81; Continue counseling with Westwood; Ankle monitor may be removed today; No unlawful contact with victim

Mark M. Glass, Payne, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Russell L. Fulk, Payne, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Steven A. Pierce, Middle Point, OH; Disorderly conduct; Pled no contest, found guilty; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Drew R. Matz, Antwerp, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

David W. Peters, Elida, OH; Seat/belt drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Larry J. Jewell, Convoy, OH; Seat belt/drive; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Briegan Pierce, Defiance, OH; Prohibited turn; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Ronald E. Goodwin II, Cecil, OH; Driving/texting; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Grace K. Miller, Fort Wayne, IN; Registration violation; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Jamie D. Coombs, Paulding, OH; Disorderly conduct; Guilty; 30 days jail; Defendant to pay all fines and costs; Maintain general good behavior

Aaron J. Longwell, Antwerp, OH; Domestic violence, Count A dismissed; Unlawful restraint, Guilty, 62

days jail, 2 days suspended, Defendant to pay all fines and costs, Placed on standard probation, 20 hours community service, Risk assessment, Complete hands down book, Maintain general good behavior

Michaela H. Campbell, Grover Hill, OH; Domestic violence, Domestic violence, Case dismissed per state, without prejudice, Costs waived; Endangering child, Case dismissed per state, without prejudice, Costs waived

Louis J. Beregzazi, Antwerp, OH; Driving/texting; Case dismissed at defendant cost

William M. Brown, Hicksville, OH; Overload, Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Ashley E. Rickels, Paulding, OH; Failure to control; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

Joel C. Troester, Hampton, IA; Failure to yield for emergency vehicle; Guilty; Case was waived by defendant

THREE PARKVIEW HOSPITALS RECOGNIZED BY VIZIENT AS 2024 BIRNBAUM QUALITY LEADERSHIP TOP PERFORMERS

Three Parkview hospitals have been recognized as top community hospital performers in the 2024 Bernard A. Birnbaum, MD, Quality Leadership Ranking by Vizient, Inc.

Parkview Huntington Hospital, Parkview Noble Hospital and Parkview Whitley Hospital were recognized among the top 28 out of 364 community hospitals rated by Vizient. Parkview Noble and Parkview Whitley hospitals have now been recognized for three consecutive years, while Parkview Huntington was honored in back-to-back years.

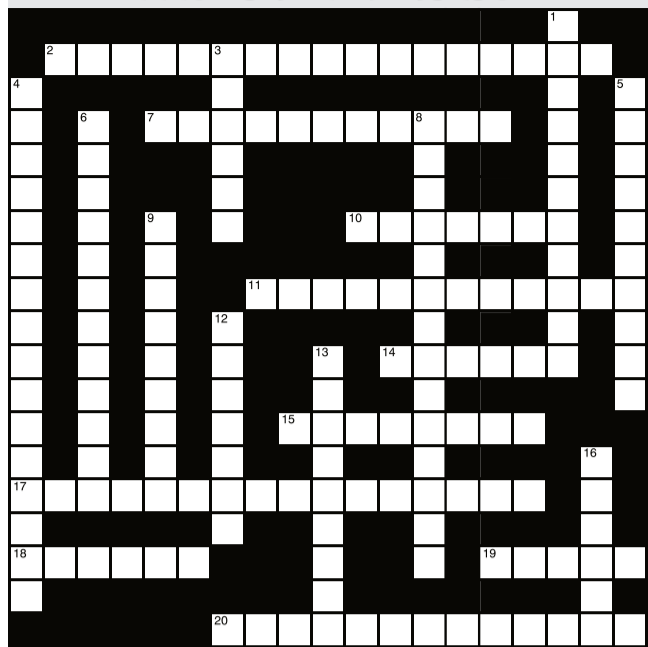
"Quality and safety, both for our patients and our co-workers, is paramount at Parkview," said Dr. Jeffrey Boord, chief quality and safety officer, Parkview Health. "Parkview continually analyzes and updates its processes and policy to ensure that we are delivering the highest quality, safest and most efficient care. We're proud to be recognized by Vizient for the excellent service our co-workers provide at our community hospitals."

