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WEEK OF WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2015 | WWW.TROYTRIB.COM

## Needy Basket Receives Give Where You Live's First Donation



BY MIKE WOODY

It only took 30 minutes at the first official meeting of ‘Give Where You Live: Miami County’ to present \$7,600 to the Needy Basket in Tipp City. The Needy Basket is the initial recipient of the donation made by the group to a worthy area charity. At the meeting, consisting of registered community members who have committed to donating \$100 quarterly, three charitable organizations are drawn from a hat to make a five minute presentation, and after a brief question and answer session, a vote is taken to select one of the charities. Needy Basket received the most votes and each of the 76 members in attendance, wrote a check for \$100 made out to the Needy Basket, which totaled \$7,600.

The Needy Basket is entirely staffed by volunteers, including Mike Lightle, who decided earlier in the day to present for the organization. Needy Basket provides food for thousands of hungry families each year in Tipp City, Bethel, and Monroe Township. The money earned will go towards the purchase of food, and for the Christmas baskets. “Just thought I would come and give it a try. The questions were a lot more technical than I expected, but am really glad that I came. Everyone will be really happy,” said Lightle.

The entire purpose of ‘Give Where You Live’ is to contribute to charities within Miami County. Its goal is to create a group of caring citizens who have the desire to support area charitable organizations. Members must pledge to contribute \$100 every quarter to the selected charity. Every cent of the donation is given directly to the charity. Members also have the opportunity to present for the charity of their choice and possibly secure a sizable donation for it.

The co-director of ‘Give Where You Live’, with Maggie McKee, is Matt Buehrer, who is excited about the im-

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## Miracle League Gets Boost from Kiwanis Club

BY NANCY BOWMAN

When members of the Troy Kiwanis Club heard about a proposed Miracle League of the Miami Valley project, they fell in love with the concept, organization president Jennifer Honeyman said Nov. 20 before presenting the first major project donation of \$30,000. “The things we take for granted every day are now going to be available to everyone,” Honeyman said during a project fundraising kick off at Paul G. Duke Park in Troy.

Plans are for the specially designed baseball field for those with disabilities and an accompanying playground to be built as part of the expansion of Duke Park to farmland bought earlier this year by the city. The city has received foundation commitments to help pay for the land.

The Miracle League of the Miami Valley field would be for those living in Miami County and beyond. The local organization is part of the National Miracle League group, both nonprofits. The closest Miracle League fields now are in Dublin and Springboro.

Penny Hoekstra, organization secretary, said when a parent asked her about the possibility of pursuing a Miracle League field for the area “it was a no-brainer.”

Behind the scenes discussions began with major players including Troy Mayor Mike Beamish and Scott Myers, executive director of



Kiwanis Club President Jennifer Honeyman (left) presents a check to Bobby Phillips, President of Miracle League of the Miami Valley and Penny Hoekstra, Secretary of the Miracle League of the Miami Valley

the Miami County Park District.

Hoekstra said she also turned to friend Bobby Phillips, a member of city council and the Kiwanis who is serving as the Miracle League organization president.

Phillips said the \$30,000 donation was the centerpiece of the announcement that the Miracle League of the Miami Valley is actively and aggressively kicking off its fundraising efforts.

A number of partners are involved in the project with the Miracle League and Troy Junior Baseball in the foreground in fundraising efforts. The proposal includes relocation of junior baseball fields to the expanded park.

Steve Fenton, representing Junior Baseball, said the organiza-

tion is looking forward to the partnership.

Troy City Council President Marty Baker said the city was grateful to the Kiwanis for the generous contribution.

“It is truly families of the Troy area that will benefit from this diverse baseball project,” Baker said. “A warm and heartfelt thank you to all contributors in helping make this field of dreams a reality for our community.”

The Miracle League of the Miami Valley can be contacted via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/miracleleagueofthemiamivalley](http://www.facebook.com/miracleleagueofthemiamivalley). National Miracle League information is available at <http://www.miracleleague.com/>.

## School Levy to Be on November Ballot



Joyce Knoopman receives an award at the Troy Board of Education meeting

BY NANCY BOWMAN

The Troy City Schools Board of Education last week took the first step needed to ask voters to renew an operating levy in March and agreed to bill the state Department of Education for more than \$4 million in funding diverted from the district to charter schools.

Voters will be asked to renew a 5.8-mill, five-year levy. The Miami County auditor first will be asked to certify the amount the levy would generate. Once that information is received, the board will vote in December to place the request on the March ballot. The deadline for filing issues for the March ballot is mid-December.

“It is important to get the word out that this is a renewal levy,” said Doug Trostle, board president. “We are asking to maintain with what we have.”

Trostle also asked fellow board members Nov. 16 to support a resolution challenging the statewide funding of charter schools. As part of the effort, Trostle said districts were being asked to send an invoice to the Ohio Department of Education for the amount of dollars the district has lost due to diversion of funds to charter schools.

The challenge includes a protest to the way part of the money is spent by those running charter schools, Trostle said. The Troy district invoice for funding claimed lost from 2002 to 2015 is more than \$4.4 million.

“This is our small way to trying to draw some attention” to what the district considers a big issue, Trostle said, adding, “I think the big issue is there is no accountability for the charter schools.”

In other votes, the board

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## County Incarceration Facility to Expand

BY NANCY BOWMAN

The Miami County Sheriff's Office will be hiring more correction officers to prepare to open a third pod at the county Incarceration Facility in the first part of 2016.

The county commissioners gave verbal support to opening a third pod – this one to house female prisoners, while the two others hold males – during a meeting Nov. 19 with Sheriff Charles Cox and administrators.

The commissioners said they also would expect the department to market excess male and female beds at the facility to other jurisdictions to generate income.

When the IF with 240 total beds opened in 1999, its intended use was for housing local prisoners as well as renting beds to other juris-

dictions to help pay for operations. The IF was closed in 2010 due to countywide budget cuts before being reopened with one pod in mid-2013.

The third pod opening was favored Nov. 19 over continuing to pay Shelby County to house up to 15 female prisoners daily in its county jail.

The county has been spending \$55 per prisoner per day to the neighboring county since August 2014. The county would continue its agreement with Shelby County until the sheriff's office has added staffing needed to open the third pod.

Lt. Dave Norman, jail administrator, told commissioners the third pod is ready to open in a couple of days except for hiring and training four additional correction officers. The only physical change needed

at the IF, which has four, 60-person pods available, would be to install blinds in all windows. The blinds are part of meeting a state requirement for total separation at a facility of male and females prisoners.

Four more hirings would bring the correction officer staff to 52 to handle both the IF and the jail in downtown Troy.

“Based on what we are hearing and what we are paying Shelby County, I think it is time to start hiring,” Commissioner John “Bud” O'Brien said. “I think we ought to move forward,” Commission President Jack Evans said.

Updated figures provided by the sheriff's office last week showed the annual cost of opening a third pod to hold females would be around \$285,000 if the average population were 45 fe-

males a day. To continue the Shelby County program would be \$300,000, not including transportation costs.

Commissioner Richard Cultice said \$300,000 already was in the 2016 jail budget for the Shelby County contract making most of the money for the third pod available. The budget could be reviewed later in 2016, if needed, he said.

Chief Deputy Dave Duchak told commissioners the jail population has been manageable in large part due to the cooperation of the judges. He anticipates an increase in female prisoners from the courts if more jail space is made available, he said. O'Brien said the desire to rent some of the beds also would need to be addressed with the judges.

Every effort would be

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## Scam Alert

The Miami County Sheriff's Office has received numerous calls reporting a phone scam in which the caller identifies himself as a David Gray with the U.S. Treasury Department. The scammer goes on to state that money is owed to the U.S. Treasury Department and that the scammer can assist the target in avoiding criminal charges if some or all of the money is paid. Several different phone numbers are associated with "Gray". If you receive any such phone calls please hang-up and if the calls persist please call your local law enforcement agency. Many of these types of scams target senior citizens.

## Sheriff Gets Grant for AED's



The Miami County Sheriff's Office was recently awarded a grant from the Miami County Foundation for the purchase of 6 automated external defibrillators (A.E.D.'s). The A.E.D.'s will be deployed in sheriff cruisers for use throughout the county by sheriff's deputies. All Miami County deputies and corrections officers are certified on the A.E.D. along with C.P.R. Many times deputies are close to a medic call involving a cardiac event. Deputies will now have the ability to offer more life-saving aid with the A.E.D. "We are very happy to be able to deploy this invaluable life-saving device throughout Miami County," said Chief Deputy Dave Duchak. "We are extremely grateful to the Miami County Foundation for their very generous award and for all of their past awards to the Sheriff's Office which has increased public safety throughout Miami County."

## County Incarceration Facility to Expand

▶ PAGE 1

made to market the excess jail beds, the sheriff and staff said. "None of us can sit here and promise you anything," Duchak added. Norman said he has been pitching the possible opening of a pod for females whenever he talks with jail administrators from other counties/cities. Other agencies also are struggling to find enough jail space, particularly for females, but the barrier could be money, he said. The U.S. Marshal's Service, which in the past rented beds said they don't have a lot of business to offer now, Norman added.



Submit your Club or Organization's events to editor@troytrib.com

## Sheriff Reports

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16

**9:43 a.m.** Deputies were alerted to a reckless driver. The reportee provided a license number and a description of the vehicle. The reportee also advised that the driver was under suspension and was concerned because his child might be in the vehicle. The vehicle in question was spotted northbound on 25A and a traffic stop was initiated at Boone Dr. The driver was the wife of the reportee and said that she had to be in court by 10:00 and her husband refused to take her. She was cited for driving under suspension and expired registration. She called her husband to pick up their child. The deputy checked the husband's license and found that it was also expired. He was cited for no operator's license. The vehicle with expired tags was towed, the husband called for a ride and the wife took of walking to meet her sister for a ride.

**11:09 a.m.** Traffic stop on Swailes Rd. at 25A. The driver was cited for driving under suspension and released to a valid driver.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

**12:56 a.m.** To N. Adams St. near Troy Jr. High School. Troy PD requested the drug dog to walk around a vehicle that they had on a traffic stop. The dog alerted to

the vehicle and a small amount of marijuana and pipe for smoking it were found.

**11:14 a.m.** Traffic stop on I-75 at the 73 mile marker. The driver had a suspended driver's license, expired registration and an active warrant out of Montgomery County. He was cited for the traffic offenses and taken into custody for the warrant. Another deputy was leaving for Montgomery County to pick up a prisoner on a Miami County warrant, so he transported the driver to the Montgomery County jail.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

**8:48 a.m.** A woman came to the Sheriff's Office to report that her ex-husband has been harassing her. She said that he was recently released from prison and that she filed for child support for their daughter. She said that he has been continually calling and texting her because he's upset about having to pay support. The husband was contacted and advised to stop calling and texting her. He argued that he does need to contact her about their daughter. He was advised to go through a third party if he needs to contact her.

**4:11 p.m.** To the Hobart Center for County Government for a report of a domestic dispute. A woman reported that she and the father

of her unborn child were at the Hobart Center when she received a Facebook message from an ex-boyfriend. She said her current boyfriend became angry and started cursing at her and calling her names. She said they then left and started toward Huber Heights. She said he continued to yell while poking his finger at her face. She said she finally turned around and headed back to Troy. She said her boyfriend told her if she went to the Sheriff's office, he would break her phone and her windshield. She pulled back into the Hobart Center and alerted the staff of the argument. She said she did not want to leave with him. The boyfriend took his possessions out of her vehicle and she left for her mother's home.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19

**12:45 p.m.** Traffic stop on I-75 at the 78 mile marker. The driver was cited for driving under suspension and for following too close.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20

**2:02 a.m.** Traffic stop on I-75 at the 77 mile marker. The driver was cited for OVI, driving under suspension and speed.

**11:27 a.m.** Traffic stop on Stonyridge Ave. and Mayfield Dr. The driver admitted that he had no driver's license. He was cited for failure to reinstate license and for

littering (throwing a cigarette butt out of his window) and was given a warning for a stop sign violation. The vehicle was legally parked and secured by the driver who walked away after receiving his citation.

**1:21 p.m.** A deputy was following a vehicle with expired plates, and discovered that the owner possessed a suspended license. He was able to determine that the driver was the owner. He initiated a traffic stop in the 900 block of N. Market St. The driver was cited for driving under suspension. His vehicle was left at the scene and he was picked up by a licensed driver.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

**2:17 a.m.** Traffic stop on County Rd. 25A near the Miami County Fairgrounds. The driver was cited for no operator's license and two headlights required. His passenger was cited for underage consumption.

**9:02 a.m.** Traffic stop on I-75 at the 73 exit. The driver was cited for driving under suspension and the driver was transported to his residence.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

**2:08 a.m.** Traffic stop in the 1800 block of W. Main St. The driver was cited for marked lanes and for driving under suspension.

# Trib BRIEFS

BY NANCY BOWMAN

## Provisional ballots approved

The Miami County Board of Elections voted Nov. 13 to accept 448 of 604 provisional ballots cast on Election Day.

Rejections of ballots were based on failure of the voter to sign the ballot envelope, failure of the individual to register to vote and voting in the wrong precinct, among other reasons.

The ballots accepted would be added to the ballots counted on Election Day when the elections staff conducts the election final vote for certification. The board is scheduled to certify the vote Nov. 23. The state deadline for certification is Nov. 25.

In other business Nov. 13, the board briefly discussed the earlier decision to buy electronic poll books. Board representatives have been asked to meet with the county commissioners on the poll books on Nov. 24.

Eric Morgan, deputy elections director, said the price of the poll books has increased \$19,000 from the previously discussed \$150,000. The updated cost, though, includes licensing fees, he said.

Board member Robert Huffman Jr. urged elections administrators to talk about needed training with elections staffs in Darke and Allen counties where

the electronic poll books have been used. "We cannot make a mistake in March (with the poll books)," Huffman said.

## Traffic light projects before council

Troy City Council was being asked Monday, Nov. 16, to seek bids on traffic lights at Fenner Road and West Market Street and apply for a grant to continue a West Main Street signal interconnect project.

Council's utilities committee met Nov. 10 to recommend both actions to the full council.

The Fenner Road traffic signal is part of the Clopay expansion project, Patrick Titterington, city service and safety director, said.

The intersection has been checked by the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT), which said it meets requirements for a signal. ODOT will contribute \$125,000 toward the project, which has an estimated cost with contingencies of \$275,000.

Titterington said ODOT asked the city to use the money as soon as possible. The project will be bid yet this year. Changes are not planned to the intersection itself, he said.

The utilities committee also recommended council apply for

a grant for \$235,991 through the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission to complete the second phase of the West Main Street traffic signal project.

City Engineer Jill Rhoades said the project work area would be from Dorset Road west to Troy Town Drive and from the access road to Meijer to Marybill Drive. The project would include interconnecting with the traffic lights at the Interstate 75 ramps along Main Street.

When complete the traffic signals will be "talking," Rhoades said.

## Suppression hearing for Terrel continued

A hearing scheduled Nov. 12 on a motion by Richard Terrel seeking to have statements made to police investigating the death of William York Sr. thrown out of evidence was continued until December.

