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WEEK OF WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 2, 2015 | WWW.TROYTRIB.COM

Christmas Season Comes to Troy

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

Christmas officially arrived in the heart of downtown Troy on November 27, the day after Thanksgiving. The tree on the square was lit in grand ceremony, heralding the change of the season and a month of Christmas glow in hometown Ohio.

Despite the chill and rain, hundreds of people gathered on the square to listen to Christmas music by local bands, to sample local vendors, and to visit shops that stayed open late for the occasion. Santa was also present for the evening’s festivities and sat comfortably in a little house where families, couples, and individuals lined up for hours to see him and read him their Christmas wish lists.

The 10-second countdown to lighting the tree commenced at 6:45 p.m. with significant fan fair and loud cheering that carried down the streets of the city for many blocks in every direction.

The preparations that went into bringing the event to life for the community were extensive. According to city officials, it took two days and approximately 10 city departments to secure the tree and decorate it for the event. It first arrived on the square on November 17 at around 11:15 am, where announcers from Troy Community Radio posted pictures on social media and shared the news on air as the process of placing the tree was happening. Outside help like Piqua Crane was actively involved in setting the tree this year and has faithfully partnered with Troy for this project for 50 years.

DP&L was responsible for safely stringing the 3,000 LED lights. In years past, the tree has also had ornaments. This year, because the decorations were frequently becoming tangled around the base from the December weather, the city opted to have large ornamental Christmas presents under the tree instead.



Free carriage rides were a part of the Grand Illumination festivities

The elegant, homegrown, blue spruce is 32 feet high and was donated to the city by Roger Adams of Glendale Avenue in Troy. It was transported to its new home in the heart of town on the back of a flatbed truck. At the base, the tree is 22 feet in diameter, weighing in at a delicate 400 lbs., putting it at the low end for the general weight of most of the city’s

previous Christmas trees. Members of the community who came out to see the tree lighting were in high spirits. “We have enjoyed coming to this almost every year since our children were little,” local attorney Mark Puthoff said. “It’s a great way to bring in the Christmas season as a family.”



Kids were thrilled to see Santa arrive



The lighting of the tree drew cheers from the crowd



Kids had a chance to talk with Santa in his newly constructed house on the Square



Rum River Blend provided Christmas music for the evening

Elections Board Introduces Candidate Checklist, Electronic Poll Books

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Each prospective candidate obtaining nominating petitions from the Miami County Board of Elections now receives a candidate checklist approved Nov. 23 by the elections board.

Election officials hope the checklist will help ensure against multiple prospective candidates from being eliminated from the ballot because of petition errors. Checklist options had been under review since 30 petitions by those hoping to be on the November ballot were thrown out by the board in August.

Elections Director Bev Kendall said the checklist was drawn up following review of the lists given to candidates by other elections offices in the area.

She also discussed the checklist content and use with a legal adviser at the Secretary of State’s Office before giving it to the board for its action, Kendall said.

“We should be doing everything we can to get people on the ballot and turn in good petitions without us violating the giving legal advice prohibition,” said board member Robert Huffman Jr.

The elections board reviewed the proposed checklist before approving unanimously its content and distribution to those who picked up nominating petitions beginning that day.

The checklist also would be available on the election office website, said Eric Morgan, deputy elections director.

The checklist tells candidates the election staff is prohibited by the Secretary of State from checking petitions for prospective candidates. The county petition review policy prohibits employees of the election office from answering candidates’ questions about petition validity prior to action on the petitions by the board of elections.

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Election Results Certified

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Miami County’s Board of Elections certified results of the Nov. 3 election in which close to 50 percent of registered voters participated during a meeting Nov. 23.

Turnout countywide for the election was 49.94 percent, according to the election office’s final report.

Bev Kendall, elections director, said the final tallies showed no race qualified for an automatic recount of one-half of 1 percent or less. A candidate could request a recount at a cost of \$55 per precinct, Eric Morgan, deputy elections director, said. No recount requests were received.

The certified count includes provisional ballots cast on Election Day but not opened until 10 days later. The county had more than 400 provisional votes.

Among the closest races was for mayor of Piqua, where Kathryn “Kazy” Hinds was elected as 5th Ward representative and

became mayor despite ward and mayor’s race challenger Gary Koenig receiving more votes in the mayor’s balloting. The city charter requires whoever is mayor to first win a ward seat.