The ranking measured performance on the quality of patient care in six domains: safety, mortality, effectiveness, efficiency, patient centeredness and equity. The ranking factors in measures from the Vizient Clinical Data Base and include performance data from the Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems survey and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Healthcare Safety Network.

Parkview's hospitals were recognized for demonstrating excellence in delivering high-quality care based on the Vizient Quality and Accountability Study, conducted annually since 2005.

The Vizient Quality and Accountability Study helps participating hospitals and health systems understand their performance against their peers and identifies structures and processes associated with high performance in quality and safety across a broad spectrum of patient care activity between

WEST BEND NEWS Crossword Puzzle ELECTION TERMINOLOGY



Across

- 2. The process of signing up to be eligible to vote.
- 7. The vice-presidential candidate chosen by a presidential candidate.
- 10. A member of the Electoral College who casts a vote for president and vice president.
- 11. The percentage of eligible voters who cast a ballot in an election.
- 14. A formal discussion between candidates, often broadcast to the public.
- 15. The organized effort to persuade voters to support a candidate.
- 17. The system used to elect the U.S. president.
- 18. A meeting of party members to select candidates or policy.
- 19. The location where voters go to cast their votes.
- 20. A delegate to the Democratic National Convention who is free to support any candidate.

Down

- 1. The total number of votes cast by citizens in an election.
- 3. A second election held when no candidate wins a majority in the first election.
- 4. A speech made by a losing candidate acknowledging defeat.
- 5. A state where the election outcome is uncertain and both candidates have a chance to win.
- 6. The location where voters go to cast their votes on Election Day.
- 8. A method of voting for those who cannot be present at the polling place.
- 9. The current holder of a political office who is running for re-election.
- 12. An election held by political parties to choose their candidates.
- 13. The right to vote in public elections.
- 16. The form used by voters to cast their vote.

solution on page 11

THIS PUZZLE BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Paulding County Hospital • 1035 West Wayne St. • Paulding, OH 45879
 Antwerp Regional Health Ctr • 608 Erie Street • Antwerp, OH, 45813
 Oakwood Medical Center • 109 N. First Street • Oakwood, OH 45873
 Payne Medical Center • 301 South Main Street • Payne, OH 45880

July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024.

"Leading hospitals are leveraging data and analytics to provide superior clinical outcomes," said David Levine, chief medical officer for Vizient. "This award honors Parkview Health for demonstrating leadership fo-

cused on results and a culture of collaboration and adaptability that is necessary to succeed. It is a pleasure to congratulate Parkview on its achievement and commitment to delivering exceptional patient care."

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

THE Village of Hicksville (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS Owner):
 111 South Main Street, Hicksville, Ohio 43526

AND THE Architect (HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS Architect):
 Sixmo Architecture – 1101 Auburn Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113

DATE: October 24 & October 31

TO: POTENTIAL BIDDERS

Your firm is invited to submit an offer under seal to Owner for construction of a facility located at the address below before 4:00 pm local standard time on the 21st day of November, 2024, for: Village of Hicksville - Phase 1 Pool

Your firm is invited to submit an offer under seal to Owner for construction of a facility located at: 598 North Bryan Street, Hicksville, Ohio 43526

Project: Village of Hicksville - Phase 1 Pool

Architect's Project Number: 5179.02.23

Project Description: New recreation pool and seasonal 1-story masonry poolhouse.

Documents may be obtained by interested Bidders at <https://tinyurl.com/5e37kc87>, via email request to the Architect, or at the office of the Owner.

Bidders will be required to provide Bid security in the form of a Bid Bond of a sum no less than 5 percent of the Bid Amount.

Refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00 2113 - Instructions to Bidders and Document 00 3100 - Available Project Information.

Submit your offer on the Bid Form provided. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate.

Your offer will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

The successful bidder will be required to pay laborers on the job in accordance with the State of Ohio Prevailing Wage determination.

Request for Information acceptable via email only to:

Cory Wann (VILADMIN@DEFNET.COM) and Jim Clarke (jclarke@sixmoarchitecture.com).

Request for Information Due: 11-14-2024.