Terrel, 36, of Troy is charged with murder and other felony offenses in the May death of York, 88, of Tipp City. William York Sr.'s remains were found June 3 in Kentucky. He had been reported missing days earlier by family members.

York's granddaughter, Hope Earnshaw-York, 24, of Tipp City, is charged in association with his death with felony in-

dictments for gross abuse of a corpse, receiving stolen property and tampering with evidence.

Terrel's lawyer, Jay Adams of Xenia, claimed in the motion filed in Miami County Common Pleas Court to suppress Terrel's statement that Terrel's statements to police were not made voluntarily.

The Nov. 12 hearing was continued after lawyers talked with Judge Christopher Gee behind closed doors for around one hour. A hearing previously scheduled in early October also was continued.

A trial for Terrel and Earnshaw-York is scheduled for late January.

## Commission member named

Larry Wolke, former Troy service and safety director, was appointed to the Troy Planning Commission by Mayor Mike Beamish.

Beamish announced the appointment at the Nov. 11 commission meeting, which Wolke attended. He fills the position vacated with the resignation of Stephanie Johnson following her hiring as the principal at Cookson Elementary School.

Beamish said Johnson will serve instead on the city Civil Service Commission. Wolke recently left that board.

## Property Transfers

Address	Date	Price	Seller	Buyer
145 Carrousel Dr	11/17	\$116,600	Davis Richard H	Davis Kendra
9 S Mulberry St	11/17	\$0	Crumrine Ben	City Of Troy Ohio
24 Mulberry St	11/17	\$0	Thomas Charlotte A	City Of Troy Ohio
237 S Counts St	11/17	\$0	Karns Martha E (Tod)	Zerkle Martha Ellen & Dean Allan
420 N Weston Rd	11/16	\$160,000	Lightner Gary L & @ (3)	Blackmore Jared C
1040 Fairfield Rd	11/16	\$108,900	Finger Lucian D	Graham Mary
503 Ohio Ave	11/17	\$70,000	Kimmel Ohio Llc	Special Effects Properties Llc
10 Westhaven Dr	11/18	\$178,575	J M George Enterprises Llc	Patel Jayantibhai D & Rinal
15 Westhaven Dr	11/18	\$178,575	Jm George Enterprises Llc	Patel Yagneshkumar R

## Optimists Introduced to Lapidary

Frank Brower, former owner of Brower Stationers in Troy, shared his hobby on Monday with the Troy Noon Optimist Club. Frank adopted this hobby of lapidary in the 1970's when his children abandoned their rock tumbler, impatient with the time it took to produce smooth surfaces. As club speaker, he shared his knowledge of stone identification, where various kinds of rock can be found, and the methods he uses to cut, grind, and polish minerals into beautiful jewelry and miscella-

neous works of art.

Brower's most active interest lies with native flint, Ohio's official gemstone. Throughout Ohio's early history, humans relied on tools created from stone material. Flint was valued because it is a strong, durable stone that can be easily reshaped. Ohio is fortunate to have sources of some of the most highly prized flint in the world. The most famous deposit of Ohio flint is found in an area known as Flint Ridge in Licking and Muskingum counties. When

asked about flint used in early rifles, Brower responded, "Every 'older day' Boy Scout knew that flint and steel makes a spark."

Frank has personally made 320 spheres from larger pieces of rock. He admitted that in price he couldn't compete with the Chinese production since one 4" sphere consumed 143 hours of grinding using water and granular sanding material. His reward is not financial, but the gratification of owning what he has created.

Brower is a member of the

Brukner Nature Center Gem and Mineral Club. In the past he has taught lapidary to individuals in his home garage. He has thoughts about how he might impart his knowledge to others in the future, including youth who seem to have a natural interest in rocks.

Frank will have his flint and gem jewelry and other items displayed and offered for sale at the Hayner Cultural Center Gift Gallery this coming Saturday, November 21, from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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# Bike Lane Sparks Questions

BY NANCY BOWMAN

A double wide bike lane on Adams Street was installed as part of a city effort to encourage more bicycle activity, Patrick Titterington, city service and safety director, told Troy City Council.

Councilmember Robin Oda, who said “people are wondering what the point of it is” sparked the bike lane discussion Nov. 16.

Oda asked where the bicycles using the separate lane would be going and said there is confusion at the four way stop with Riverside Drive as to who would have the right of way.

Titterington said the bike lane was completed just recently. “It does take some time getting used to. It is a fairly radi-

cal change to what we know in Troy,” he said.

The Adams Street bike lane connects to Archer Park, the lane on the Adams Street Bridge to the levee and at Community Park to Duke Park, Titterington said.

The project was part of a larger concerted effort for the city to be a bike friendly community, Titterington said. That effort will include “a complete streets philosophy looking at various forms of alternative transportation,” he said.

The philosophy will be incorporated in the annual street repair/resurfacing program and with any major street project with an analysis and identification of streets where bike lanes can be added, according to Tit-

terington.

The Adams Street bike lane is 10 feet instead of the usual five feet on each side of the street. The Adams Street lane is on the west side of the street and will accommodate riders in both directions. A southbound lane was replaced with the bike lane designation. The lane was not placed on the east side because of the entrance/exit in that area to the Junior High School.

“Vehicles are not supposed to be in that lane. It is something new so we will be monitoring to see how it works,” Titterington said.

Oda said the traffic in the area of the Junior High is “terrible” during the morning and afternoon drop off and pick up of students.

Council President Marty Baker asked where students riding a bike to the Junior High would cross the street. A cross walk will be added in the appropriate area, Titterington said.

Oda said she would ask for a flashing light on the street for students to push to let motorists know they are crossing.

Councilmember Lynne Snee said she never sees students on the west side of Adams Street. Instead, she said, they are on the east sidewalk.

Councilman Alan Clark, a retired police officer, said if flashing light were added, more signage and police monitoring would be required.

Titterington said there were no plans to install a flashing light.

# Troy Main Street Reports Good Year

BY NANCY BOWMAN

The Troy Main Street downtown revitalization organization is celebrating a successful 2015 as it looks to the new year, Katherine Hayes, the organization’s executive director, said last week.

Hayes told Troy City Council during a report Nov. 16 that a big 2015 event, the surprise visit by the Lincoln Funeral Train in September, was “a huge, huge success.” More than 15,000 people from at least eight states visited the train exhibit during its four-day stay next to the Miami County Courthouse.

Hayes said it was important to know 2,000 Miami County school children were provided a free fieldtrip in their own backyards to view the train exhibit.

The report from Hayes was fashioned around the four points to revitalization emphasized by the Main Street philosophy.

Those areas include: operations, downtown design, economic development and marketing.

Operations covers networking and partnership building with a “huge extension” of partnerships by Troy Main Street during the past year, Hayes

said. The organization’s board updated its mission statement earlier in the year placing emphasis on strengthening the heart of the community, she said.

The downtown design efforts include a merchant flowerpots project. Sixty flowerpots were distributed in 2015 with the project expanding to 70 next year. Hayes said the flower display “really enhances the aesthetics of our community.”

Hayes said the economic development effort is one of her personal favorites. The downtown has experienced more than 97 percent occupancy

the past three years, she said, meaning there are “very, very few vacancies.” This year, 13 businesses have opened and five have closed downtown.

Main Street’s marketing efforts can be seen through its many downtown events such as the downtown farmers market, the summer concerts and other activities.

Hayes also thanked the city council and city staff for their support of Main Street efforts. The nonprofit receives financial support from the city. Council will be asked to provide \$55,000 in funding as part of the 2016 budget.

# Troy Council Reviews Proposed Budget

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Troy City Council reviewed the proposed 2016 budget Monday, Nov. 23, as the city continues to list economic development as its top priority.

Patrick Titterington, service and safety director, said there would be several references throughout budget discussions to the Troy Development Council (TDC) and ongoing development efforts.

“We have been doing fairly well with business expansions. Employee counts continue to be stable and growing,” Titterington said.

The city will continue to work with the TDC on workforce attraction-related projects, what he said is the number one development issue.

“With supplies of workers

from the trades through professionals and engineers, there is a definite demand that is outstripping the supply as the economy improves and there are more projects out there on the streets,” Titterington said.

The TDC is one of three agencies that the city continues to provide funding with \$125,000 for that organization in the proposed budget. The \$125,000 is the same amount as provided in 2015. Funding for the Troy Rec at \$29,000 and Troy Main Street at \$55,000 also will remain the same as this year under the proposed budget.

Other development-related projects touched on during the more than two-hour budget review were proposed downtown redevelopment and riverfront activities and evaluation of possible future use of prop-

erties along Adams/West Main (including the Hobart Brothers/ITW plant site) and East Water streets.

Other city goals, according to the budget, continue to include maintaining basic services, transportation related projects and continued review of city service levels.

Among factors included in formulating the proposed general fund and overall budget were:

- The budget does not include any cost of living increases for employees because negotiations with six employee bargaining units are under way. “We cannot project what the impact is going to be until negotiations are finalized,” Titterington said. He did note, however, that each 1 percent increase in pay would have about a \$150,000 impact on the over-

all budget.

- A 5.3 percent increase in income taxes is projected.

- The budget takes into consideration 6 percent water and 2 percent sewer increases that go into effect Jan. 1.

A chart accompanying the budget shows an estimated \$22 million beginning balance in the general fund to start 2016. Revenues are projected at \$26.7 million with an ending balance in that fund of \$19.4 million. Of the \$29.4 million in expenses projected, \$23.7 million would be for operating; \$1.8 million for capital; and \$2.8 million for debt service.

Council members did not discuss any proposed project in-depth. The finance committee recommended the full council approve the budget at an upcoming meeting.

## New Developments Announced by The Paul G. Duke Foundation

Recent months have seen several major developments for The Paul G. Duke Foundation, including the election of a new president of the board of trustees and announcement of several new grants to benefit nonprofit organizations in the Miami County area. The trustees look forward to announcing further changes during the coming year.

Under the auspices of Patricia Duke Robinson, president emerita, the Duke Foundation’s trustees have been engaged in a lengthy process of discussion of the Foundation’s role in the community and plans for the future. This process has been undertaken as part of Mrs. Robinson’s plan to turn over the governance of the Duke Foundation to trustees selected from the community.

“Being able to make this change in a proactive, collaborative process at this time is very good for the future stability of the Duke Foundation and for the children, families and communities impacted,” said Mrs. Robinson. “I thank the current dedicated Duke board members who are from the community and want to make a difference.”

“Speaking for all the Duke Foundation board members,” said Linda A. Daniel, recently elected president of the board, “we accept the responsibility and privilege of governing and leading this

organization. The opportunity for continued community grantmaking support which Pat Robinson has created with this transition process is a testament to her vision and for her understanding of what is needed for the future. We will look to Pat for continued guidance and support as the Duke Foundation moves ahead.”

Ms. Daniel joined Mrs. Robinson; Paul A. Hanke, Esq.; B. Mark Hess, M.D.; William J. McGraw, III, Esq.; and Ronald B. Scott on the Duke Foundation’s board of trustees in 2013. Her current business, Daniel Consulting LLC, provides business development/strategic planning services. Previously during her career, she has served in vice-president roles at UVMC and at Peoples/Mainsource Bank and also has served as Executive Director for Hospice of Miami County. She has a long history of involvement in Miami Valley nonprofits and is a leader within the community as well as a 2012 YWCA Woman of Excellence.

Mrs. Robinson, Ms. Daniel, and the trustees are pleased to share that among the results of their conversations about the Duke Foundation and its future role in the region was their adoption of a formal mission statement: to be a catalyst to enhance the quality of life in the Miami County area.

As one component of the dis-

cussion process, Mrs. Robinson has encouraged the trustees to increase their involvement with area nonprofit organizations. At one recent gathering with representatives of 23 groups serving the Miami County area, the trustees were interested to learn that among the most pressing issues facing the community are problems related to substance abuse or to substandard housing and the need for jobs. The trustees look forward to taking information from the gathering into account as they consider the Duke Foundation’s future grantmaking.

“With this transition from a family foundation to more of a community foundation, I am pleased that the Duke Foundation will be well-positioned into the future for continued support of the wonderful non-profit organizations in Miami County and the surrounding area. I know that my father, Paul Duke, who started this foundation, would feel the same way.”

The Duke Foundation’s trustees are pleased to announce several grants to benefit the Miami County area. One grant has assisted the City of Troy with the expansion of Paul G. Duke Park. The City is adding on to the 154-acre park, which opened in 1995, through the purchase of almost 118 acres of adjacent farmland.

## EPA Officials to Hold Interviews

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency representatives will be in Troy Dec. 15-17 to interview area residents about the East Troy Contaminated Aquifer site and the West Troy Contaminated Aquifer site. If you have questions or concerns about either site, contact U.S. EPA contractor Meg Moosa at 440-688-4006 or meg.moosa@tetratech.com to schedule a 30-minute interview, daytime or evening, in the West Room at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, 301 W. Main St.

You may also contact U.S. EPA Community Involvement Coordinator Adrian Palomeque toll-free at 800-621-8431, Ext. 32035, weekdays 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., or at palomeque.adrian@epa.gov.

Community interviews provide the foundation for a Community Involvement Plan to help the Agency handle concerns and keep residents, businesses and local officials informed and involved in the cleanup.

Visit [www.epa.gov/superfund/west-troy-aquifer](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/west-troy-aquifer) and [www.epa.gov/superfund/east-troy-aquifer](http://www.epa.gov/superfund/east-troy-aquifer) for more information.

## Rotarians Host Co-Founders of Give Where You Live

Do you like to help those in need? How much extra time do you have each day, each week or each month to support a nonprofit agency in Miami County? If you’re like most kindhearted people, the answer is probably “not much,” if at all. A new charitable giving organization may help you help others easily and quickly throughout the year. Troy Rotarians learned more about “Give Where You Live” from co-founders, Maggie McKee and Matt Buehrer, during the club’s weekly meeting on November 17, 2015.

Give Where You Live Miami County focuses on local community service and support. The concept is that of a “giving circle.” Members meet for one hour, four times a year to pool their funds to benefit a 501(c)(3) charity with immediate donations and to encourage philanthropy in the local area. Every member donates \$100 for a total of \$400 during the year. Three (3) charities are presented during each meeting and members vote for the charity to which they’d like to make their donation. The organization selected receives 100 percent of the money collected. No money is used for administrative costs because there are none to be paid. In addition, there are no other fundraisers or fiscal campaigns to collect donations. Following their first meeting on November 12, the organization presented checks totaling \$7500 to the Needy Basket in Tipp City.

New members are always welcome to join Give Where You Live. If you are interested in learning more, stop by any upcoming meeting. The dates are February 11, May 12, August 11 and November 10, 2016. Meetings will be 7-8 PM at the Zion Lutheran Church, 14 West Walnut Street in Tipp City. For more information, or to join, call 937.634.6696 or visit their Web site at [www.givewhereyoulive.wix.com/miamicounty](http://www.givewhereyoulive.wix.com/miamicounty). You may also e-mail questions to [givewhereyoulive.mc@gmail.com](mailto:givewhereyoulive.mc@gmail.com).