The final votes in the Troy area races and issues were as follows:

2nd Ward Troy City Council Doug Tremblay, incumbent, 689 (63.68 percent) and Cynthia Schaefer, 393 (36.32 percent)

Staunton Township Fiscal Officer Sara Fine, 613 (79.82 percent) and Christine Mumma, 155 (20.18 percent)

Concord Township Trustee William Whidden, 6,313 (100 percent)

Concord Township Fiscal Officer Patricia Quillen, 6,343 (100 percent)

Troy Board of Education (full term) Doug Trostle, 5,863, and Michael Ham, 4,788

Troy Board of Education (un-

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City Details 2016 Budget Items

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Troy’s proposed 2016 budget review included a peek at some proposed projects next year and beyond such as possible West Main Street widening.

Patrick Titterington, city service and safety director, led the discussion of the budget review with the council at a Nov. 23 work session. Council will be asked to approve the budget, through the annual appropriations ordinance, at future meetings.

Several department budgets include money set aside to help pay for new radios to be purchased as part of the upgrade of the county 9-1-1 system. The county bought a new system backbone this fall.

As part of the upgrade, the radios will allow for communication with any radio in the state as part of the statewide Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS), Titterington said. The total cost of radios to the city has not been determined, with the county possibly paying a portion of the bill, he said.

In the fire department budget, \$15,000 was proposed to pay for a firm to analyze calls and use of the city fire stations as the city looks at “significant investment” at fire station one on Race Street, the oldest of three stations.

The budget also includes money for three hydraulic cots for ambulances, at a cost of \$42,000 each. Grants are expected to pay for a portion of those costs.

With the Ohio Department of Transportation’s plans in 2019 to pave West Main Street from Cherry Street to Interstate 75, the city can simply have the street repaved or look at improvements to an area of heavy traffic and narrow lanes, Titterington said.

The 2016 budget includes \$200,000 for a possible study of that stretch of West Main Street to look at options such as widening the street, adding bike lanes and moving sidewalk that in some areas is adja-

► PAGE 5

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Former Principal Pleads No Contest

BY NANCY BOWMAN

A former Milton-Union High School principal could receive up to 16 1/2 years in prison after pleading no contest Monday, Nov. 30, to five felony counts of pandering sexually oriented material involving a minor and two counts of illegal use of a minor in nudity oriented material.

Allen E. Smith, 68, was indicted in October by a Miami County Grand Jury following an investigation by Troy police into messages Smith exchanged with a 14 year old girl. He was arrested by police after a detective posing as the girl made arrangements to meet him in a city park.

Smith pleaded as part of a deal in which prosecutors said they would not file additional charges unless new evidence surfaced of Smith having contact with an underage female.

Smith pleaded no contest and was found guilty Monday by Judge Christopher Gee in county Common Pleas Court. A presentence investigation was ordered and sentencing scheduled for Jan. 25.

Smith remains in the county jail on \$250,000 bail.

Smith is a former educator and principal and most recently worked in curriculum development at the county Educational Service Center. He resigned from that job in September.

Police Detective Chris Tilley said police were led to the case by the mother of the girl who came to police with suspicious messages her daughter was receiving. The messages, he said, were from Smith.

Tilley said he continued the conversations, posing as the girl, and they agreed to meet. "I met with Mr. Smith and he thought I was a 14 year old girl," Tilley said.

A search of Smith's phone and other electronic devices resulted in the charges.

He said Smith was communicating with people from age 11 to adults with most being underage.

Edison Study Abroad trip cancelled

Due to the recent unfortunate events in Paris, Edison State Community College has made the decision to cancel the March 2016 Study Abroad trip to France. Any deposits previously submitted will be refunded within a couple of weeks.

Information regarding future Study Abroad trips will become available at www.edisonohio.edu/Stu-dy-Abroad. For questions or concerns, contact Study Abroad Coordinators Eileen Thompson at 937-778-7914 or Steve Sykes at 937-778-7946.

Miami County Sheriff Reports

MONDAY, 11/23

3:55 p.m. To Peebles Rd. for a report of an abandoned motor vehicle. No further details were given.

TUESDAY, 11/24

12:07 a.m. Traffic stop on W. Route 41. The driver was cited for lanes of travel, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia.

8:58 a.m. Traffic stop on W. Main at Cherry for expired registration. She stated that her license was suspended, but handed the deputy her driving privileges. The deputy learned that her suspension was lifted in July, but that she was now under another suspension. She was advised that her driving privileges were only for the first suspension. She was cited for driving under suspension and expired registration. She called for a valid driver to pick her up.