Nonmandatory Pre-Bid Site Tour: 11-05-2024 at 1:30 PM.

Desired Substantial Completion Date: 07-01-2025.

The Owner reserves the right to accept or reject any or all offers.

GET YOUR MESSAGE OUT IN THE WEST BEND NEWS.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The Annual Zoning Committee meeting of Carryall Township will be held on **November 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** at 3408 Road 192, Antwerp, OH.

— Carryall Township Zoning Board

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**VAN WERT CIVIC THEATRE
YOUTH THEATRE PRESENTS
MATILDA THE MUSICAL**

Calling all young performers! The Van Wert Civic Theatre (VWCT) is looking for young talent to help present a captivating youth production of Matilda the Musical!

Based on the beloved book by Roald Dahl, Matilda the Musical is a high-energy show bursting with humor, heart, and magic. The story follows Matilda Wormwood, a brilliant young girl with a knack for telekinesis. Neglected by her self-absorbed parents, Matilda finds solace in the world of books and a kind teacher, Miss Honey.

This heartwarming tale explores themes of friendship, courage, and the power of imagination. As Matilda faces off against the tyrannical headmistress, Miss Trunchbull, she uses her wit, telekinetic abilities, and a little bit of rebellion to create a positive change.

Director Doug Grooms and Choreographer Emily Gehle are looking for youth ages 8 - 18 to play various roles.

Auditions for Matilda the Musical will be held on November 18 and 19, 2024 at 4:30-6:30 at the Van Wert Civic Theatre located at 118 S. Race Street in Van Wert. To sign-up for auditions, please scan the QR code or go to vwct.org/youth-theatre and fill out the audition form.

Rehearsals will begin the last week of November, Monday-Thursday, 4:30-6:30 PM at the Civic Theatre. In January, rehearsals will be at the NPAC. Monday - Thursday until show week. The show will take place on January 25 and 26, 2025 at the Niswonger Performing Arts Center (NPAC). Tickets will be available for purchase through vanwertlive.com.

Don't miss this exciting opportunity for young performers to showcase their talents!

**BUCKLE UP EVERY TRIP,
EVERY TIME**

Van Wert- The Ohio State Highway Patrol is reminding everyone to buckle up this upcoming holiday season. Since 2019, a total of 2,919 people who were not wearing an available safety belt

were killed in traffic crashes on Ohio's roadways.

"Wearing a safety belt is one of the simplest and most effective ways to stay safe on the road," said Governor Mike DeWine. "I urge everyone to buckle up, every trip, every time - not only for your own safety but for the safety of everyone in the vehicle."

Statistics show 73% of vehicle occupants aged 21 to 40 killed in motor vehicle crashes were not wearing an available safety belt. Cuyahoga (2,088), Franklin (1,375), Hamilton (1,052) and Montgomery (872) counties account for more than one-third of the unbelted fatal and serious injury crashes.

"Every time you get into a vehicle, properly buckling up is one of the easiest ways to protect yourself and your loved ones from serious injury, or even death, in the event of a crash," said Colonel Charles A. Jones, Patrol superintendent. "Wearing your safety belt remains the simplest and most effective step you can take to stay safe on the road."

Ohio's safety belt law remains a secondary violation; however, troopers will continue to have zero tolerance when motorists are stopped for other violations and are found to not be wearing their safety belt. Since 2019, troopers have issued more than 400,000 safety belt and child safety seat citations.

The Ohio State Highway Patrol encourages everyone to Buckle Up Every Trip, Every Time.

A statistical map containing safety belt usage, violations and crash information can be found here.

The public is encouraged to call #677 to report impaired drivers, drug activity or stranded motorists.

**ALTERNATIVE FARM
ENTERPRISES**

Agriculture, in general, has entered a period of financial crisis. With lower crop prices and below average yields, farm income is much lower. The lack of rain in August and early September resulted in average soybeans yields around 40-50 bushel plus/minus. I am hearing yields ranging from 130 to

220 bushel on corn, but most farmers tell me they are averaging 180 bushel or less, but takes almost 200 bushel to break even. So, farmers are hurting financially. Soybeans were so dry (as low as 4-8% moisture) that many beans shattered and many early harvested soybeans fields had a perfect new crop of soybeans growing after a rain in late September, but most are gone now with frost.