Troy Rotarians, and the Troy Rotary Foundation, support several community projects annually. In 2014-15, more than \$16,000 in scholarships and community aid was distributed from the fund, including the annual Shoe Project, Troy After Prom and sponsorships to summer camps at Brukner Nature Center and Waco Air Museum. Club members are always looking for new topics to share at weekly meetings. If you are interested in presenting your business or organization, please visit the Troy Rotary Web site at [www.troyohiorotary.org](http://www.troyohiorotary.org) and submit your information in the “Contact Us” section. Troy Rotary is a member-involved, goal-oriented service club focused on socio/economic issues that have an impact both locally and internationally. You can follow their activities on Facebook at Troy Rotary Club.



## Toastmasters to Meet

Are you terrified of public speaking? Do you have trouble expressing your thoughts? Would you like to motivate others with your words? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you will be glad to discover Toastmasters International! For over 90 years, Toastmasters International has offered a friendly and supportive environment where millions of men and women learned to listen effectively, think clearly, and speak confidently. This unique opportunity is now available in Troy. The next meeting of the Miami County Toastmasters will be on Monday, December 7, from 7:00--8:00 p.m. at the Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, 301 W. Main St., Troy. Visitors are welcome to observe our meeting and to talk with experienced Toastmasters. We are looking for positive people with a willingness to learn and serve. We need 20 members in order to charter our club. Visit the website [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org) for more information about this great organization. Call Olive at 937-216-2952 if you have any questions. We will only meet once in December, but will begin regular meetings on the 2nd & 4th Mondays from 7:00--8:00 p.m. at Hayner starting in 2016.

## Needy Basket Receives Give Where You Live's First Donation

► PAGE 1

fect the group can have on the community and for its growth. "If everyone brings one person next time, we will double the amount donated," said Buehrer. "And we guarantee that every meeting will be less than an hour long."

The meeting dates for 2016 are February 11, May 12, August 11 and November 10. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the Zion Lutheran Church in Tipp City.

The other two presenters at the first meeting were the Pink Ribbon Girls and Partners in Hope.

For more information about 'Give where you Live: Miami County' or to sign up for membership go to [givewhereyoulive.wix.com/miamicounty](http://givewhereyoulive.wix.com/miamicounty) or e-mail [givewhereyoulive.mc@gmail.com](mailto:givewhereyoulive.mc@gmail.com) or call 937-634-6696.

Needy Basket receives \$7600 from 'Give where you Live: Miami County'. Pictured are steering committee members

# WHAT TO DO IN TROY

### HOMETOWN HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

November 27, 6:00-10:30 p.m.  
Downtown Troy

The 2015 Hometown Holiday Celebration will take place on Friday, November 27th in downtown Troy.

Grand Illumination, phone calls to the North Pole, visits with Santa in the newly constructed Santa House, carriage rides, holiday music, refreshments, shopping at local merchants, and Mayor Beamish's special holiday reading.  
Tree lighting at 6:45.

### TROY SKATING CLUB ANNUAL HOLIDAY EXHIBITION

November 29, 4:30-6:00 p.m.  
Hobart Arena

This event is free and open to the public. The Annual holiday exhibition features over 20 performance by local figure skaters. Skater will be skating to some of your favorite holiday tunes sure to get you in the spirit of the season.

Special guests will be Harmony Ice Theater and Santa Claus.

There will also be a bake sale at the event in which all proceed will go to the Miami County Relay for Life.

### TRIM THE TREE FAMILY FUN NIGHT

November 30, 6:30 p.m.

Troy-Miami County Public Library

Join the library for their annual tree trimming party at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, November 30, 2015, at the Troy-Miami County Public Library. Make an ornament for their tree and one to take home: enjoy refreshments, too. This program is open to all ages. Registration opens November 16, please call 339-0502 ext. 133 to register.

### ADULT EXPLORATION HIKE

December 1, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Garbry Big Woods Reserve

The Miami County Park District will hold an Adult Exploration Hike on December 1 from 9 to 11 a.m. at Garbry Big Woods Reserve, 6660 N. Casstown-Sidney Rd. east of Piqua. Stroll through the Park with Sassafras Susan as she heads out to discover flowers, birds and trees along the trail. Hikes generally last about two hours and are not strenuous or fast-paced. Must register for pro-

gram. Make sure to dress for the weather.

Register for the program by going to the program calendar at [MiamiCountyParks.com](http://MiamiCountyParks.com), e-mailing [register@miamicountyparks.com](mailto:register@miamicountyparks.com) or calling (937) 335-6273, Ext. 109.

### CHRISTMAS COOKIE SHOPPE

December 5, 9:00 a.m. to Noon  
First Place Christian Center

Delicious home-made holiday cookies and candy will be sold by the pound at the Christmas Cookie Shoppe, Saturday, December 5th from 9 A.M. to 12 Noon at the First Place Christian Center, 16 W. Franklin across from the Troy First United Methodist Church. The event is being sponsored by the Troy United Methodist Women. The proceeds will be used for mission work. For further information, please call the church, 335-2826.

### FOREVER YOUNG: CELEBRATING THE MUSIC OF BOB DYLAN

December 5

105 S. Market St.

Proceeds will go to Stivers School for the Arts Creative Writing Dept. Joining will be by a slew of local and regional artist as they weave through some of Dylan's best work. Artists include Jesse Henry, Sharon Lane, Paige Beller, Charlie Tipton, Todd Oaks, Chad Wells & Aarika Veogel, Ramblin Mac, Mike Sloan, Trey Stone, Brad Denson, Scott Lee, Niki Dakota, Max Nunery, Scott Lee, CAAMP, Cassie Barker and Square Roots' backing band for the evening Rich Reuter and The Eternal Youth. Live painting by Jennifer Noren!

\$30 presales/ \$35 Day of the Show. This is an all-inclusive event. Finger food and Drinks included in the price.

There will be a limited number of tickets available.

Go to [squarerootsrecords.com](http://squarerootsrecords.com) for tickets.

### BASKETS & BOWS CRAFT BAZAAR

December 5, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

753 S. Hyatt St.

Shop a Variety of Crafters, Eat a Hot Soup Lunch, Enjoy the Wonders of the Season.

Proceeds benefit the St John's Mom's Group and the St John's Giving Wreath – providing food, clothing and Christmas toys for children in need.

### 39TH ANNUAL HAYNER OPEN HOUSE

December 5 & 6

Troy Hayner Cultural Center

The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center at 301 West Main Street downtown Troy, Ohio will be holding its thirty-ninth annual Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 5 and Sunday, December 6 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. each day. The event is free and open to the public. Nine decorating groups will each take over a room of the house and transform the three story Edwardian mansion into a breathtaking statement for the holidays. The theme for this year's holiday spirit is "A Handmade Christmas" which will include a juried exhibit of our 'hometown' handmade Christmas items.

Saturday, December 5 is Children's Day at the Open House. The day begins at 1:00 p.m. with a ballet demonstration by the students of Ballet Shreffler. Madcap Puppets will be in the ballroom at 2:00 and 3:30 p.m. to tell a story of strength and courage called "Under the Bonsi Tree". Free tickets for the two shows will be available at the Hayner beginning at 9:00 a.m. on the day of the performance. No advance or telephone reservations will be taken. Santa Claus himself will be in the study from 2:30 to 5:00 pm. There are refreshments and Arts and Crafts activities for the children while they wait their turn for Santa. Suzy Kalmar will be at the piano all day to set the mood with holiday music.

Sunday, December 6 is the Grand Opening of the Hayner décor. It is an elegant way for family, friends and neighbors to launch the holiday season with refreshments and music in the house all day. The day begins at 1:00 p.m. with The Troy Tones, which is Troy High's Pop A Cappella group. 1:30 p.m. will be 'The Hayner Staff Party' with David Wion on piano and favorite carols from Rachael Boezi. Linda Lee Jolly will play her new dulcimer and Clint Myers of Troy Public Radio will share a favorite number. Come at 2:45 p.m. to hear the Serenity Strings, a harp duo with Leanna George and Elaine Newcomer. 3:30 p.m. will be Dul-C-Daze a hammered dulcimer, guitar and auto harp trio. Paul Nelson will play his woodland flute and cigar box guitar at 4:00 p.m. and Jim Allen and David Burkhart will close out the day with a harmonica and guitar holiday duo from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m.

### EVENING LIGHTS AT CHARLESTON FALLS

December 5, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Charleston Falls Preserve

An Evening of Lights at Charleston Falls Preserve has been a tradition for over 20 years. It is a fun, family event where the community gathers to kick off the Holiday Season. Guests are invited to stop in and enjoy a stroll down the luminary trail that leads to the 37' lighted falls. The trail continues through a prairie to the Goldenrod Hexagon where Santa and his helpers visit with children. Afterward, they can stop in for some hot chocolate, children's crafts, seasonal music and more. Guests are encouraged to bring a nonperishable food item for donation to a local food pantry. Admission to the event is free.

### A CELTIC TENORS CHRISTMAS

December 6, 3:00 p.m.

Hobart Arena

Three Tenors. One Voice. From the other side of the pond come The Celtic Tenors. With a polished international reputation and just over a million album sales under their belts, The Celtic Tenors offer something truly unique – the skill, range and ability of world-class tenors combined with the personality and fun of genuine artists. They have performed together for over 14 years, and offer more than beautiful voices and musical knowledge, namely the sound that evokes the very soul of the Emerald Isle.

Matthew Gilsenan, James Nelson and Daryl Simpson are comfortable in all genres from classical and folk to Irish and pop, bringing you, the audience, on a far-ranging musical voyage.

The Celtic Tenors have produced three platinum-selling albums as well as hits in the Top Ten in the U.S. In 2014, the Celtic Tenors were very happy to announce that they have once again been signed by a major label, signing a worldwide deal with Decca Records Australia through Universal Music.

This holiday season, join the DPO and these three operatic magicians, who will enchant you with their gorgeous renditions of Irish folk classics and favorite Christmas tunes like "Silent Night," "Ave Maria," "O Come All Ye Faithful," and "Joy to the World."

# School Levy to Be on November Ballot

► PAGE 1

approved the purchase of two new 72-passenger buses from Cardinal Bus Sales for \$177,292.

In other business, the board heard from Cheryl Cotner, who is leaving as director of The Future Begins Today program after 12 years. Cotner said the relationship between the schools and the program "has been a wonderful col-

laboration." Cotner also introduced Natalie Rohlf, a Troy schools graduate, who is the new program director.

Also during the meeting, the board saw district employee Joyce Knoopman presented with an award for her work from the Ohio Middle Level Association. Tracey Kramer, representing the organization, said

Knoopman's hands on classroom activities made the classroom lively and fun with students actively involved in their education.

In public comments, the board heard from Ron Brubaker, the parent of three district students, about the district's policy allowing transgender students to use the restroom of their gender identity.

The policy has been on the books since the early 2000s but became an issue when a junior high student and parents approached school officials this fall about the transgender student's request to use the boy's restroom.


Brubaker said he was disappointed the board took no action when the issue arose in the district.

"My kids don't feel comfortable with a person of the opposite sex in bathroom with them. My children have the right just as much as someone else to use the restroom they have been using and to be comfortable doing it," he said.

Brubaker asked if the district would follow recent federal decisions in Illinois opening restrooms/locker

rooms.

Trostle said the comments were appreciated, adding the board stands behind the administration in its handling of the transgender request. "This is the only legally defensible position ... I think in my own mind the right the decision for the Troy schools," he said.




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# It's Time to Give Thanks

BY KATHY VOYTKO

Get out your running shoes, Black Friday is here! Wait, that has been a tradition for the day after Thanksgiving because retailers want to end the year in the black and not have those red hot losses on their bottom budget line on December 31st.

This year the retailers may have gotten a little smarter than they have been in the past because so much has been made of starting Black Friday on Thanksgiving Day. Also because who wants to camp out in front of a store waiting to save \$20 on anything. How do you leave the warmth of your home and the smell of roast beast to Grinch up and hide in a tent with strangers to fight over a television?

You could have started your holiday shopping in mid-November when many stores offered prices better than Black Friday. Lotions and potions, waffle makers and can openers all on sale while the traffic to get to the stores was still average.

Intoxicated with turkey, cran-

berries and dressing is no time to pick out a sweater for Aunt Lu or slippers for grandpa. You might end up buying an “ugly” Christmas sweater on purpose. The designers decided that this year going to a thrift store should not be your option, they are selling those horrible excuses for a party sweater right on the shelf this year. They even have them for your dog! At one retailer you could buy baubles, bangles and beads to adorn your shopping outfit. Antlers, mittens and socks OH MY!

On Thanksgiving we really need to return to our roots to focus on what we are thankful for. Will the children of today ever know what it was like to sit around the table, hold hands and share what they are thankful for? It was a tradition to have dinner together this one day of the year with all of our favorite things even if some of the dishes were just warm by the time it was all carried to the dining room. You played board games or went outside to burn off some of those calories. You didn’t put up the Christmas tree, go shopping for presents

or throw out the pumpkins and pilgrim décor until next week.

For some this year being thankful for the fact that you have enough money to put a nice meal on the table is happiness. That may be a bowl of pasta, but at least everyone is together. Maybe you or a loved one took a medical journey and you are celebrating another year together because things looked so dark months ago.

Around some tables a loved one or special friend will be missing. You might be taking the time to laugh a little at how you spent time together and some of the crazy things you did on Thanksgiving. Who doesn’t have a story of how the turkey didn’t cook on time, the pie wasn’t quite right or the stuffing, well we won’t go there.

Thanksgiving is a time when we can be happy for the hours spent with family or friends. We can say thank you to the first responders who will be working that day. The folks on call just in case winter weather arrives and the streets need cleared. The utility company workers who are around just in case

the power goes out or there is a need for service.

We can’t forget the doctors and nurses who will be there to care for the sick or the new babies that will be joining families on Thanksgiving. Many will also be thanking a soldier for their service throughout the world to keep our homeland safe.

If you do elect to go shopping on Thanksgiving Day, take the opportunity to thank the employees at the store who gave up time with their family so that you could shop. They are not getting overtime wages to open the retail doors. They are simply keeping a retail job so that their family can have the funds to support Thanksgiving dinner.

The staff of the Troy Tribune wishes all of our readers a Happy Thanksgiving. May you enjoy the love of good people, a smile on your face and the knowledge that somewhere in the world you are in the thoughts of good friends and family members who can’t be at the table this year.

## Car Show Raises Money for United Way



Erwin Chrysler recently held a car show to benefit United Way of Troy.

“We had a great turnout and the weather was beautiful,” said Jeff Blackburn, General Manager at Erwin Chrysler. “We know funding for community programs is hard to come by, and we want to do our part to help make sure these programs remain available.”

Pictured are Blackburn and Richard Bender of United Way of Troy.

## Final Week for Hayner Photography Exhibit

The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center is pleased to be hosting the 10th Through Our Eyes: Life in the Miami Valley photography competition. The Hayner Center is located at 301 West Main Street in Troy. The free and open to the public exhibit closes on November 29, 2015.

Don’t miss your chance to see this popular juried display of regional photographs. The judges, Jim Witmer and Diana Thompson had difficult choices to make choosing 26 winning photographs from 103 entries by 51 talented photographers from Troy, Lima, Wapakoneta, Union, Pleasant Hill, Piqua, Miamisburg, Greenville, Dayton, St. Marys, Tipp City, Centerville, Franklin, and Covington. Jim Witmer is an award winning career photojournalist who is currently a staff photographer/videographer at the Dayton Daily News Cox Media Group Ohio. Diana Thompson has been the Executive Director of the Miami County Visitors & Convention Bureau for 24 years.