9:16 a.m. A man came to the Sheriff's Office to report a fraud. He said that for the past several months, a loan payment of \$459.42 had been withdrawn from his bank account every two weeks. He said the source of the withdrawal is "Check N Go." He said he has never taken a loan from that company. He provided his bank account information and a possible suspect who may have opened the loan. He said that he has contacted his bank and closed his account. The case is pending.

3:11 p.m. To W. Monroe Concord Rd. for a report of fraud. A man reported that his Verizon account was charged \$280 for an upgrade by an unknown person at a Target store in Louisiana. The transaction occurred on 11/22, 2015. He said he contacted the store manager who said that he would be referring the matter to their fraud department. The deputy contacted the store to try to get a copy of surveillance video, but the proper individual was not in at the time. The deputy will be following up, and the case is pending.

WEDNESDAY, 11/25

11:44 a.m. To Woodridge Dr. for a report of a fraud. A man reported that he received a call yesterday from an Educare Credit Card Services about transferring funds to a new credit card at a lower rate. He gave out his personal information but not his bank account number. He said he told them to call back later and he would have it. He then did some research and realize that it might be a scam. The company later called back and he told them that he was no longer interested. They told him that a credit card had already been opened in his name with Capital One. He said he called Capital One and they informed him that a credit card had been opened in his name but had not been used. He said that he asked them to close the card and they complied. He said he soon received a call from Educare Credit Card Services, and

an individual identifying himself as a supervisor told him that he was being sent to collections for \$590. He requested a report to send to credit bureaus.

1:01 p.m. To the Miami County Fairgrounds. A woman reported that a male subject had moved some of her property without her permission. She was advised that this is a civil matter.

1:30 p.m. To 4th St. for a report of a domestic disturbance. No further details were given.

FRIDAY, 11/27

3:14 p.m. To Piqua-Troy Rd. for a report of a suspicious vehicle. A woman reported that the property owner passed away about a year ago and that she is the executor of the estate. She said that sometime over the last few weeks, she believes a set of tires were taken from the property. She did not report it then because she didn't know what they were or when they may have been taken. She said she placed cameras on the property and said that there was a vehicle in the driveway yesterday. The deputy viewed the video which showed a male driver walking up to the front door, then back to the vehicle. She requested a report should there be any further problems.

6:59 p.m. To Kessler-Frederick Rd. for a report of a theft. A woman reported that her cell phone had been

stolen. She said that she noticed it missing about a week ago.

SATURDAY, 11/28

11:09 p.m. To Upper Valley Medical Center. A woman was using false information to obtain narcotics from the emergency room doctors. She admitted to doing so, and was incarcerated.

SUNDAY, 11/29

1:56 a.m. Traffic stop on I-75 at the 76 mile marker. The drive was found to be driving under suspension. He was cited for that and for no plate light. He was released with the vehicle to a valid driver.

12:39 p.m. Traffic stop on Foxdale Dr. at Lincolnshire Rd. The driver was informed that he was stopped for having expired registration, and he said that he had no driver's license. He was cited for driving under suspension and given a warning for expired registration.

11:38 p.m. A deputy tried to initiate a traffic stop on E. Route 41, but the suspect vehicle failed to stop and continued east into Clark County. The pursuit was ended. The vehicle was later chased by Clark county deputies and it crashed at I-75 and Benchmark Rd. in Montgomery County. The passenger was charged with robbery by Tipp City Police. The deputy will also charge the driver for failure to comply with the order of a police officer.

Trib BRIEFS

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Mother sentenced to probation

A former Troy woman convicted of interference with custody for fleeing to Las Vegas in 2014 with her four-year-old daughter was sentenced Nov. 24, to three years of community control sanctions.

Eva Villamor-Gouveaux, 40, now of the Columbus area, was arrested Feb. 27, 2014, on a warrant issued in Miami County following a complaint by her ex-husband that she had taken their daughter and fled the state.

Judge Christopher Gee of Miami County Common Pleas Court heard evidence in the case in September and found Villamor-Gouveaux guilty. The judge said she violated a written agreement filed with the court on visitation when she

fled the state in late November 2013, first going to New Jersey and then to Nevada.

Gee's sentence included orders that Villamor-Gouveaux pay \$1,571 in restitution to her ex-husband. The amount of restitution was stipulated by prosecutors and the defense lawyer before sentencing.

Gee, who previously ordered Villamor-Gouveaux to turn in her U.S. passport, also ordered her to also turn in a Filipino passport within 60 days.