Some small farmers may be looking at alternative farm enterprises to supplement their farm income. Regular commodities row crops like corn, soybeans, and wheat have a lower profit margin and farmers make money when they produce high volume or yield. Alternative farm enterprises may improve farm profitability by increasing diversity and usually have higher profit margins. However, the learning curve can be steep, the risks are higher, and it takes a lot of research to understand new farming techniques and markets. There are a wide range of alternative farm enterprises such as bed and breakfasts, tourism, wild and cut flowers, unique livestock, mushrooms, herbs, and greenhouse crops, etc. Many small farmers use this business diversification to improve farm profits and farm satisfaction by working at home as their own boss.

The first place to start is to research possible alternative farm enterprises. This starts by taking an inventory of your soils, your climate, your interests (livestock versus plants, abilities, knowledge, finances) and also your assets like barns, equipment, other facilities, and also your risk tolerance. Let's take an example. Say you are interested in blueberries. Blue berries require very acid low pH soils (pH of 5) which tend to be muck or high organic matter and they take several years to grow. For most of Ohio, this is not a good option but a few blue berry enterprises do exist locally. Blue berries are often fertilized with ammonium sulfate to lower the pH and add sulfur. Citric acid can also lower the pH quickly. Most of our soils are not a good fit for blueberries. Good research can prevent a disaster. Good research should include talking to current growers and buyers for your potential farming enterprise.

For some farmers, the easiest solution may be a part-time off farm job. But if you are serious about starting a new enterprise here are some suggestions. Most new enterprises require good marketing skills. Find an outlet for to market your enterprise first. Develop a marketing plan, seek out marketing channels, and get professional help. Universities and Extension offices have a lot free resources that can get you started and can help direct you.

The University of Maryland specializes in alternative farm enterprises and offers these tips. It helps that they are located close to many major cities on the East coast. Here are several things that they suggest you consider before starting a new farm enterprise. Before making a switch, you should be able to answer several important questions:

- Does the enterprise, product, or service meet my

long-term goals for my farm and family?

- Do I have the research and marketing skills to sell the product?
- Does my farm have the right type of soil and climate to meet growing requirements?
- Can I meet standards for this enterprise, such as organic certification?
- Can I provide the required labor management?
- Do I have, or can I afford, the facilities and equipment requirements for this enterprise?
- Does this enterprise fit in well with my other farming enterprises?
- Does this enterprise have a strong potential to meet my financial goals, including the level and timing of returns?

Finally, before investing in an alternative farm enterprise, you need to make several phone calls:

1. Call your local zoning office to determine if you can have a permitted business where you live.
2. Call your accountant to seek assistance in determining its economic feasibility.
3. Call your insurance agent to see what types and costs of insurance are needed for the enterprise.
4. Call your local Extension Agent and Marketing Specialist for support with production, processing, or marketing.

Despite the need for caution, many farmers are successfully growing and marketing alternative crops, products, or services. Starting a new business can be exciting but it is also stressful. On average, about 60% fail within the first few years. But with good research and hard work, many also thrive. Source of Information: University of Maryland Extension.

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services

**DEALING WITH WEATHER &
CUTTING COSTS**

For most farmers, the weather has turned dry with corn and soybeans leaves drying down. A good August rain can add bushels to soybeans and help fill out the corn. While some farmers have received adequate rain this year, the weather patterns have been fickle. Most areas are in a drought now. It seems like the same areas get rain, perhaps too much at times while other areas get missed. A good explanation for this is that good growing crops that got early rain are transpiring more water into the atmosphere, generating more moisture in those areas. Whatever the reason, it can be exasperating for those lacking rain.

This year, there has been more sun activity than normal. The northern lights and magnetic fields have dipped into Southern Michigan and Northern Ohio and Indiana. While the light shows may be fun to watch, it also has an affect on our weather. The sun is still the major generator of weather. A prediction was that we could either have a drought early or late this summer. For some farms, they got adequate moisture early, but also some farms have been lacking moisture all year. Historically, the drought in the 1930's lasted several years and we could be in the middle of the turning point on a similar situation this decade.