Through Our Eyes 10 is sponsored by Miami County Foundation; The Miami County Visitors Bureau; Excellence in Dentistry: Drs. Bentley, Stevens, and Jones; Friends of Hayner; Towne Park Dentistry; Tipp Vision Center, David A. Koch, O.D.; and Retina Physicians & Surgeons.

The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center is proudly supported by the citizens of the Troy City School District through a local tax levy and generous gifts to the Friends of Hayner.

## The Tribune Needs Carriers

Are you at least 11 years old? Do you want to make some extra money after school on Wednesdays? We have routes open and can start you right away! Call 669-2040 or e-mail editor@troytrib.com

### Rotarians Host Co-Founders of Give Where You Live

Do you like to help those in need? How much extra time do you have each day, each week or each month to support a nonprofit agency in Miami County? If you’re like most kindhearted people, the answer is probably “not much,” if at all. A new charitable giving organization may help you help others easily and quickly throughout the year. Troy Rotarians learned more about “Give Where You Live” from co-founders, Maggie McKee and Matt Buehrer, during the club’s weekly meeting on November 17, 2015.

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come to join Give Where You Live. If you are interested in learning more, stop by any upcoming meeting. The dates are February 11, May 12, August 11 and November 10, 2016. Meetings will be 7-8 PM at the Zion Lutheran Church, 14 West Walnut Street in Tipp City. For more information, or to join, call 937.634.6696 or visit their Web site at www.givewhereyoulive.wix.com/miamicounty. You may also e-mail questions to givewhereyoulive.mc@gmail.com.

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Project, Troy After Prom and sponsorships to summer camps at Brukner Nature Center and Waco Air Museum. Club members are always looking for new topics to share at weekly meetings. If you are interested in presenting your business or organization, please visit the Troy Rotary Web site at www.troyohiorotary.org and submit your information in the “Contact Us” section. Troy Rotary is a member-involved, goal-oriented service club focused on socio/economic issues that have an impact both locally and internationally. You can follow their activities on Facebook at Troy Rotary Club.

# Marker Offers No-Impact Toning

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

Tammy Marker’s Toning Center is not your normal gym. The business shares the name of its owner, who discovered a no-impact, no-sweat way to tone muscles and break up fat in the body.

Biomechanical stimulation (BMS) or Matrix Therapy is a technology dating back to the rehabilitation of astronauts by NASA. Although it sounds complex, the machines at the Toning Center use vibration, low resistance, and the natural movement of the body’s muscles for optimal tone.

For those who would prefer to relax and enjoy this holiday season, the BMS machines remove the intensity of working out. The lack of strain on the body during each session makes the machines specifically helpful for those who are overweight, struggle with arthritis, have stiff muscles, diabetes, a lack of energy, high blood pressure, or heart problems.

Although they are effective, they have largely disappeared from popular exercise since the peak of their popularity in the 1960s. Tammy Marker is a believer in the machines because

of her education as a retired nurse and her personal experience.

“Right now, I am about 200 pounds down from where I used to be,” Marker said. “This form of exercise and quitting smoking changed my life.”

Each machine employs repetitive motion, using one’s own body as resistance against itself for no longer than 10 minutes.

According to Marker, some older people would need less time and she gives careful attention to the clients who have difficult physical situations. However, even those who are physically fit have the capacity to experience the benefit of Marker’s machines. “I’ve had people who come in who already have good muscle tone from working out, that use the machines and find that they’re sore afterward,” Marker said. “I tell them it’s because there are so many muscles you don’t use.”

Marker has had many skeptics visit the Toning Center since she opened over a year ago. In order to help people understand how the machines operate, Marker gives first-time visitors an hour on the machines for free. She claims that one hour at the Toning Center is the equivalent to



Tammy Marker in front of the chalkboard where she keeps track of her clients’ progress

7 hours in the gym. “You work every muscle, including the heart, without raising the heart rate. It’s really a good thing but it’s hard to describe to people,” Marker said. “You have to understand how the tables work.”

Her chalkboard wall gives testimony to the weight and inches lost by her clients. The most recent success story is that of client, Deborah Stahl, who lost 23 inches in 2 weeks. According to Marker, the loss of inches over weight has to do with the increased muscle tone. “I tell people that you will lose more inches than pounds,” Marker said. “I have one who had to make a liar out of me last year. She lost 14 pounds.”

After having experienced the

peaceful repetition of the machines, the appealing ideal of relaxing exercise is an understandable draw to the Toning Center. “I’ve had people call here and tell me, ‘I like to sweat,’ Marker said. “And I’ll say, ‘Okay, then this isn’t the place for you. But don’t judge it. Just because you don’t sweat doesn’t mean you haven’t gotten a good workout.’”

Marker charges \$30 per week and has hours from 6:00 am to 4:00 pm or by appointment. Tammy Marker’s Toning Center is located next to the Dollar General beyond Lowes and Buffalo Wild Wings at 2529 W. Main Street. For more information, you can call Marker at 937-552-7330.

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Boy's Life

## Next Week's Leaf Collection Schedule

On Tuesday, December 1, 2015, the City of Troy street crews will commence the third and final round of the annual leaf collection program. This is the last of a total of three leaf collection rounds that City crews will make through the City. As in the past, the leaf collection will be by zones. A Leaf Collection Map is posted on the City website [www.troyohio.gov](http://www.troyohio.gov) which shows the zones and an anticipated collection schedule. A description of the zones and anticipated collection schedule is also provided below.

To help provide efficient collection, residents are asked to assist by:

- Keep leaf piles free of routine yard waste, tree limbs, trash, rocks, etc. These items can damage collection equipment and delaying the collection process. See Yard Waste Collection for appropriate disposal of routine yard waste other than leaves.
- Rake leaves to the street one (1) foot out from the curb. Leaving this space between the curb and the leaves will allow for drainage of the street when it rains.
- Do not block catch basins with piles of leaves. This can plug up/reduce the flow of rainwater, causing flooding issues.
- Do not place leaf piles around or between parked cars. Leaf piles between or around parked cars will not be collected.

Residents who still have leaves after this final collection may dispose of them by the use of City of Troy Yard Waste Bags (T-bags). The Yard Waste Bags that will be collected by the City can be purchased only from the Billing & Collection Office (1st floor of City Hall) or at True Value Hardware, 850 S. Market St. The cost of the bags is \$1.25 each.

This leaf collection schedule is to be considered tentative, subject to weather and equipment delays. If there are questions on the leaf collection schedule, please call the City of Troy Central Service & Maintenance Facility at 335-1914 between the hours of 7:00am-3:30pm, Monday through Friday.

ZONE 1: The area bound on the east by the Corporation line and Ridge Avenue, on the north and west by the Corporation line and on the south by West Main Street, south on 1-75 and the Corporation line. Pick-up scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 1 through Friday, Dec. 4.

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Miami County commissioners Richard Cultice and Jack Evans have announced their bids for re-election in 2016.

Both Cultice and Evans are Republicans and will be running for the seats they currently hold in the March primary.

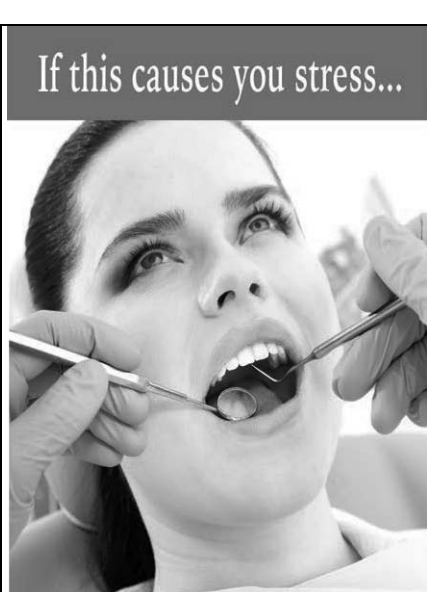
Cultice announced his intention to run Nov. 19. The announcement from Evans came two days later on Nov. 21. The filing deadline with the Miami County Board of Elections is in mid-December because of the early primary in the 2016 presidential election year.

Cultice has served on the commission since May 2011.

## Confessions of a Crop Duster

On Thursday night, December 3rd, former crop duster, Dave Bucher, plans to speak as a part of the WACO Aviation Lecture Series. Door will open at 6:30 pm. What is a typical workday like for a crop duster?

What type of training is involved? What type of aircraft do you use? Dave will answer these questions, as well as covering 20 things an AG pilot knows that are



# Concord Township Trustees Rethink Leaf Pickup

BY BONNIE L. MCHENRY

At the November 17, 2015 meeting of the Concord Township Trustees, the trustees discuss options to better facilitate the leaf pickup process for next year. Neil Rhoades, Road Superintendent, who was unable to attend because of leaf pickup, reported to Pat Quillen, Fiscal Officer, that the road crew was about a day behind the initial schedule because the Merrimont subdivision took longer than expected. He also reported that he would like to evaluate the schedule to see if the road crew can better plan the pickup.

Tom Mercer, Trustees, added that in his discussions with Rhoades that the road crew doesn't want to rezone; however, they want to consider listing only one date per area for pickup rather than the two now listed. Mercer said, "What happens is that residents see the road crew picks up on the first day and it reminds them to put their leaves out; however, once the crew passes a location, they don't revisit the area and the leaves are left in the streets." Mercer suggested, "The residents should be given one date and if the leaves are there longer, they are their longer."

In addition, he noted that the road crew stopped picking up brush in September and some residents are still putting brush in with the leaves. He said, "The road crew tries to separate the leaves; however, they have to leave the brush because the equipment cannot handle it." Mercer also suggested that the residents be notified to remove the bush and if they do not the crews should push the brush into the yards because it will interfere with snow removal.

Don Pence, Trustee, was hesitant to agree with that action. He said, "We are our own worst enemies. We set the policy; however, if the guys have time, they go back with the pickup and get the brush."

Mercer noted than in most cases when they are notified,

the residents take care of the brush.

In new business, Mercer received a request from a resident in the Merrimont Subdivision concerned about people speeding on Lincolnshire. The resident requested that a four-way stop be erected at the intersection of Lincolnshire and Foxdale. Mercer then contacted County Engineer, Paul Huelskamp. Huelskamp told Mercer that the trustees need to pass a resolution requesting the Engineers Department to evaluate the traffic in the area. Mercer supports the request; however, in looking at the traffic on Lincolnshire, he doesn't think that Foxdale is the best location for a 4-way stop and would like to word the resolution so that the Engineers Department look at some of the other cross streets.

Bill Whidden, Trustee, suggested the trustees make the request more generic. The trustees all agreed and Mercer will work with Huelskamp to determine appropriate language and will follow up with the resident.

In addition, the township received notification from Miami County Engineers Office (MCEO) that the 2015 Certification of Highway Mileage is due April 1, 2016. The certification will need to include mileage for two new developments in the township. Furthermore, the developer of 12 properties on Woodfield, who will be extending the road, requested that the township consider repaving the existing 50 yards on Woodfield in 2016, to synchronize the repaving schedule for the entire road.

In other new business, Mercer received a complaint from a resident about a junk car. He explained that the township currently has an ordinance covering the situation. However, when Mercer contacted Zoning and Planning, the department agreed to take pictures of the car, but the trustees must then determine if the vehicle meets the qualifications in the ordinance. According to the ordinance, a vehicle must have

an engine, tires, wheels, and transmission to be considered operable. Otherwise, it is considered a junk car and must be removed from the property or public view; it can be stored in a garage.

Pence added, "I am aware of the vehicle. Although the vehicle has extensive front end damage; I believe it is drivable."

Chief Deputy Dave Duchak, Sheriff's Department, said, "The Sheriff's Department enforces several junk car ordinances for the villages throughout the county. In addition, to being operable, most ordinances specify that a vehicle have a valid registration and must be moved every so often. If not the vehicle owners are notified and issued a summons. If they don't remove the vehicle, the sheriff's department eventually removes it and the resident must pay a towing fee and impound costs.

Quillen provided Duchak with a copy of the township ordinance and Duchak agreed to provide the township with an example of a village ordinance, so that Concord could align their ordinance in such a way as the Sheriff's Department could handle the complaint.

In old business, Pence noted that he sent the web developer a priority list for Policies and Procedures to be included on the website. He will also requested a cost estimate for the changes they want to make to the website to make it more attractive and user friendly.

The trustees authorized the posting several articles on the website including advice on mowing to avoid pushing grass clippings into the street and thus into the storm sewers, and townships policies on brush pickup and noxious weeds. They also passed a resolution to post the ordinance on junk vehicles and vehicle parking.

In other old business, Mercer reported that he received a response from Chris Englert, Assistant Prosecutor, on whether they township could charge administrative cost to property owners if the owners clean up

the property themselves. According to Englert, if the township mows the property, they can charge for administrative costs; however, if the property owner takes care of it within the time allowed, the township cannot charge those fees.

In the financial reporting, Quillen reported that the township received an estate tax notification from the estate of Catherine J. Bohm that the township would receive \$3,598.38 in tax revenue. She also noted that the auditor takes a portion for processing the revenue; therefore, the township will receive a little less. Depending on how fast the court proceedings progress, Quillen expects to receive the funds in February.

In addition, the township received the final invoice for paving. The total was \$127,295.72. Of that total, the cost of repaving Barnhard Road from Fennert to SR 718 was \$38,226.44, which was \$1,819.77 over the original estimate. The cost for repaving Forest Hill from SR 718 to McCurdy was \$89,069.28, which was \$19,354.05 under the original estimate. According to Pence, if the cost of berming is included, the cost for roadwork for 2015 corresponds to the 2015 capital plan estimate. He also noted that this money was paid out of the general fund rather than the gasoline tax and road repair funds.

For the Sheriff's Department, Duchak announced that the Sheriff's Department has started collecting crash data electronically countywide. He said, "Miami County is the only county in the state in which all agencies have agreed to participate in the reporting. As data is accumulated, the agencies will be able to provide information on problem locations throughout the county."

The next meeting of the Concord Township Trustees is scheduled for December 1, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Concord Township Building.

## Cultice, Evans Seek Re-Election

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Miami County commissioners Richard Cultice and Jack Evans have announced their bids for re-election in 2016.

Both Cultice and Evans are Republicans and will be running for the seats they currently hold in the March primary.

Cultice announced his intention to run Nov. 19. The announcement from Evans came two days later on Nov. 21. The filing deadline with the Miami County Board of Elections is in mid-December because of the early primary in the 2016 presidential election year.

Cultice has served on the commission since May 2011.

He previously was a member of Troy City Council and was Troy City Auditor for a combined nine years.

A lifelong county resident, Cultice graduated from Miami East High School, attended Sinclair Community College and served in the Army Reserves. He worked more than 35 years in private business in financial

positions including as treasurer of Hobart Brothers Co.

During his years as commissioner, Cultice said the three-member board has made many improvements to county facilities and systems.

He and his wife, Jane, have two married daughters and five grandchildren. They live in Troy.