Bowen trial date set again

The retrial of Frank Bowen, 26, in the 2014 murder of Joseph Graley III of Bethel Township has been rescheduled to begin Jan. 12.

The trial was scheduled to begin Nov. 16 but was continued that morning due to a medical situation faced by Miami County Judge Christopher Gee.

Gee filed the new hearing

date in Common Pleas Court on Nov. 20.

Bowen is charged with murder in the death of Graley, 31, whose body was found Oct. 23, 2014, beneath a brush pile behind his home. Investigators said Graley died of blunt force trauma to the head and neck.

A jury that heard evidence on charges against Bowen this summer was unable to reach verdicts on murder, tampering with evidence and gross abuse of a corpse charges.

Bowen was found guilty of felony safecracking involving a safe in the bedroom of Graley's home, where Bowen lived briefly with Graley before he disappeared in early October

Agencies receive funding

The Miami County commissioners Nov. 17 approved the county Title XX subgrant agreements with social services agencies from across the

county. The Title XX federal dollars are administered by the county Job and Family Services Department.

The allocation of funds for the period Oct. 1-Sept. 30 was approved as follows: Miami County Children's Services, \$300,000; Legal Aid of Western Ohio, \$13,500; Miami County Recovery Council, \$17,000; Family Abuse Shelter of Miami County, \$27,000; Miami County Transit, \$91,000; New Creation Counseling Center, \$15,000; and Sunrise Center, \$3,778.

Pay raise OK'd

The Miami County Board of Elections voted Nov. 23 to increase the pay of part-time employees from \$10 to \$10.50 per hour.

The board OK'd the pay hike following a short closed door meeting. The increase was effective retroactive to Nov. 1.

Tis the Season to be Scamming

BY KATHY VOYTKO

Residents need to beware when taking calls on home or cell phones this holiday season. One of the latest scams involves individuals calling and letting you know that your computer "has problems". The caller explains that he is with a reputable computer software company and that there is a problem with your computer. He also offers you the opportunity to have it repaired remotely with the simple support of your credit card number or your bank account number.

One person called by the scammer felt uneasy following the call and went straight

to his bank for help. This quick action most likely saved his life savings from the scammers as he did provide account information during the call and they had already began making charges to his accounts.

If you did not contact a company for service, do not give out any personal information. Never supply your bank or credit card information over the phone. The scammers are quick to run a check for the account and unless you have fraud protection, your checking can be wiped out in a matter of minutes. It is also wise not to keep large balances in your checking account but

rather have a savings that you can transfer money as needed.

A computer company is not going to call and tell you that you have a problem. The IRS is not going to call and tell you that you owe taxes. The court system will not call you and claim that you owe fees.

If you have a computer problem, you would need to find a reputable service person and take your computer to them. If you owe the IRS or the courts, you will get a letter in the mail.

Be careful this holiday season and into the New Year. Scammers are getting better at convincing you that there may be a balance owed on an account.

Never donate to a charity over the phone. Today you cannot be sure if they are truly calling for support or if they are scammers hoping to get a credit card number. It is best to donate to a cause that you know and trust and have donated to in the past. You can always check on the authenticity of a charity that you might not recognize by calling the non-emergency line of the Clark County Sheriff at 328-2560. Let them know that you think you may have heard from a scammer and they can help with this.

Tis the Season for giving, but not for getting scammed.

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Editor - Dale Grimm
(editor@troytrib.com)
Writers - Brittney Jackson, Bonnie McHenry, Nancy Bowman, Mike Woody
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(sports@newcarlislenews.net)

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OBITUARIES

Melvin R. Adkins

Melvin R. Adkins, age 77, of Troy, passed away on Monday, November 23, 2015 at Upper Valley Medical Center in Troy. He was born on March 4, 1938 in Chauncey, WV to the late Penbrook and Ella Victoria (Queen) Adkins. His wife of 28 years, Judy (Mason) Adkins, survived.

Melvin is also survived by three children: Annette Adkins of Dayton, Christopher Adkins and Jason Simons, both of Troy; five siblings: Ruby Moore of Logan, WV, Arlene (Ron) Klump of Milwaukee, WI, Liz Ferguson of Piqua, Minnie Stewart and Linda (Lewis) Rolando, both of Murrieta,

CA; and one sister-in-law: Millie Adkins of West Milton. In addition to his parents, Melvin was preceded in death by four brothers: Buck, Dannie, Earl and Arvil Adkins.

Services are pending arrangements with Baird Funeral Home in Troy.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family c/o Baird Funeral Home, 555 North Market Street, Troy, OH 45373 to help defray expenses. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.bairdfuneralhome.com.