To combat warmer, hotter temperatures and drought; conservation practices like no-till and cover crops can keep the soil in place and keep moisture recycling, both in the air, and in the soil for long-term storage. For farmers, the weather and climate is something to always talk about because it effect crop yields. Since prices are about half what they were 3-4 years ago, farmers need to cut costs to survive, not only against current dry conditions but also low prices.

With the cost of fuel and equipment, no-tilling at least soybeans and wheat makes sense. Tillage costs may range from \$40-\$50 per acre and saving one tillage pass can greatly reduce costs, but also saves labor. Using a strip till machine ahead of the planter, even mounted ahead of the planter, on 30-inch rows for corn, allows the soil to warm up faster and still gives 80% of the benefits of no-till if a 6-inch strip is tilled. Every tillage pass dry out your soil 0.5-1.0 acre-inch.

Since corn is either not profitable or barely profitable, many farmers may be planting soybeans after soybeans. To prevent disease and to increase crop yields, crop rotation is a standard practice. Adding a cheap grass cover crop like oats and radish which winter kill, breaks up disease cycle. The Ohio H20 program pays \$35 an acre for an over wintering cover crop (50% live crop in the spring), so either planting cereal rye alone or adding it 50% to a mixture can be beneficial.

Normally, farmers apply cover crop several ways including an airplane, helicopter, drones and high boys. However, cover crops need a minimum of 1 inch (2 inches is better) of moisture and about 60 days of growth before cold weather sets in. To get good stands, drilling is always the best method, especially if moisture is short. You also need to watch out for herbicide carryover which is prevalent in dry weather. To test for herbicide carryover, dig up some soil, and plant

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The Woodburn Police Department is currently accepting applications for a Full-Time Police Officer. This is a Lateral Transfer position. Qualified candidates must have completed an Indiana "Tier 1" academy or an equivalent POST-certified academy from another state, and have prior experience with a law enforcement agency.

Interested applicants should submit their resumes to Chief Brad Parker via mail at PO Box 247, Woodburn, Indiana 46797, or via email at b.parker@cityofwoodburn.org. The application deadline is November 25, 2024, at 5:00 PM.

Benefits include:

- Competitive starting salary of \$45,000-\$55,000 (2025)
- Take-home vehicle
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We look forward to receiving your application!
— Chief Parker,
City of Woodburn

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some cover crop seed in a pot with the soil. Give it a moderate amount of water, and watch the growth. Cover crop seeds may germinate, and even grow short-term, but generally die off as the herbicide carryover in the soil increases.

If dry weather persists into the spring, plan to terminate the cover crop early. If it stays wet, allow the cover crop to grow to increase transpiration, which helps dry out a soil. Next year, surface cover crop residue helps lower surface soil temperatures and reduces moisture losses going into summer.

The last few years, the best crops seem to be those that are planted early. Early planting allows crops to become more deep-rooted and branch out to obtain more soil moisture. The last three years, June has been hotter than normal (more like August weather), so crops that were deeper rooted could survive the heat and drought stress. Crops planted later, tended to suffer more. If the current trend continue for another 2-3 years, strategize on ways to get crops planted earlier. Lighting the load, improving drainage, and use cover crops and their roots to increase soil stability to get crops planted earlier. Farmers planting cover crops often are missing an opportunity to plant earlier because they think the soil is too wet. Try it sometime, you may be surprised.

—James J. Hoorman
Hoorman Soil Health Services

USDA AND REINVESTMENT FUND INVEST NEARLY \$6 MILLION TO INCREASE EQ-

UITABLE ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOODS ACROSS COUNTRY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1, 2024 - U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Secretary Xochitl Torres Small announced today that USDA is partnering with Reinvestment Fund to invest nearly \$6 million to improve access to healthy foods in underserved communities across the country.

The investments are being made through the Healthy Food Financing Initiative (HFFI) Planning Grant Program, which provides grants to organizations for healthy food retail or food retail supply chain projects in early-stage planning and predevelopment phases.