Evans has served on the commission since 2003. He served as a Monroe Township trustee for 19 years and with Favorite Insurance Agency, Tipp City, for more than 40 years.

He is a graduate of Tipp City schools and The Ohio State University and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army

Field Artillery in 1971.

Evans said the commission in the past five years has replaced and renovated more buildings than at any other time and in the last six years made tremendous advances in technology.

Evans lives in Monroe Twp. He is married and has four children.

useful to a general aviation pilot. He will describe what it is like to fly all day 10 feet off the ground at 120 miles per hour. He will also share his stories and experiences, some humorous and some sad but all interesting.

After graduating from the Dorr School of Aeronautics in Merigold, MS, he began his aviation career in 1976 as a pilot with Sunflower Agriculture Services of Sun-

flower, Mississippi. He obtained a Commercial Pilot Certificate and certification for Aerial Dispensing and spent 3 seasons accumulating 1500 hours of experience as a crop duster, before leaving to work in the air cargo industry. Dave is currently the Chief Operating Officer of Cargo Aircraft Management Inc. CAM, as the company is referred to in the airline industry, is

the world's leading lessor of B767 and B757 cargo aircraft. He has 39 years of experience in all phases of the maintenance and operation of transport cargo aircraft including time with Federal Express, Emery Worldwide and Airborne Express.

David is an active aircraft pilot and mechanic holding FAA certificates of Commercial Pilot with Instrument and Multi Engine, Airframe

and Powerplant Mechanic with Inspection Authorization and Turbojet Flight Engineer. He is a long time board member of WACO Historical Society and currently the President of the organization. He and his wife Donna have an Aeronca Champ that is based in the Troy, Ohio area..

The Aviation Lecture Series is sponsored in part by Dayton Power and Light

Corporation. Parking and admission are free and open to the public. The program is scheduled to last one hour will be held in the Willis Wing of the WACO Air Museum at 1865 South County Road 25A in Troy, OH. Donations will be accepted to benefit the WACO Historical Society. For questions, please call 937-335-9226 or visit [www.wacoairmuseum.org](http://www.wacoairmuseum.org).

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# Obituaries

## Elmer S. Butcher

Elmer S. Butcher, age 76 of Troy, passed away on November 17, 2015 at Covington Care Nursing Home in Covington, OH. Elmer was born in Freestone County, Texas on January 31, 1939 to the parentage of Richard C. Butcher and Consula A. Butcher. Following his big brother Quincy, he moved to Ohio, where he met and married Katie Ausborn. He is preceded in death by his parents (Richard and Consula); wife Katie Ausborn Butcher, three brothers: Richard Butcher, Napoleon Butcher and Aaron Butcher; three sisters: Bernice Butcher Starling, Theresa Butcher, and Alice Butcher Dillard; and one son Tyrone. He leaves behind two sisters: Joyce Doss (Shannon), and Velma Ceasar of Dallas, Texas; three brothers: Arthur Butcher (Jean) of San Antonio, Texas; Quincy Butcher of Troy, Ohio; and Clarence Butcher of Chicago, Illinois. Two daughters, Chandra Butcher of Troy Ohio and Charlette Jones of Indianapolis, IN; three sons, Vincent Watson and Richard Ausborn both of Troy, Ohio; and Reggie Staggers of Tennessee. Ten grandchildren; Eight great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Service was held 12 noon Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, 1124 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373 with Elder Clarence Stafford officiating. Interment was in Riverside Cemetery, Troy.

## Cathy J. Westfall

Cathy J. Westfall, 64, of Troy, passed away at 12:53 p.m. Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Upper Valley Medical Center, Troy. She was born on July 16, 1951 to Gloria Helen (Westfall) Studebaker, who preceded her in death. Cathy is survived by her beloved companion of 28 years, Andrew “Andy” Cantrell, two daughters and sons-in-law, Stacy and Nathan Hamilton of Troy; Ann and Bill Kindell of Troy; three grandchildren, Gloria Westfall, Nathan Hamilton, Jr., and Grayson Kindell; and two great-grandchildren, Lillian and Braxtyn Ryan; one step-brother and his wife, Walt and Betty Studebaker of Kentucky; a special cousin Raymond “Punker” Shunk of Kentucky and many other cousins. She was preceded in death by her step-father Richard Studebaker, one grandchild, Liberty Hamilton; and special cousin, Raymond Shunk, Sr. Cathy was a homemaker and a member of Fraternal Order of Eagles 971 of Troy. Services will be held at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 25, 2015 at Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home in Troy, with Pastor Tracy Bodey officiating. Eagles Auxiliary services will be held at 11:15 a.m. at the funeral home. Friends may call one hour prior to the service from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Interment will follow in Riverside Cemetery, Troy. Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.fisher-cheneyfuneralhome.com](http://www.fisher-cheneyfuneralhome.com) Arrangements have been entrusted to Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy.

## Twila Ilene Shroyer

Twila I. Shroyer, age 81 of Troy, passed away at 12:20, Sunday, November 22, 2015. She was born on January 2, 1934 in Potsdam, Ohio to the late Emerson and Cleoe (Cool) Swank. She was married to Lloyd A. Shroyer for 59 years. He preceded her in death on November 5, 2011. Survivors include son and daughter-in-law Bruce and Donna Shroyer of Troy, two granddaughters, Adrienne and Justin Cress of West Milton, and Abby and Abe Adams of Cincinnati, one great-granddaughter, Jamisyn Cress, and two sisters, Yvonna Pour of Troy, and Fawntella Smith of Vandalia. She was also preceded in death by brother Marvin Swank, as well as two brothers-in-law, John Smith and John Pour. She was a member of the Potsdam Church of the Brethren, and a 1952 graduate of West Milton schools. She worked for Hobart Brothers in the 60's, and became a cosmetologist in 1972. She was cofounder of McKaig-Dorset Barber and Beauty Shop, Wishy Washy Car Wash, and SunDown Tropical Tan along with her husband and son. Twila was also a member of Eastern Star and Ohio Nomads Motor Home Club. A Memorial Service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, December 5, 2015 at Potsdam Church of the Brethren, 22 W. Cross St, Potsdam with Pastor Fred Barnhart officiating. Family and friends may visit with the family following the service at church. Contributions may be made to Hospice of Miami County. Arrangements have been entrusted to Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy.

## Christmas Craft Class at YWCA

Little ones in grades K-3 will love this Christmas holiday craft class on Monday, December 7, from 6-7 p.m. Instructor Emily Shawler will help the class participants make a unique, original snowman wall hanging and orna-

ments using puzzle pieces.

“This will be a fun time for everyone and the kids will love their finished projects to share with family or give as gifts,” said Shawler.

Class size is limited so sign up early. All materials are in-

## Helen P. Couser

Helen P. Couser, age 91, of Casstown, passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at Hospice of Miami County Inpatient Unit in Troy. She was born in Greasy Ridge, OH on January 28, 1924 to the late Jasper and Sylvia (Murnahan) Allen. Her husband of almost 70 years, David L. Couser, survives.

Helen is also survived by four sons: Jerry (Debbie) Couser of Piqua, James (Mary) Couser of Troy, David (Tanya) Couser of Fletcher and Robert (Vicky) Couser of Fletcher; nine grandchildren: Jerrod, Jennifer, Angela, Anita, James, Amy, Neil, Leah and Matthew; and eleven great grandchildren. In addition to her parents, Helen was preceded in death by two brothers: Mayford and Stafford Allen.

Helen was a member of Troy Church of the Brethren in Troy. She was a loving homemaker.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 AM on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Troy Church of the Brethren in Troy with Pastor Jon Keller officiating. Burial followed in Casstown Cemetery in Casstown.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of Miami County, P. O. Box 502, Troy, OH 45373. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.bairdfuneralhome.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhome.com).

## Betty Stowe Taylor

Betty Stowe Taylor, age 89, formerly of Troy, passed away on Friday, November 20, 2015 at Crossroads Rehab and Nursing in Vandalia. She was born on October 10, 1926 in Dayton, Ohio to the late Everett and Minnie (Reynolds) Stowe. She is preceded in death by her husband, William Taylor, who passed away in 2003. Betty is survived by son Michael Taylor of Troy, son and daughter-in-law Ted and Judy Taylor of Nevada, daughter and son-in-law Kristina Taylor Globosky, and James Globosky of Herminie, Pennsylvania, as well as 5 grandchildren, Wendy Wesco Risher, William Wesco, Kelly Taylor, Mindy Taylor, and Trudy Keiser Fugate, and 7 great-grandchildren. She was also preceded in death by 2 brothers, and 5 sisters. Betty was a former member of the First United Church of Christ, Troy, and was a graduate of Troy High School. She was also a former employee of K's Restaurant in Troy. Private service at convenience of family. Arrangements have been entrusted to Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy.

# Submit an obituary to Editor@troytrib.com

## Marianne Evans

Marianne Evans, age 60 of Troy, passed away on Monday, November 23, 2015 in the Hospice Unit of Upper Valley Medical Center, Troy. She was born on July 30, 1955 in Grand Rapids, Michigan to John and Joan (Gabbard) Sayers. She married her beloved husband Kenneth Evans on May 26, 1973, and he survives. Other survivors include son and former daughter-in-law Scott Evans and Anita Adams of Troy, and grandchildren Alyson and Dylan Evans, mother Joan Sayers of Troy, two brothers and sisters-in-law David and Rebecca Sayers of Maineville, and Scott and Jennifer Sayers of Laura. Marianne is preceded in death by her father, John Sayers, and son Nicholas Evans, who passed away on April 19, 2015. She was a 1973 graduate of Troy High School, as well as a graduate of Miami Jacobs Junior College, and Sinclair Community College. Marianne was a retired deputy from the Recorder's Office of Miami County, where she worked for 27 years. She loved reading and boating. A Funeral Service will be held 11 a.m. Monday, November 30, 2015 at Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, 1124 W. Main St., Troy, where friends may call an hour prior. Interment at Riverside Cemetery, Troy. Contributions may be made Hospice of Miami County, PO Box 502, Troy, OH 45373.

## Edward Venkler

Edward Venkler, age 100, of Troy, passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at Hospice of Miami County Inpatient Unit in Troy. He was born on September 24, 1915 in Park Hill, PA to the late Stanley and Rosalia (Buczek) Venkler. Edward's wife, Maxine L. (Bishop) Venkler, preceded him in death. Edward is survived by one daughter and son-in-law: Faye and Jim McNerney of Troy, OH; one daughter-in-law: Norma J. Venkler of Wauwatosa, WI; two sisters: Helen Waltons of Hooversville, PA and Genevieve Mercik of Mineral Point, PA; five grandchildren: Kristin Venkler, Kevin Venkler, Katie McNerney (Matthew) Ernst, Karen McNerney (Isaac) Del Rio and Megan McNerney; and three great grandchildren: Aubrey Ernst, Eli Ernest and Makeyla Del Rio. In addition to his parents and wife, Edward was preceded in death by one son: Kenneth Venkler; one brother: Casimere Venkler; and one sister: Mary Venkler. Edward proudly served his country as a member of the US Army Air Corps during WWII. He was employed by the US Postal Service for 35 years. Edward was a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. He loved gardening. Edward lived in Asheville, NC for several years before moving to Troy, OH.

Private family services were held on Saturday, November 21, 2015 at Baird Funeral Home in Troy. Interment will be at a later date in the Veteran's Cemetery in Asheville, NC with full military honors being presented at the graveside.

Memorial contributions may be made to American Lung Association of Ohio SW, 4050 Executive Park Dr, #402, Cincinnati, OH 45241. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.bairdfuneralhome.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhome.com).

## Richard A. Fong

Richard Albert Fong, age 76, of Troy, passed away on Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015, at Heartland of Piqua.

He was born Jan. 24, 1939, in Boise, Idaho, to the late Harry and Alice (Chan) Fong. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Jean (Posinski) Fong of Troy, whom he married on June 26, 1965, at Little Flower Catholic Church in Cincinnati. Jean is a longtime and recently retired teacher at St. Patrick School in Troy.

In addition to his wife, Richard is survived by five children and their spouses: Chris (and Julie) Fong of Baltimore, Md.; Steven (and Delaine) Fong of Union, Ky.; Julie (and Brad) Barker of Troy, Ohio; David (and Michelle) Fong of Troy, Ohio; and Jenny Fong (and Jeff Dulle) of Columbus, Ohio.

He also is survived by 14 grandchildren: Christopher Fong of Columbus, Alex Williams of Troy, Kennedy Fong of Union, Ky., Julia Rose Williams of Troy, Caeden Fong of Baltimore, Md., Jordan Fong of Union, Ky., Sophia Fong of Troy, Emerson Fong of Union, Ky., Parker Fong of Baltimore, Md., Saylor Fong of Union, Ky., Maximilian Fong of Troy, Remington Fong of Baltimore, Md., Hartley Dulle of Columbus and Elianah Dulle of Columbus.

Richard was one of nine siblings growing up in Boise. He is survived by seven siblings and their spouses: Hazel Sun (Victor) of San Francisco, Calif.; Edmond Fong of Concord, Calif.; Gilbert Fong (Mae) of Los Gatos, Calif.; Robert Fong (Janet) of Martinez, Calif.; Gladys Fong of San Francisco, Calif.; Katheryn Fong (Andrew MacInnis) of Sebastopol, Calif.; and Claudia Wong (Wayman) of Concord, Calif.

He also is survived by many nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews.

Richard was preceded in death by his father, Harry Fong, on Nov. 28, 1962, and his mother Alice (Chan) Fong on Sept. 13, 1993. He was preceded in death by his brother Raymond Fong in 2005. His brother Harry Fong Jr. died in 1928 as an infant.

He graduated from Boise High School in 1957. He graduated from the University of Idaho in 1961 with a bachelor's degree in business. Having served in the ROTC in high school and at the University of Idaho, Richard was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the U.S. Army. He served as an officer in an artillery unit while also making enough successful jumps to earn his airborne wings. While serving overseas in Germany, he met his wife, Jean, who taught the children of Army parents.

Throughout a long career in business management, Richard worked for GE, Globe Union, Jergens, and the corporate offices for Friendly's Ice Cream, Ponderosa, Metromedia Steakhouses as director of purchasing, Long John Silver's and Charley's Steakery. During his career, he also went back to school and received a master's degree in business administration from Xavier University in Cincinnati.

In his high school days, Richard was a letter winner in football, basketball and track and field. He was an all-conference selection in football and a state champion and state record-holding sprinter in track and field. He also was a pitcher in the summer for the local American Legion baseball team. He was his high school senior class vice president. He enjoyed hunting during his youth. He took great pride in his years of serving his country through the U.S. Army. After marriage and children, he was actively involved as a youth sports coach while his five children were growing up. More recently, in his retirement years, he enjoyed cooking for his family, rooting for the Ohio State and Cincinnati Bengals football teams and cheering on his grandchildren at their sporting and extracurricular events. His 14 grandchildren were his pride and joy.

A memorial visitation took place on Monday, Nov. 23, 2015, from 5-8 p.m. at Baird Funeral Home, 555 N. Market St., Troy, Ohio. A memorial Mass was held on Tuesday, Nov. 24, 2015, at 11 a.m. at St. Patrick Church, 409 E. Main St., Troy, Ohio. Burial with military honors followed at Riverside Cemetery, 101 Riverside Drive, Troy, Ohio. Contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38101-9908. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.bairdfuneralhome.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhome.com).