Eva Carey

Eva Carey, age 105 of Rockford, Illinois, formerly of Troy, passed away November 27, 2015 at Wesley Willow Nursing Home. Private Services were held with interment at Pleasant Hill Cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy.

Virgil “Dean” Fine

Virgil “Dean” Fine, age 67, of Troy, OH passed away on Friday, November 27, 2015 at 7:55 p.m. at his home under the care of Hospice of Miami County. He was born on March 23, 1948 in Darke County, OH to the late Virgil Don Fine and Wavelyn Opal (Henninger) Fine Minnich.

He is survived by his loving wife of 27 years, Beverly R. (Trappe) Fine; three stepchildren: Sheldon

(Tracy) Clutter of Galloway; Rhonda Clutter of Vandalia and Christa Clutter of San Antonio, TX; sister: Ann (Joe) Miller of Tipp City; four grandchildren: Sean and Brittany Clutter and Seth and Dustin Pace and many nieces and nephews.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters: Donna Westfall, Sandy Bryant and Peggy Fannin and his former wife, Kathy

Wade Fine.

Dean was a 1966 graduate of Troy High School. He served in the US Navy for four years with the Seabees; two tours of duty in Vietnam and was a recipient of the Purple Heart medal. He was a member of the VFW and the AmVets Post in Troy. Dean enjoyed mushroom hunting and fishing and had a great love for animals. Dean was an employee

with Earhart Petroleum in Troy for 10 years and Blue Flame Gas Company in West Union for 20 years.

The family will receive friends from 5:00-7:00PM on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at the Baird Funeral Home, Troy. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Miami County, PO Box 502, Troy, OH 45373.

Martha M. McDevitt

Martha “Martie” (Manville) McDevitt, 88, of Mount Vernon died at home on November 22, 2015.

Martie was born Feb. 8, 1927, in Mattoon, IL, to Newell and Martha (Phillips) Manville. She was raised in the Midwest, graduating from Springfield High School in 1945. Martie graduated from The Ohio State University in 1949, where she was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority. She married

Philip H. McDevitt and celebrated 50 years of marriage before he passed away in 2002. She is a member of First Congregational United Church of Christ of Mount Vernon and is a member of the Morgan Grange and the Homer Garden Club.

She is survived by her daughters Mary Beth (Charles) Doud of Mims, FL and Kathryn (John Purdy) Irick of Troy; six grandchildren: Christopher McDevitt,

Erin (Ben) Contratto, David Irick, Emma (Austin) Redmon, Douglas and Ryan Doud; and three great grandchildren: David and Juliet Contratto and Eleanor Redmon.

Her son, David M. McDevitt, preceded her in death in 1977.

Memorial service will be held at 3:00 PM on Saturday, December 12, 2015 at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 200 N. Main St., Mt. Vernon, OH.

Memorial contributions may

be made to McDevitt Memorial Scholarship Fund @ First Congregational United Church of Christ, 200 N. Main St., Mt. Vernon, OH, 43050 or Homer Public Library, 385 South Street, NW, Homer, Ohio 43027. Condolences may be expressed to the family at www.bairdfuneralhome.com.

Mildred L. Slough

Mildred L. Slough, walked on this earth 101 years and 10 months. On Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 2015, Mildred crossed over, and lives eternally, reunited with her beloved husband Carl, and is face to face with her Creator.

Mildred Slough, born January 28, 1914, near Union, Ohio was the oldest daughter of Albert and Bessie (Swartz) Sass. She is survived by her sister, Florence (Raymond) Becker; nephew Dennis (Sharon) Becker; niece and caregiver Darlene (Nick) Mott; and two great nieces: Kelly Mott and her son, Braden Dellinger; and Deanna Mott and her children: Derrick Caruso, Grace Caruso, and Zackary Pogue.

Mildred married her best friend, Carl Slough, February 10, 1934, and together they shared 60 years, prior to Carl’s passing February 12, 1994. Carl worked at Montross Lumber and then started his own repair business, with Mildred as constant assistant, glazing and painting window

frames, and doing office work.

Carl and Mildred lived on farms in Union; in Fredrick, and west of Potsdam. They were a constant team. They were hard workers on the farm, butchering and canning; endured the Depression Years; were friends to all they met; and were always helping others.

In Sept. 1947, they sold their farm, animals, and equipment and moved to Summit Avenue, Troy. They moved to Staunton Road in 1965. Following Carl’s passing in 1994, Mildred moved to an apartment on Leedes Road.