“No matter where you live in our country, you should be able to get affordable, fresh, and healthy food close to home,” Deputy Secretary Torres Small said. “Through the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is working with farmers and ranchers, food retailers, and other stakeholders to strengthen the local and regional food systems we all count on. Reinvestment Fund has been a key partner to USDA in these efforts and today’s investments will ensure more communities get the nutritious food we all deserve.”

This announcement is part of USDA’s comprehensive set of efforts, bolstered by funding made available through the American Rescue Plan Act, to create more and better markets that benefit both producers and American consumers.

HFFI is designed to support new and expanded mar-

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kets for a diversity of growers while helping people across the nation access affordable, healthy foods. Today’s announcement includes investments that will support planning activities for 45 projects to develop or expand food retail and food retail supply chain business models.

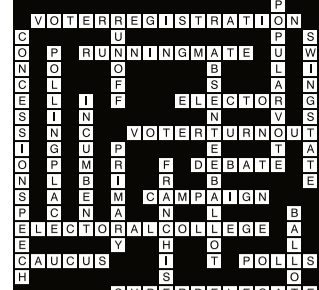
For example:
• In Arizona, the Orchard Community Learning Center will use a nearly \$124,000 investment to begin planning and pre-development activities to open a neighborhood food retailer that serves com-

ming.
• In Michigan, the North Flint Reinvestment Corp. will use a \$150,000 investment to develop the North Flint Food Market, a grassroots, resident-driven initiative. The market will be a fresh food retail store that will provide access to healthy food, create good jobs and revitalize the underserved area of North Flint.

• In Pennsylvania, the Keystone Development Center will use a \$150,000 investment to expand membership and community engagement for Aliquippa Food Co-op, a community-owned grocery store. The funding will help the center continue to provide the co-op with education and organizing support, which it has provided for the last two years.

Projects announced today will increase access to healthy food for people living in Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, New York, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C.

• In Georgia, Patchwork City Farms will use a \$150,000 investment to expand its current farming operation into a 5,000 square-foot health and wellness hub in Atlanta, a first of its kind for the city. It will include a commercial kitchen, food retail space, a post-harvest processing and storage facility, and a gathering space for healthy food program-



Crossword solution from page 9

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HELP WANTED

THE VILLAGE OF HICKSVILLE
The Village of Hicksville is accepting applications for a part-time cleaning person to clean Village offices and Park Pavilion building until November 15th. Applications are available online at: www.villageofhicksville.com and at the Municipal Building 111 South Main St. For questions please call the Administrators office at 419-542-6138 ext.6.

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WAYNE TRACE ART STUDENTS WORKS GO ON DISPLAY



Congratulations go out to several Wayne Trace student artists whose work will be on exhibit around the region starting the weekend of November 1! Senior Luke Stouffer has a sculpture in the Purdue Fort Wayne High School Art Show, and senior Aiden Lee has a printmaking collage on display at COSI in Columbus as part of their T-Rex: The Ultimate Predator exhibit now through March.

Two other Raiders will also have their work on display in Columbus at the 6th Annual Otterbein University High School Art Show which opens later this month. Senior Trista Evans will feature a fiber arts work while junior Hunter Lyons is exhibiting a dizzying drawing in this juried show. Congrats to Luke, Aiden, Trista, and Hunter on their artistic accomplishments!

MIX MINGLE & JINGLE AT CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH WOODBURN

The Basement Ladies present Mix, Mingle and Jingle on November 9th at Christ Lutheran Church, 4412 Park Street, Woodburn, IN from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please join for a fun day of shopping and fellowship. Events include silent auction, bake event, many vendors offering handmade and unique items and lunch with carryout meals available.

ROSE HILL CHURCH OF GOD TURKEY SUPPER

On Thursday, November 7 the Rose Hill Church of God (St. Rt. 637 -CR 138- Charloe Trail, 5 miles east of Paulding) will hold it's turkey supper from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This will be free willing offer and can be eat in or carry out.

OHIO STATE WAIVES APPLICATION FEES FOR REGIONAL CAMPUSES

The Ohio State University is waiving its \$60 application fee for first-year applicants who apply directly to one of its regional campuses, including Ohio State ATI, from Oct. 1 to Dec. 1, 2024.