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Troy Main Street

# Tip Of The Week

BY SGT. JJ MAURO  
Tipp City Police Retired

## Speed Limits Part 1

By far the most violated offense in the traffic code is speeding. The Ohio Revised Code only gives more print to the offense of OVI when it comes to actual explanation of the violation.

ORC Section 4511.21 covers rear end accidents, going too fast in various zones such as school, business districts, residential, through streets, rural streets and interstates. Alleys, bridges and construction zones also have their limits. So one of the most common excuses given to me over the years was, “Oh, I didn’t know that was the speed limit.” Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn’t. What people don’t realize, at least with me personally, I gave more warnings than citations in my years. Obviously a person with multiple warnings did not get the break as they did not heed the previous warnings, it was time to hit them where it hurt.

I’m not talking in the fine, but in the insurance. A repeat offender eventually pays in having their points add up and the insurance rates increasing which in the long run cost more than the original fine.

The complaint that police only write tickets for the revenue is hogwash. I was never told to go out and write speeding tickets. My impetus was from seeing the damage done to the soft flesh and bone called humans when a speeding projectile strikes another projectile with a combination impact of 70 mph or more. Two vehicles colliding at 35 mph even at a side impact causes the brain to bounce off the skull a couple of times, blunt force impact breaks multiple bones and sharp steel and plastic cuts through skin like it was warm butter.

Fatalities and lifetime maiming would cause anyone to do what they could to limit damage done to innocents by those who do not believe they should follow the rules. “Questioning Authority” does not begin with the gas pedal.

So let’s begin with chapter A of the ORC Section 4511.21.

4511.21 Speed limits - assured clear distance.

(A) No person shall operate a motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar at a speed greater or less than is reasonable or proper, having due regard to the traffic, surface, and width of the street or highway and any other conditions, and no person shall drive any motor vehicle, trackless trolley, or streetcar in and upon any street or highway at a greater speed than will permit the person to bring it to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.

Notice the first chapter does not even mention a speed limit. What it does say is that the vehicle must be operated at a speed that is reasonable and/or proper. One must take into consideration the traffic volume and the speed traffic is able to maintain reasonably.

All factors must be taken into consideration such as the road surface, width and any other conditions. A road covered in fresh rain water or a light sheet of ice cannot be traveled at the same speed as the maximum speed limit allows. Maximum speed limit means just that, the maximum limit the road can be safely used under ideal conditions.

Pick an intersection, Main St. at IR 75 in Troy or Tipp City is much more dangerous at 5or 6 p.m. on a Friday than the same intersection at 3 a.m. on a Wednesday morning. The reasonable driver will recognize this and accept that 35 or 40 mph is just too fast when traffic is backing up, trying to beat the red light and quickly changing lanes in an attempt to jockey for a better position.

When we investigate a rear end accident, we don’t even have to prove the speed of the driver who struck the other from the rear. Section A states very clearly a driver must not drive a vehicle “...At a greater speed than will permit the person to bring it to a stop within the assured clear distance ahead.” The accident results in a speeding ticket to the violator.

So what does the first chapter in the speed limit section say? Use common sense, operate at reasonable and proper speeds for the conditions when aiming your projectile in the path of other humans.

# At Home

BY CONNIE MOORE

Nothing Very Serious

Herein is gathered for your amusement, or boredom, tidbits from the last century which may or may not have worth. It depends on your frame of mind and whether or not history of little consequence is on your trivia plate.

Plate is mentioned because much of the following words have to do with food and the person responsible for getting it to the table.

The tone is set with this jingle from November 1913 in Wood County, Ohio.

“Said a young and tactless husband,

To his inexperienced wife:

If you would but give up leading

Such a fashionable life,

And devote more time to cooking

How to mix and when to bake

Then perhaps you might make pastry

Such as mother used to make.”

Later we’ll look at the woman’s response. But in the meantime, let’s look at how cooks in Mahoning County, Ohio, in 1912, used potatoes to make snow. Which of course, they served on that big holiday table along with a very solid cranberry sauce.

Potato Snow- “Wash the potatoes. Pare them, being careful to remove every blemish. (We

don’t want ‘dirt’ in the snow.) Place in cold water for an hour. Drain, then cover with boiling water and cook until done. Drain and wash again. Season with salt, butter and milk. Press through a wire sieve into the dish in which they are to be served.” Do not place that proverbial pat of butter in the top of the potatoes as a garnish. It might be construed as something else that sometimes appears in snow.

To make a very solid cranberry sauce: “use one quart of cranberries, two cupfuls of sugar, a pint of water. Put the berries on the fire with the water, in a covered sauce pan. Simmer until each berry bursts open. Remove cover, add sugar, stir, let boil twenty minutes. Do not stir during this cooking time. Makes a firm jelly.”

While cooking, the housewife has time to muse over her life and the state of the marriage. Here is some wifely advice from Wood County, Ohio, circa 1916. (Mind you, it is not the response our young housewife gave in beginning jingle.)

“To Preserve a Husband: Choose carefully. Choose not too young from such varieties as a good moral Christian atmosphere produces. When once you have chosen, let that part remain forever settled and give plenty of time to thought of preparing your choice for domestic use.

Do not insist in keeping him in

a pickle, neither constantly in hot water. Even poor varieties are somewhat made sweet and tender by garnishing with patience, sweetened with smiles and flavored with kisses.

Wrap well in a mantle of charity. Keep warm with constant flow of toothsome edibles. When thus prepared they are warranted to keep for years.”

Notwithstanding the husband of the novice cook mentioned at the outset, the following menu might have been served to single gentlemen who found themselves without the goodness of a wife just described, if they were living in Fulton County, Ohio in November of 1921.

Roddy’s Restaurant saw fit to cook an exceptionally substantial dinner menu on the twenty-fourth. First course was oyster cocktail. Second course was chicken soup with salad. Third course included: roast turkey with chestnut dressing, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, scalloped corn, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce and coffee. Fourth course was pumpkin or mince pie, ice cream and cake. Mints were available to all.

The price of this princely meal was a paltry fifty cents. It is a wonder that the whole county of housewives didn’t insist on going to Roddy’s for their dinner, with much thanks and gratitude.

The tactless husband of the jingle might have appeased his wife with such a gesture. But as

it turned out she had an answer that set him straight without mincing words.

“And the wife resenting, answered

If you would but give up horses

And a score of clubs or so

To devote more time to business

When to buy and what to stake

Then perhaps you might make money

Such as father used to make.”

Finally, a menu is on the mind of most people this last week of November. It has been that way for decades. In November of 1913, children of Wood County, Ohio, were asked to plan what they would think a good Thanksgiving dinner would include. One small boy seemed to sum it up quite well.

“First Course: mince pie. Second course: pumpkin pie and turkey. Third course: lemon pie, turkey and cranberries. Fourth course: custard pie, apple pie, mince pie, chocolate cake, ice cream and plum pudding. For dessert the lad chose to have PIE.”

Give that boy a rolling pin. He surely will be one of those husbands preserved carefully, prepared for domestic use and warranted to keep for years.

*Comments? Contact Connie at [mooredcr@hmo.com](mailto:mooredcr@hmo.com) or Box 61, Medway, OH 45341*

*Join Connie on Grit Blog Land-ing for more stories and photos.*

# A Guide to a Meaningful Thanksgiving

BY PASTOR FREY

It may seem like beating a dead horse, but I will say what is often said - Thanksgiving Day as celebrated in America has lost its original purpose. It has become a day for eating a big meal, “Turkey Day,” shopping and watching football.

To make it more meaningful, it will certainly help to realize that there can be no thanksgiving without a recognition of the blessings we have. There are many blessings of various kinds.

There are temporal blessings, things we need for life in this world. They are a major concern for us and we have them. We have a high standard of living. We have food to eat every day. We have more than enough clothes. We have nice homes. Compare what even the poor among us have to the poverty in other countries where people live in shacks and die on the streets from starvation. They don’t have the basic necessities. We often take the material blessings we have for granted and demand even more rather than give thanks.

There are the temporal things we have that cannot be bought.

These are the best things, like the love of our families and the loyalty of friends that makes life more bearable.

There is the beauty of nature. There are mountains, flowers, green grass, trees, and much more. There are things that we love and make our lives happier. They are also blessings from God.

There are the special blessings we have in America, the “land of the free.” We are free to worship, free to follow our conscience, develop our talents, and use opportunities. God has given many blessings to us as citizens of this nation.

And there are spiritual blessings. If you have them, they are the greatest of all blessings. These are blessings that are often forgotten and blessings we fail to appreciate. Not all the wealth in the world would be able to take care of our greatest need. Jesus asks, “What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul?”

The philosophy of the world is “Eat, drink, and have a good time.” That sounds very good but it is really pessimistic. It implies that right now is

as good as it gets and life has no purpose. Death is the end. Who would trade faith and hope for this empty philosophy of having a good time now?

God has told us that this is not our permanent home. We Christians are waiting for a better one. One where there will be no sorrow or crying. There will be no more death. God has given us this in Christ who died that we might escape what our sins deserve.

So we believers can say, “I desire to depart and be with Christ.” Spiritual blessings have great value and we have them.

Let’s recognize what we have instead of complaining about what we don’t have. And recognize that we have very special blessings as Americans and as Christians. Then Thanksgiving will be meaningful. We will ask God, “What can I do for God who has done so much for me?” and the answer is: thank him.

Our joy is often spoiled by worry. But Jesus tells us not to worry. We are troubled by questions like, “What shall we eat? What shall we drink? What shall we wear?” We have

what we need now, but we worry about the future.

We borrow trouble. We are troubled about what might happen more than by what actually does happen.

Jesus told us to “Do not worry.” We have a God who is not cold and distant but a God who is a Father to us. He knows what we need and watches over us.

Jesus tells us, “Your Father in heaven knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

It is a matter of putting first things first. This does not mean that our lives will be trouble free. But worry doesn’t do any good and is so unnecessary when we can leave everything in the hands of the God who loves us.

Then we will not only have blessings, those blessings will not be spoiled by our worry. And we will thank God for what we have.

(Pastor Marc Frey is the pastor at Peace of Our Savior Lutheran Church (WELS) New Carlisle, OH [www.peaceofoursavior.net](http://www.peaceofoursavior.net))

# Gardening Commentary

BY MEADOWVIEW GROWERS

## Winterization Reminders

This fall we have been fortunate to have gradually changing temperatures and outdoor plants are maturing nicely and should be well prepared for the cold temperatures that will soon be here. The recent rains have replenished the soil moisture that was lacking earlier this fall. Landscape plants are going into the winter months in pretty good shape regarding moisture so we can put the hoses away unless you are taking advantage of some late sales and are still planting. Yes, as long as the soil is not frozen we can keep planting. Trees and shrubs planted this fall, and in particular those that are evergreen, that is keeping their foliage whether leaves or needles, are most vulnerable to winter damage. Be sure to soak them once a week if it doesn’t rain so they are well watered going



into freezing temperatures.

Yes, plants need adequate moisture at the root zone in the winter. Remember, the humidity outside is lower in the winter and when the winds are howling, moisture is lost from exposed bark and the leaves and needles of evergreens. One thing to consider is applying an anti-desiccant spray like Wilt Pruf® or Stop Wilt®, this will coat the plant surfaces with a clear membrane to reduce

evaporation. There should be a 2” layer of mulch for both moisture and temperature protection of the roots for your newly planted plants. If you have any young shade trees be sure to protect the trunks from Sun Scald and eventual bark splitting. Tree guards that provide protection from the southwest sun beginning the end of November until March.(see photo) is critically important for trees with thin bark.

These seeming small details can make a huge difference in protecting the investment we all have in our landscapes. None of us want to have our plants damaged or killed even though most garden centers guarantee them. We want to avoid having to spend the time and effort of replanting and having to reestablish the plants and losing a valuable year of growth.

If you haven’t fertilized your lawn this fall there is still time to do that. Plant roots are active, absorbing nutrients,

whenever the soil is not frozen. The late fall feeding of turf is the most important application all year. The plants in our yards will start off next spring much better when they have food available over the winter months.

Think about adding some indoor plants to your home or office this winter. Plants improve our environment by improving the quality of the air we breathe as they fortify the environment with oxygen and filter the air. There is no better time to do this than at holiday time with a beautiful, poinsettia or other seasonal blooming plants. They are easy to care for and they improve our psych with their soothing nature.

Go to [meadowview.com](http://meadowview.com) for more helpful information or send an email to [info@meadowview.com](mailto:info@meadowview.com) with your question or comments.

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# Financial Focus

BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL

A penny saved is a penny earned...and other financial lessons from the past

If the recent financial turmoil has taught us anything, it's that maybe we should pay attention to the age-old clichés that our parents and grandparents passed on to us. Take it one day at a time...the new reality for most Americans when it comes to financial recovery. Don't put all your eggs in one basket...a poster child for diversification.

You get the idea. So keeping the “what's old is new again” mantra in mind, here are some famous clichés from generations before that could serve us well this year and beyond.

1.) Don't cry over spilled milk. The recession is over and it is time to start putting the pieces back together. It might take a while (patience is a virtue after all), but you need to start somewhere.

2.) Save for a rainy day. Call it an emergency sav-

ings fund, rainy day fund, or what you will. The idea is simple, but changing our behavior is not. Money is easy to spend and there's no question that there is still plenty of “gotta have it now” in us all. It's time to slow down on spending and start saving.

3.) A penny saved is a penny earned. For an emergency savings fund, a standard savings account or money market account should meet your needs. However, thinking even longer-term, consider certificates of deposit (CDs). CDs help force you to commit your money for a period of time, so they can help you start to make your savings a more permanent habit. It should be noted that the money is not accessible for the term.

4.) You're walking on thin ice. The economy got bad enough that some of us had to sacrifice the standard financial protection that we always took for granted. If you terminated your life insurance contract, now is

the time to begin shopping around for a new one. It's hard to think about, but if something happened to you would your family be able to maintain their current lifestyle? Could they stay in the house so the kids would not have to move and switch schools? The time to protect your family is now. And, you know what they say, never put off until tomorrow, what you can do today.

5.) Home is where the heart is. It's also where much of your equity probably is too. Look into home equity loans to help you consolidate debt and get back on your feet. Lending standards are now tighter, but banks want your business and will work with you to meet your needs.

6.) Another day, another dollar. Unless you are sick as a dog. While your savings should help protect you if you lose your job, what happens if you get sick or injured and cannot work for a period of time?

Consider disability income insurance to help cover living expenses and protect your savings should that happen.

7.) Lend a helping hand. Reach out to others in need through charitable giving and by volunteering your time and talents. There is plenty of need out there right now and every little bit helps.

8.) Stop and smell the roses. We have all been through a lot the past several years, virtually none of us untouched by the financial turmoil. Perhaps your most important investment is time spent with family and friends.

You can find more information and less clichés, at [www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)

Thrivent Financial is represented in the local area by Matt Buehrer. He has offices at 29 W Main St. in Tipp City and can also be reached at 667-8270.

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27193 R3-14

# Door-to-Door Meat Seller Accused of Violating Ohio Consumer Protection Laws

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine announced a lawsuit against US Beef Cincinnati LLC for misrepresenting its products and failing to notify consumers of their right to cancel.