Carl and Mildred became members of the Troy Church of the Brethren March 2, 1949 and helped build the ‘new’ Church on West Main Street in 1950.

Mildred taught Children’s Sunday School classes and was active in Women’s Fellowship. She led the Sewing Circle and made crafts for the annual church Bazaar. Mildred loved the Lord.

Mildred’s mission for 35 years was sending over 4500 cards to church members. She kept a list of

all the cards she sent – and even noted which card she sent, so she never sent the same card twice to a person. Mildred often remarked how the postage increased over the years, stating that when she started in 1963, postage was four cents.

Mildred was a good seamstress and also sewed lots of dolls clothes for Kelly and Deanna’s Barbie dolls. She enjoyed crocheting and teaching others to crochet.

Mildred was a Life Member of the Troy Senior Citizens Center, where she played Euchre and Bingo, and worked at their Annual Bazaars and Strawberry Festivals.

Mildred enjoyed recalling the past, saying, “Just think how many inventions I’ve seen in my lifetime!” She would often reflect on the many Presidents throughout her life. She missed her old friends, remarking that she had outlived most all of them!

Mildred was so appreciative and positive, and encouraged others with her contagious smile! She

lived a simple life and bloomed where she was planted.

The family thanks the Randall Residence of Tipp City Memory Care Staff for meeting Mildred’s needs with loving care. Also, special thanks is extended to Hospice of Miami County for their extraordinary, compassionate services. Mildred really looked forward to frequent visits from Hospice Chaplain John Shelton.

Mildred’s instructions to the family were not to cry when passed. She yearned to be set free from the afflictions she has endured lately. Her goal was to be with her beloved Carl again. God granted her wish today. Memories will live on in the hearts of all who knew Mildred. See you at the Gate!

Baird Funeral Home is assisting the family. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery, Troy, with a graveside service for family. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Hospice of Miami County, PO Box 502, Troy, OH 45373.

Wanda C. Cooper

Wanda C. Cooper, age 86 of Troy, died at her residence Tuesday, November 24, 2015. She was born on July 25, 1929 in South Shore, Kentucky to the late William and Sallie (Quillen) Carr. She is survived by her husband, Howard J. Cooper, whom she married on January 19, 1953. Other survivors include two daughters and sons-

in-law Pam and Dale Stover of Woodbury, Tennessee, and Mary Beth and Doug Moore of Troy. Also survived by four grandchildren, Michael Coey, Emily Coey, Tara (Jim) Shank, and Vince (Katie) Stover, as well as five great-grandchildren, Brett Stover, Camden Stover, Noah Adams, Ryley Coey, and Cooper Shank. Wanda was

a 1946 graduate of McKell High School in South Shore, Kentucky, and was a member of the Troy Baptist Temple. She retired from Eurodrive in 1991, where she worked in the accounting department for 16 years, and she worked and retired from the DMV in Troy from 1996-2012. She also worked for Troy City Schools for a num-

ber of years. A Funeral Service was held at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 28, 2015 at Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy, with Pastor David Thomasson officiating. Contributions may be made to Hospice of Miami County, PO Box 502, Troy, OH 45373.

Dean Eric Reed

Dean Eric Reed, age 53, of Troy, OH passed away on Friday, November 27, 2015 at his residence. He was born on February 24, 1962 in Piqua, OH to Jerry Lee and Mary Ann (Phyllaier) Reed. Dean is survived by his mother:

Mary of Troy; brother: Rodderick J. Reed of St. Paris; sisters and brother-in-law: Rebecca Reed of Lima and Debra and David Hale of Troy; and six beloved nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his nephew Robert Lee

Reed.

Dean was a US Army Veteran and worked as a self-employed carpenter.

Services were held at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at the Baird Funeral Home with

Pastor Greg Simmons officiating. Memorial contributions may be made to Heartland Hospice 580 Lincoln Park Blvd. Suite 320 Kettering, OH 45429.

Financial Focus

WITH THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Making financial goals with both head and heart

What distinguishes financial winners from losers? Some people might be tempted to respond, “the size of a person’s bank account” or “the performance of a person’s investments.” While few people would argue that how much one owns or how well it performs doesn’t matter, those who view these measures as standards for success may be forgetting an important aspect: money is a tool, not an end, in life.