The initiative aligns with the university's mission of promoting affordability and accessibility, offering students across Ohio the chance to pursue higher education without the initial cost barrier.

Ohio State ATI is the university's associate-degree-granting academic unit within the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES). Located on the CFAES Wooster campus, ATI offers specialized programs in agriculture, horticulture, and environmental sciences, preparing students for in-demand careers in these fields. Students also benefit from small class sizes and hands-on learning in state-of-the-art facilities.

Students applying to ATI or any regional campus who

use the fee waiver code RCW2025 will not only save on the application fee but will also automatically be considered for scholarships. Additionally, applicants can expect a quick admissions decision. The fee waiver applies exclusively to first-year applicants to regional campuses; those planning to apply to the Columbus campus must use the Common Application.

To further Ohio State's access mission, regional campus admission is open to Ohio residents with a high school diploma or GED. Transfer students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 for post-high school coursework are also eligible. Regional campus students in good academic standing can change to the Columbus campus after completing 30 semester hours, typically after their first year. Advisors will work with students to ensure a smooth transition, although some programs might have more rigorous enrollment criteria.

To take advantage of the application fee waiver, visit apply.osu.edu by December 1, 2024

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR FARM CREDIT MID-AMERICA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Farm Credit Mid-America is now accepting applications for its Customer Scholarships and Farm Credit Mid-America Scholars Program. Over the past decade, Farm Credit Mid-America has awarded more than \$2 million in financial and educational support to deserving students pursuing careers that promote agriculture and rural communities.

Customer Scholarships are available to the children or grandchildren of Farm Credit Mid-America customers pursuing careers related to agriculture or rural communities. Applicants can attend an accredited two- or four-year college, university, vocational school or trade school.

"We want to encourage young people to pursue these careers and support them in their journey because we recognize they will be the future of our industry," said Randy Barbee, community investment manager at Farm Credit Mid-America. "Through direct financial support, we are working to secure the future of agriculture and rural communities."

The Farm Credit Mid-America Scholars program is available to rising college sophomores and juniors pursuing careers in agriculture. Each year more than 25 students receive \$5,000 in financial support over two academic years. In addition to financial aid, recipients also participate in onsite learning and travel experiences aimed at developing leadership skills and enhancing financial literacy.

"The financial support provided through the scholarship is extremely helpful, but on top of that, you get to meet great people in the field," said Victoria Holliday, a recent Farm Credit Mid-America Scholar. "It's nice to be surrounded by others who have similar goals to you and bounce ideas off of each other."

Students who meet the eligibility requirements for a

THIS WEEK ON PCBW: JEN SMITH



Our PCBW podcast this week hosts Jen Smith. Jen is the new owner of Hometown Speech Connections. Jen is a certified speech pathologist who has had to adjust to the closing of Community Memorial Hospital in Hicksville but has recently opened an office in Antwerp. Currently located in the Main Street Business Center, listen to hear about the exciting new business growth and plans for new office space as she brings this

regional, in-demand business, into Paulding County!

Thank you to OhioMeansJobs for sponsoring this program. You can tune in to Paulding County Business Weekly on Tuesdays & Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., or listen online at www.my1027.org/paulding-county-business-weekly/. PCBW is also available on many podcast platforms including Apple, Google & Spotify. #paulding-countystrong

Farm Credit Mid-America scholarship are encouraged to apply before the December 15, 2024, deadline. Customer Scholarship applicants are encouraged to apply before the January 15, 2025 deadline. Recipients for both programs will be announced in 2025.

"It's important to support college students who are interested in agriculture because we're the future of the industry," said Daniel

Lester, a recent Farm Credit Mid-America Scholar. "If I could talk to other students, I would tell them to apply for the program in a heartbeat. It opens many doors to new friends, experiences and opportunities."

To learn more about Farm Credit Mid-America's scholarship programs or to submit an application, please visit www.fcma.com/scholarships.

Thank You!
Paulding County Voters for your continued support
—Joe Burkard

Paid for by Joseph Burkard, Paulding County Prosecutor, 3699 Rd. 279, Antwerp, OH 45813

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