“We found that this company aggressively solicited consumers at their homes and misrepresented the quality of the meat it offered for sale,” Attorney General DeWine said. “Some consumers spent hundreds of dollars on meat they later found to be inedible. We’re seeking refunds for affected consumers and an end to any violations of Ohio’s consumer laws.”

The Ohio Attorney General’s Office cur-

rently is aware of 22 unresolved complaints against the company, and reported losses total about \$5,300. Many of the consumers are elderly.

According to the Attorney General’s lawsuit, filed in the Butler County Common Pleas Court, US Beef misrepresented the amount or weight of the meat products it sold to consumers, failed to honor its guarantees about the products’ freshness and taste, ignored consumers’ complaints, and failed to give consumers notice of their right to cancel a door-to-door sale.

The lawsuit accuses US Beef Cincinnati LLC and owner Joey Lightcap Traum with violating Ohio’s Consumer Sales Practices Act and Home Solicitation Sales Act.

Attorney General DeWine offered consumers the following tips for handling door-to-door sales:

Understand your cancellation rights. In Ohio, you generally have three days to cancel a contract that results from a door-to-door sale. The seller must notify you about your right to cancel.

Research a company’s reputation before signing a contract or providing any payment information. Check for complaints on file with the Ohio Attorney General’s Office and conduct a basic Internet search with the company’s name and words like “reviews” and “complaints.”

Talk to your neighbors. If a salesperson claims to have sold products to someone

in your neighborhood, ask your neighbors whether the claims are true and find out about their experiences with the seller.

Get information in writing. Before signing an agreement, ask for detailed written information about your cancellation rights, the refund policy, and the payment schedule.

Trust your instincts. If an offer seems too good to be true, or if you feel uncomfortable, don’t sign the agreement.

Consumers who suspect unfair or deceptive practices should contact the Ohio Attorney General’s Office at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov) or 800-282-0515.



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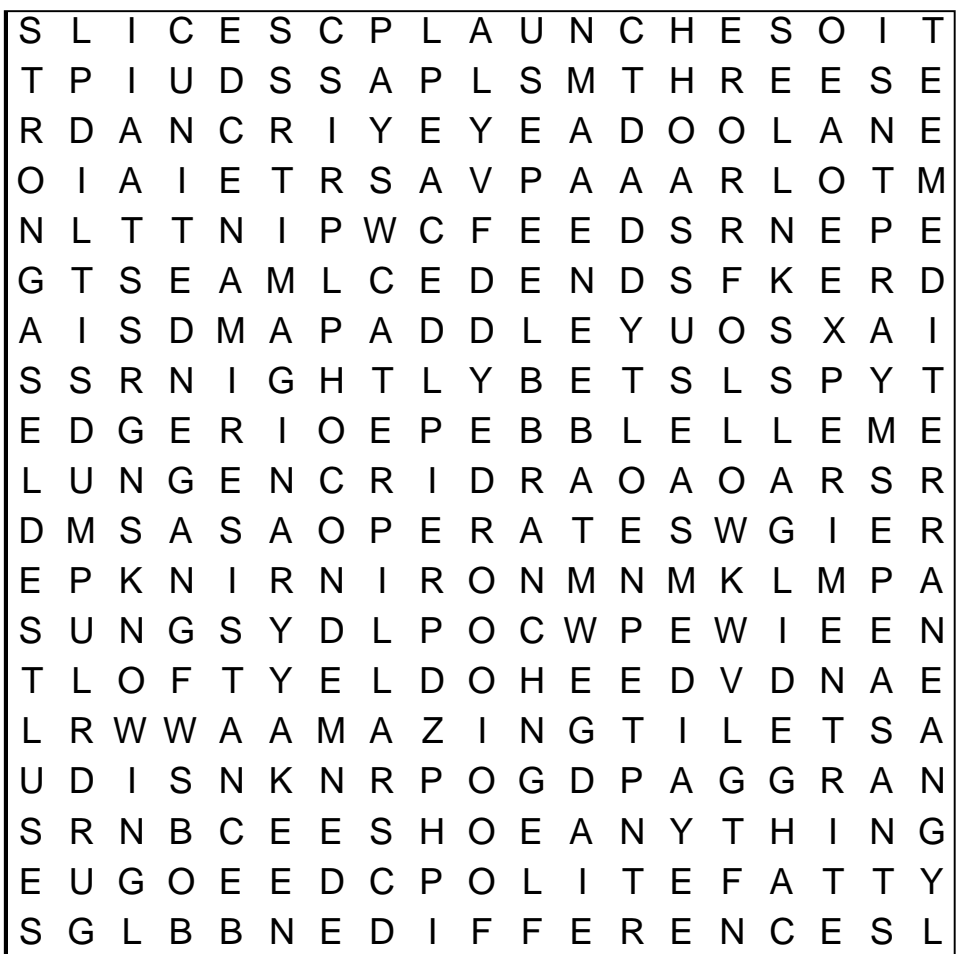
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Word Search

Locate all the words below in the word search.  
They may be across, down or diagonally in any direction.

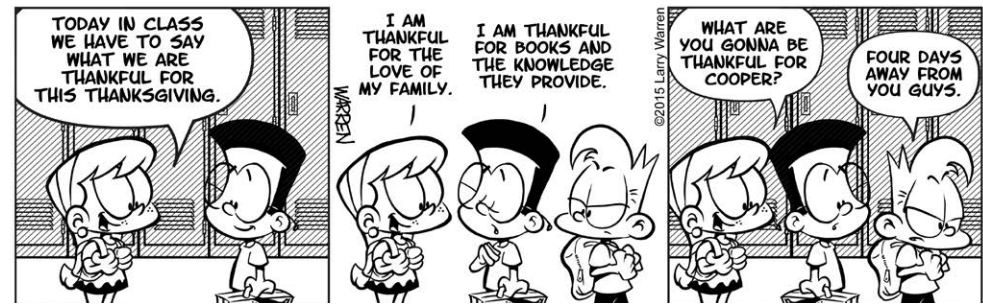
#122



- Also  
Always  
Amazing  
Anything  
Attics  
Beds  
Been  
Beer  
Bets  
Branch  
Caterpillars  
Condemned  
Daddy  
Dairy  
Damp  
Dark  
Data  
Dead  
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Differences
- Don't  
Drug  
Dull  
Dump  
Dyed  
Echo  
Edge  
Eldest  
Else  
Ends  
Essential  
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Fatty  
Feeds  
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- Mediterranean  
Never  
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Pebble  
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Pond  
Pray  
Resistance
- Sell  
Shoe  
Sisters  
Skin  
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Uses  
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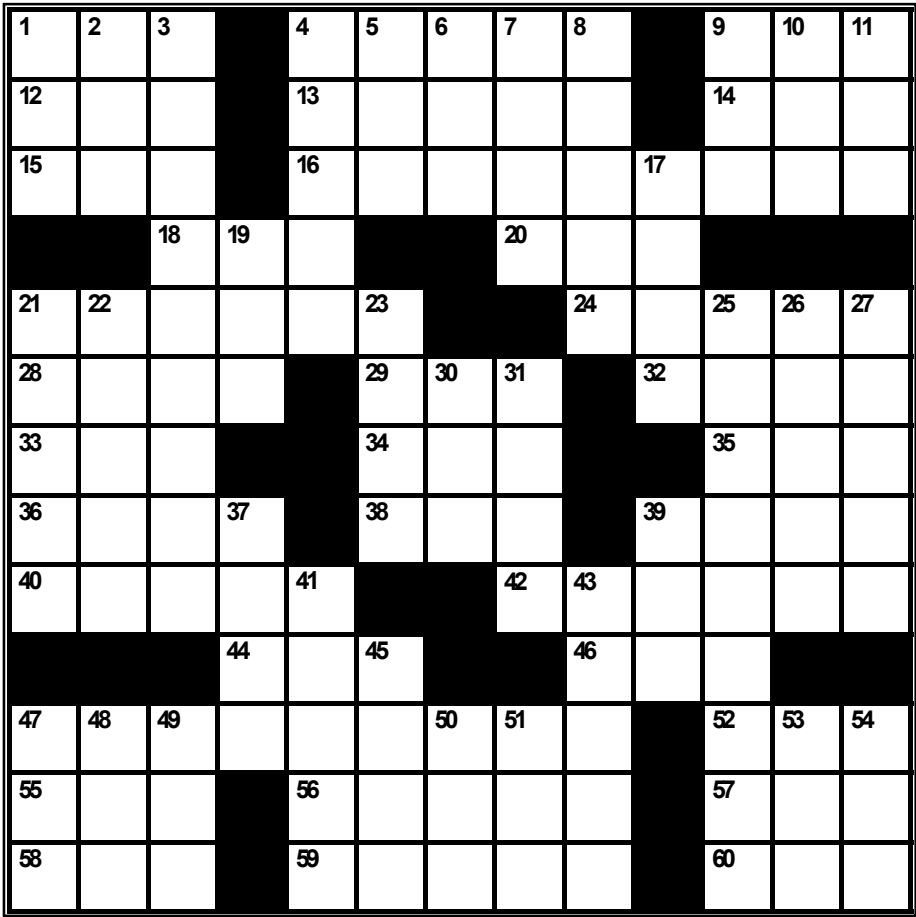
Cooper

BY LARRY WARREN



Crossword Puzzle

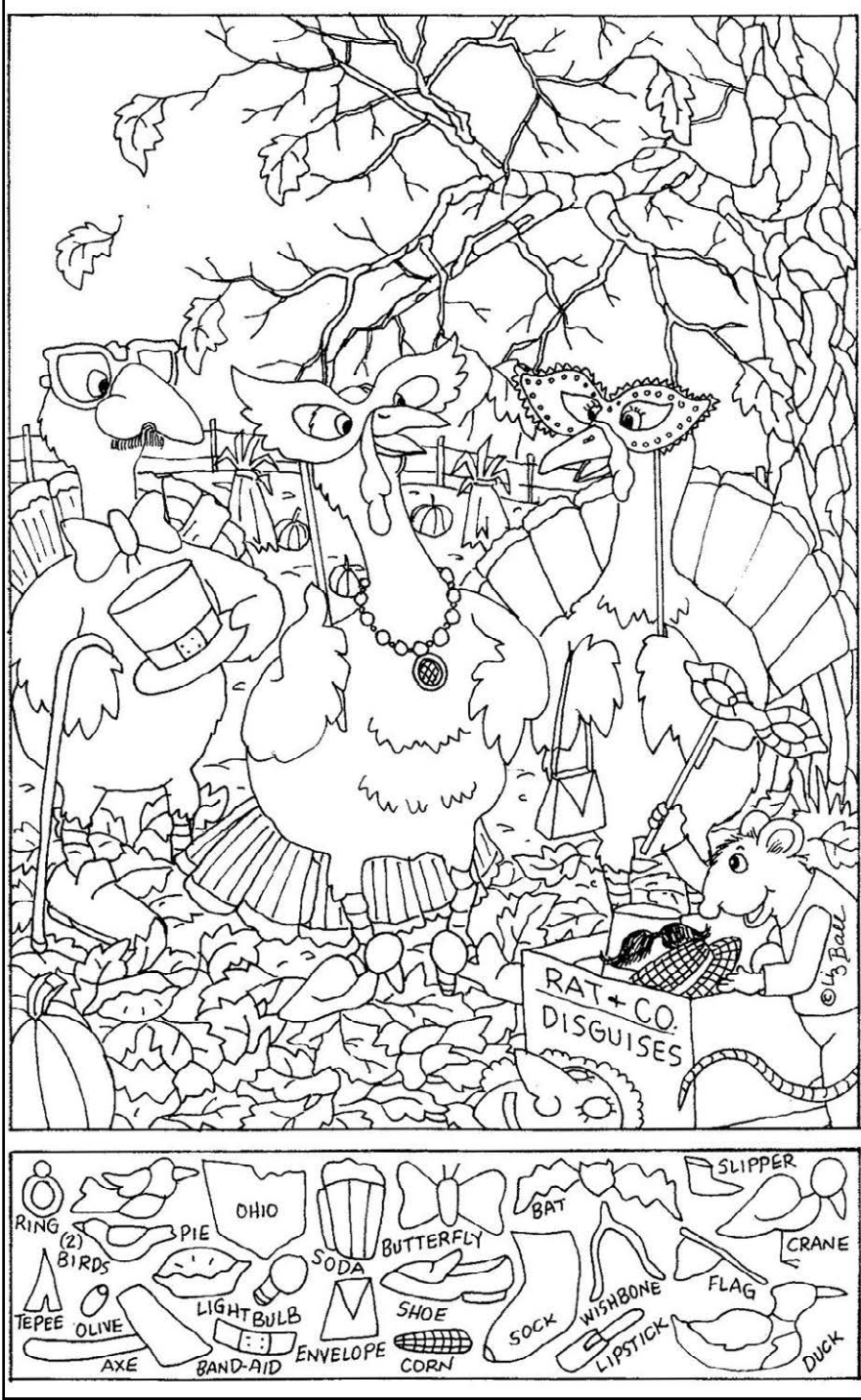
#207



- ACROSS**  
1. Rule out  
4. Quite a hit  
9. Frisk, with "down"  
12. First-rate  
13. \_\_\_ the law  
14. Sermon subject  
15. Sat down at Wendy's  
16. Lady's wear  
18. Life basic  
20. Garland  
21. Robber's haul  
24. Entice  
28. Horse's bit  
29. Paleozoic, for example  
32. Flower receptacle  
33. Energy unit  
34. Comes up at threshing time  
35. Shoot the breeze  
36. Bar request  
38. Fraternity letter  
39. Wright, for one  
40. Young's partner  
42. Take for granted
44. Overwhelming admiration  
46. Rock blaster  
47. Accurately  
52. Vex  
55. B & B  
56. Flightless birds  
57. Reply to a captain  
58. Air, land and \_\_\_  
59. Orangutan  
60. Stage of a journey
- DOWN**  
1. Lamb's cry  
2. Routine  
3. Keyboard instrument  
4. Turkish porter  
5. Japanese sash  
6. Sun follower?  
7. "See no \_\_\_, 2006 film  
8. VCR button  
9. Tire meas.  
10. Make known  
11. Explosive inits.  
17. Chicken \_\_\_
19. Pen point  
21. Temper tantrum  
22. More refined  
23. Exude  
25. Kangaroo, for one  
26. Religious song  
27. Siouan "dwelling"  
30. "Go, team!"  
31. Opera solo  
37. Romanov ruler  
39. A belief  
41. Annoying kid  
43. Discretion  
45. Say again  
47. JAG spin off, Naval \_\_\_  
48. Joined  
49. Genetic info carrier  
50. Sawbuck  
51. Hang back  
53. "Catcher in the \_\_" by J.D. Salinger  
54. Small cask or barrel