Values should be integrated throughout our financial decision-making. Asking the right questions upfront can help. For example “What is my mission or mission statement in life?” “What mindset do I bring to my possession – scarcity or abundance?” “What values are the guiding forces in my life?” “What activities give me energy and make me feel alive?” “How do I want people to remember me?” “What organizations and causes do I care about deeply?” “Does the way I manage my money truly reflect my life’s priorities?”

Knowing the answers to these questions can assist people in integrating their personal values with their financial decisions.

How do people integrate their personal values with their personal finances in the real world? Some choose to express their support of particular issues and organizations through charitable gifts. Others leave a legacy to their children or grandchildren. Still others allocate dollars for their personal development through education and training to bring their skills or passions to a higher level. And some people are better at monitoring their spending to focus on long term needs.

Those who tend to be most satisfied with life – whether enormously wealthy or just scraping by – usually have successfully connected how they manage their money with their values and life purpose. They understand that money is a tool, not an end, in their life. Their finances typically surround and support their values linked to family, time, legacy, care for others, leisure, faith and everyday living. Real financial success comes from examining both what is in one’s heart and what is in one’s portfolio. When people’s values and money are in alignment, they can be assured that the way they manage their money is supporting who they are and what they believe in. That can be one sure way to satisfy both head and heart.

Thrivent Financial is represented in the local area by Financial Associate Matt Buehrer. He has been serving the area for over 23 years and has an office at 29 W. Main Street in Tipp City and can be reached at (937) 667-8270.

About Thrivent Financial

Thrivent Financial is a not-for-profit, Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 2.6 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. Thrivent Financial and its affiliates offer a broad range of financial products and services. As a not-for-profit organization, Thrivent creates and supports national outreach programs and activities that help congregations, schools, charitable organizations and individuals in need. For more information, visit Thrivent.com. Also you can find us on facebook and twitter. This column was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by this representative.

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Van Cleve Students Participate in Edison State's Kids to College

More than 350 sixth grade students and teachers from Van Cleve Elementary School in Troy spent the day Friday attending classes and learning real world financial responsibility at Edison State Community College during Kids To College. The annual program is a collaborative effort with Troy City Schools, The Ohio State University Extension Office and is funded by a grant from the Troy Foundation.

This is the ninth year for the program at Edison, which provides students with a curriculum that focuses on financial literacy, careers and the value of an education beyond high school. Initial sessions are held at Van Cleve in the weeks leading up to the event to help prepare students for a simulation that requires them to make consumer decisions, pay bills and balance a checkbook.

Students at VanCleve found the program to be eye opening. "There is a big difference between needs and wants," said one student. "I learned how your education and your decisions make a huge impact on your life," added another student. "You need to save money for more important stuff."

While at Edison State, students spent time in the classroom learning about a variety of topics ranging from anatomy and physics to business and early childhood education. In addition to attending various sessions and simulations, students had the opportunity to spend time and interact with Edison State faculty and staff in the cafeteria during lunch. "It's a truly rewarding experience to help young students think about their futures in such an interactive way," said Christina Raterman, Edison State Enrollment Manager. "Things really start clicking for them—they get the correlation between working hard and staying in school and the opportunities that provides to make a financially secure living."

"I also see them develop more of an understanding of where their parents are coming from in paying for bills and the realities of being an adult," added Raterman. "It's an educational and fun experience for them!"

Miami County Toastmasters Seeks Charter Members

The Miami County Toastmasters Club is seeking charter members for a new club right here in Troy. Toastmasters provide a supportive and positive environment where members have the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills.

Some benefits of Toastmasters membership include guiding successful teams, sharpening presentation skills, honing management skills, effectively developing and presenting ideas and giving and getting constructive feedback.

The next meeting of the Miami County Toastmasters Club is Monday, December 7 from 7-8 p.m. at the Troy Hayner Cultural Center, 301 W Main St. Guests are welcome to meetings, talk with experienced toastmasters and participate in our impromptu or Table Topics portion of the meeting. They will only meet once in December, but will resume regular meetings on the 2d and 4th Mondays at 7-8 p.m., again at the Hayner starting January, 2016.

About Toastmasters International
Toastmasters International is a worldwide nonprofit educational organization that empowers individuals to become more effective communicators and leaders. Headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif., the organization's membership exceeds 332,000 in more than 15,400 clubs in 135 countries. Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people from diverse backgrounds become more confident speakers, communicators and leaders. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit www.d4toastmasters.org.

New Look Trojans Squad Opens With Win

By JIM DABELT

If the season opener is any indication about the things to come at Troy this season, it could be a very fun year for the Trojans.