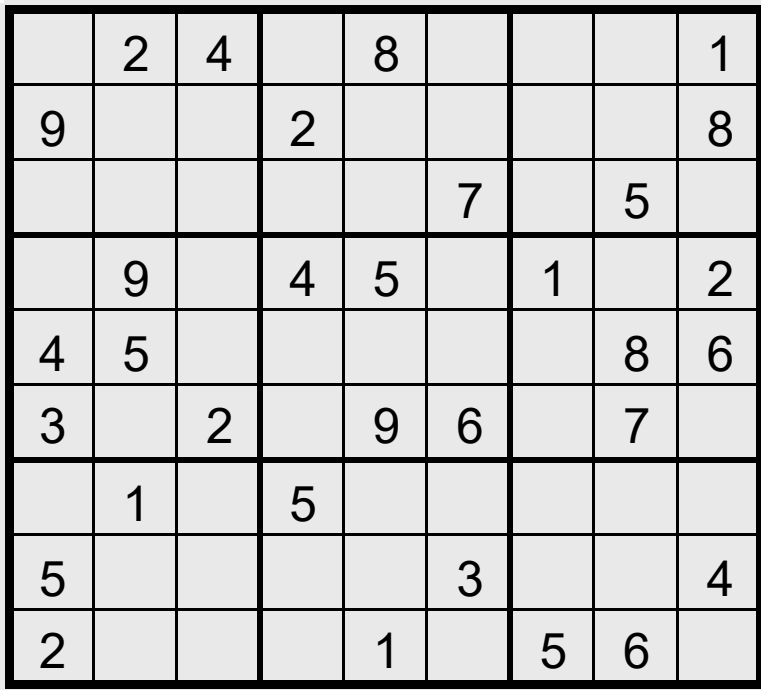
Hidden Treasures

BY LIZ BALL



Sudoku

#203



Trivia Challenge

Cartoons Trivia Questions #5

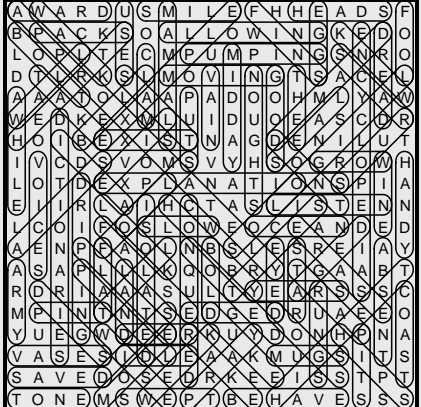
- 8) What is the name of the van on the show "Scooby Doo"?  
a. Mystery Machine  
b. Ecto  
c. The Case Closer  
d. Scooby Van
- 9) Which is NOT the name of one of the Animaniacs?  
a. Dot  
b. Yakko  
c. Zany  
d. Wakko
- 10) What is the name of the alien in the adult animated sitcom, "American Dad"?  
a. Stan  
b. Roger  
c. Steve  
d. Klaus
- 11) What is the name of Dexter's annoying sister in "Dexter's Laboratory"?  
a. Daphne  
b. Vikki  
c. Blossom  
d. Dee Dee
- 12) What is the last name of Tommy in the animated television series, "Rugrats"?  
a. Deville  
b. Pickles  
c. Doyle  
d. Finster
- 13) In the show 6teen, which character works at the "Big Squeeze"?  
a. Wyatt  
b. Caitlin  
c. Nikki  
d. Jude
- 14) What is the name of the main girl in the Canadian cartoon, "Brace Face"?  
a. Katie Griffin  
b. Sharon Spitz  
c. Maria Wong  
d. Nina Harper
- 15) What condition does the father suffer from in the "Oblongs"?  
a. He is missing his arms and legs  
b. He is blind and deaf  
c. Missing half of his face  
d. He is actually a Siamese twin

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

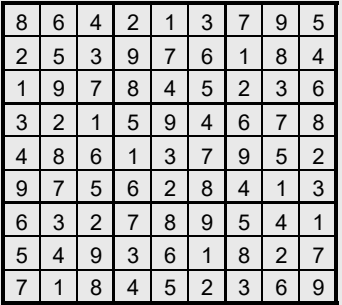
Trivia

- 1) Dr. Claw - Dr Claw has a cat that is called Madcat.  
2) Rainbow - When the Care Bears originally launched, there was ten main bears.  
3) Castle Grayskull - He-man lives on the planet Eternia.  
4) Dino - Dino is their purple pet dinosaur.
- 5) Thundera - Their leader Jaga died on the journey to Third Earth.  
6) April - The turtles are lead by Splinter.  
7) Milhouse - The Simpsons is the longest running sitcom on television.

Word Search



Sudoku



Crossword





# Classifieds & Marketplace

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# Fulker Releases New Book

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

Local attorney and author John Fulker just released his newest non-fiction novel, Home Run: a murder conundrum. This most recent story of intrigue and deception was published two weeks ago and is already available at Jay and Mary's Bookstore on Experiment Farm Road.

The bookstore will be hosting a signing by John Fulker on Saturday December 5th at 2:00 p.m. This will be Fulker's fourth local signing. He has published 6 novels since 1985, all of which highlight murder cases in Miami County.

The information Fulker recounts is public record but earned his

particular interest through some personal connection to the case, either through family or friends or because he was legal counsel for one of the involved parties.

According to Mary Vernau of Jay and Mary's Bookstore, "[Fulker] gets the largest turnouts for his signings of anybody that we have. He has a huge fan base because his stories are set in the area and people will identify or know the characters."

Fulker's connection to the community is indelible. He was born in Miami County and works as an attorney three blocks from the house where he grew up. He married a Miami County girl named Nancy, studied law at Columbia University, and returned to Troy

to begin his practice and raise his family. He has 3 children, one passed away a couple of years ago, and he continues to nurture relationships with 10 grandchildren, all of whom live in the area as well.

He has been practicing law for 63 years and is still in the process of investing his knowledge and legacy in his son, William, and grandson, Joseph. Fulker, his son and grandson are active at Faust, Harrelson, Fulker, McCarthy & Schlemmer.

According to Fulker, living and working in Troy all his life has been rewarding. "When you live your whole life in a community like this, there is very little you don't know about it," Fulker said.

He went on to say that his depth of involvement in Troy has been pivotal to his capacity to write such detailed accounts of historic, local murder cases.

The case he presents in Home Run began as the story of a man's untimely death after falling down the stairs in a home that he, his wife, and children were renting and occupying. After many years, the man's widow met an attorney who made a case claiming that the owners of the home should be required to pay for their negligence if the disrepair of the stairs caused her husband's death.

The newly opened case involved an insurance company Fulker represented. As details of the case came to light, the man's death

looked more like murder than an accident. "Some of John's books have uncertain endings," Vernau said. "As a result of this, people will come and share their perspective of that particular case or information that they heard from a relative who knew the person or something like that. Then, the signings become almost like informative talk-back sessions. It's really cool." Fulker's other titles include And True Deliverance Make; The View From Above; Chicken Soup, Cheap Whiskey & Bad Women; Shards, Pellets, and Knives; and Cash, Cars and Kisses.



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# Bremigan Takes Over As Trojans Hope To Compete In GWOC

**BY JIM DABBELT**

A new era has begun in Troy, as the Trojans boys' basketball program is under a new regime. Longtime Russia High School coach Paul Bremigan takes over the Trojans after Troy finished 6-17 last season. Bremigan is no stranger to success, and he hopes to get things turned around quickly with the Trojans.

"I am looking forward to getting started," he said. "I have seen improvements and we are doing better each week. Change isn't easy for anyone, and we are playing a different style. It's a case where it's a gradual process."

"I think the kids will respond to me better as we go," he added. "It took some time to buy in a little bit, and is still a process but we are working hard defensively, and we need to be strong every night. That's what I base my philosophy on. We can change defenses some, but we still have to be good man-to-man and transition."

Eight seniors reside on the Troy roster this season, so finding the leaders may not be that difficult. Romello Yaqub returns as a point guard for the Trojans, as the 5-foot-7 guard

is quick and will make things happen.

"He has gotten better defensively, and can cause problems at both ends of the floor," Bremigan said.

Also 6-foot-4 forward Austin Persinger looks to be a help on the boards.

"He plays so hard all the time, is a good rebounder and picks things up quickly," Bremigan added. "He is an aggressive player on the boards."

In the post will be 6-foot-8 Mechia Linton who didn't play much last year but if being counted on for some minutes.

"He will have to play more and contribute for us," Bremigan said. "He has come a long way since June, he can change shots on the defensive end and rebound for us."

Another senior is 6-foot-6 Austin Funderburg, a three year letterwinner.

"We are hoping for some solid rebounding and physical play from Austin," the Troy coach said. "He can make it tough to score around the basket."

DeMarcus Moody is a 5-foot-11 guard who is quick and Bremigan feels he can develop into the stoppers role. Senior Trey Bucio is a 5-foot-10 guard who



can shoot according to the Trojans first-year coach,

"He can do a bit of everything, he can play guard or forward for us," Bremigan said.

Two more seniors who look to contribute will be 5-foot-5 Esteban Stafford and 5-foot-10 Austin Anders

"All the seniors have one final shot, we are trying to get it done for them," Bremigan said.

Juniors on the roster include Ryan McClurg, who is a 5-foot-11 guard who can shoot the ball well according to Bremigan, and will be counted on for offense and solid defense. Another junior will be 5-foot-11 Keenen Kinnel who can play point guard at 5-foot-11 and is

very athletic for the Trojans.

Zion Taylor is a 5-foot-11 guard with good hands and is athletic, while 5-foot-10 Devin Larger is another good shooter battling for playing time for the Trojans.

The lone sophomore on the Trojans roster is 6-foot-3 Zach Reichelderfer who will play the post and wing for Troy.

The Trojans hope to compete for a GWOC North title, and Bremigan, who demands that his squad play good defense, feels that the Trojans can battle with anyone in the division.

Troy opens the season Saturday at home against St. Mary's at 7:30, then battles Fairmont next Friday.

## Sports Schedule

Friday, November 27

11:10 a.m. – Troy HS Hockey in Frozen Creek Tournament at Kettering Rec Center

Saturday, November 28

1:30 p.m. – Troy Christian Girls Basketball at Mississinawa Valley

3:10 p.m. & 7:10 p.m. – Troy HS Hockey in Frozen Creek Tournament at Kettering Rec Center

7:30 p.m. – Troy Christian Boys Basketball vs. New Bremen

Monday, November 30

7:30 p.m. – Troy HS Girls Basketball vs. Springfield Shawnee

Tuesday, December 1

4:00 p.m. – Troy HS Boys Bowling vs. Fairmont at Troy Bowl

4:00 p.m. – Troy HS Girls Bowling vs. Fairmont at Troy Bowl

## SPORTS NOTES: Troy Falls In Season Opener

Northwestern battled from behind to defeat Troy on opening night 45-36. Troy led 9-1 midway through the first quarter and 9-4 after one period of play.

"We didn't get our first lead until it was late in the third period," Northwestern coach Aaron Stewart said. "We got our shooters to the line late, and Abby Zerkle, Korynne Berner and Cameryn Ciresi all hit some free throws down the stretch for us."

"It was great for the girls, I have been preaching to them we are senior loaded, it is their last season opener to play on this court," Stewart said. "They had the determination to not let this one get away. During one timeout, Abby told her teammates we were not going to lose this game. It was a great win for us against a D1 team."

Zerkle led Northwestern with 20 points, while Troy's Kennedy Kyzer also scored 20 to lead the Trojans. Alaura Holycross added six points for the Trojans.

\*Troy Christian opened their girls' basketball season last night, while all of the boys' teams begin the season this coming weekend. The wrestling teams at Troy, Troy Christian, Tippecanoe, Greenon, Northwestern and Tecumseh open their season next week.

# Eagles Ready To Reload For 2015

**BY JIM DABBELT**

Coming off of a 24 win season last year, the Troy Christian boys' basketball team is looking to maintain their dominance in the Metro Buckeye Conference as the new season tips off this coming weekend.

Coach Ray Zawadzki is using the "R" word when describing his team after coming into the season with only three seniors and eight underclassmen. But not the dreaded word coaches use after drastic losses.

He is using the other "R" word.... reload.

"We are reloading, not rebuilding here," Zawadzki said. "I am very happy with the work of the three seniors, they have witnessed what it takes to become a great basketball team."

"The younger kids want to do well and make an impact. We will rely on a patient offense and a very hard-nosed defense. Those will be the foundation principles this year, we have to defend for 32 minutes."

KC Kamantz leads the way as a senior, as the 6-foot-3 player will be the leader for the Eagles.

"He has offers from Cincinnati Christian and Cedarville, and he is

our emotional leader," Zawadzki said. "He is our go-to guy offensively, and now we are challenging him to break down defenses and make everyone around him better."

Luke Dillahunt also returns as a 5-foot-11 senior and is expected to have a breakout year.

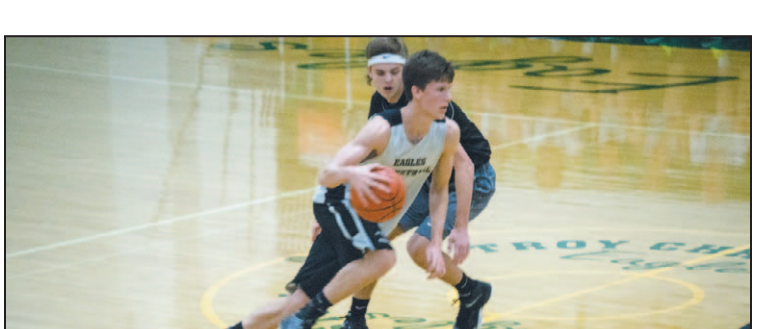
"He is a pure athlete, and that's what makes him special," Zawadzki said. "He can shoot the three at a good clip, and can stretch defenses out and will use his athleticism on the defensive end to play the top opponent."

Chase Hayden also returns as a senior, and the 5-foot-9 guard will be the point guard asked to protect the ball and get the Eagles into their offense.

Five juniors look to contribute big for the Eagles. Seth Wynne is a 5-foot-9 guard who is one of the defensive leaders, who is quick and gritty and will create havoc.

Peyton Spurlock is a 6-foot-1 player who can excel on the offensive end. Hayden Hartman is also a junior, as the 5-9 leftie has the gift according to Zawadzki to shoot the ball, and when a team plays zone, he can cause a problem for the opponent.

Jacob Brown is a 6-foot-3 junior who is being counted on heavily



by Zawadzki.

"He can be an X factor for us that nobody knows about," he said. "He came on late last year and is continuing to grow."

Also Sam Kirkpatrick is a 6-foot-3 junior who will be a factor on the boards for the Eagles.

"He will be logging minutes to rebound the ball and protect the paint," Zawadzki said. "He brings energy and effort for us."

Sophomore James Anderson is a 6-foot-5 post player who sees his first action on the varsity squad.

"He had a great early pre-season, and can score in the paint and create inside shots," Zawadzki said.

Troy Christian has dominated the league of late, winning the last five league titles, and has won 39 consecutive conference games.

"It is understandable why people are wanting to knock us off

the top of the mountain," he said, who stated the last time Troy Christian lost a league game was February 7, 2012.

"Each year we go into the season with the goal to compete for the league title and this year is no different," Zawadzki added. "It will be very competitive where two or three league losses could still win you the league title. We have to come prepared every night."

Troy Christian opens the season on Saturday hosting New Bremen, followed by Miami Valley at home December 4 and at Dayton Christian December 8.

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