Under the direction of first-year Trojans coach Paul Bremigan, the host squad built a 10-point halftime lead on Saturday in their season opener against St. Mary's, and cruised to a 66-44 victory, giving the longtime area coach Bremigan his first win at the helm of the Trojans.

"I thought the kids played well tonight," Bremigan said following the win. "They were very unselfish. It was a good team win, and our defense was solid tonight."

Romello Yaqub led the way for the Trojans with a team high 21 points, as he was one of 11 players to get into the scorebook in the win.

Also scoring for Troy were Austin Persinger with 10 to give the Trojans two players in double figures. Ryan Mc-

Clurg added seven, Mechia Linton and Zach Reichelderfer each added six, Keenan Kinnel scored five, Trey Bucio four, while scoring two each were Zion Taylor, DeMarcus Moody and Austin Funderburg, while Esteban Stafford scored one.

Troy was up ten points in the third period, and went on an 11-0 run aided by steals and breakaways.

"I thought that was the difference there," Bremigan said. "We did a nice job handling the ball well there, and we played similar to the preseason."

"A lot of stuff is new to the kids, and we just have to keep getting better. It doesn't matter if I am a first year coach here or not, they have to just go out and get better at what you do. The kids have made strides, and we will get back at it and find the things to fix."

Troy is at Fairmont on Friday night, before hosting Fairborn next Tuesday for a 7:30 game.

Troy Girls Basketball- The



Troy girls' basketball team suffered another tough loss last week, falling in a non-league contest to Oakwood at home 46-42, dropping their record on the season to 0-2.

The game was even in the first half, as Oakwood clung to a 22-20 lead at the break, only to watch as Troy pulled ahead with a big third quarter, and the Trojans led 35-31 heading to the final eight minutes of play.

Courtney Eggleston, who was

17-18 from the free throw line in the game, connected with her only field goal of the game late in the game with a clutch three-pointer, giving Oakwood the win.

Kennedi Kyzer led the way for the Trojans with 11 points, while Bailey Hess and Sierra Besecker each added six points and three assists in the loss.

The Trojans return to action tomorrow night, as they host Fairmont in a 7:30 tip.

Trojans Open Hockey Season

By JIM DABELT

With 12 returning players including four talented seniors, the Troy Trojans hockey season is underway, and the Trojans are coming into the season with a chip on their shoulder with a lot to prove.

After finishing 15-15-2 overall last season, their finish in the SWOHSHL forced them to drop to the lower division, which hasn't sit too well with the Trojans.

"We were not where we wanted to be last year," said Troy coach Phill Noll. "We were in the upper division of five teams, but league rules force us to drop to the lower division. We want to win the Gold Division and move back up to the Red where we belong. We feel like we belong in the top five in the league, and it is one of the big goals for everyone on the team."

"The key is that we don't have to win every game, but we have to improve every game."

Troy is now in with the likes of Alter, Elder, LaSalle, Sycamore and Mason this season.

Gone is team MVP Jake Uhlenbrock along with key scorer Alex Smith, but four seniors will lead the way for the Trojans, led by center AJ Noll, who last season scored his 100th career point, which only 13 other Troy players have ever done. He is currently fourth all-time on points, fourth in assists and sixth in goals.

"All of those career records are in reach," said the Trojans coach. "But what I want from him is leadership, he has never been a fluids scorer, but is an excellent passer and set-up man."

Another senior center is Tyler Hess, who runs the second line of their offense.

"He can score and is a physical player," Noll said. The coach also praised another senior, Troy Moore who is the defense stopper for the Trojans.

"Troy is the backbone of our defense," Noll said. "He is a very physical player and can skate the puck up the ice when needed."



Leading the way for the Troy Trojans hockey team are seniors (l to r) Troy Moore, AJ Noll, Tyler Hess and Doug Eardly.

Also on the doorstep of 100 career points is senior Doug Eardly, who plays on either the first or second line.

"He has good hockey sense and really good hands," Noll said. Eardly is sitting at 79 career points.

Leading the juniors will be goalie Cory Neff, a three-year varsity player. He has progressed to become a top-two goalie for Troy, and according to Noll, they will use whichever goalie is performing at the time.

Prestyn Hoefler also is back at the wing spot, and is a proficient scorer who can score with any opportunity given to him. In one game in the preseason, he scored four goals in a seven minute span.

Another three year player is Caleb Mangas, who is a good defender and still progressing according to Noll. He is joined by fellow junior Charlie Ryan, who will play wing.

Also new to the squad is junior Caleb Salazar, who attends Troy Christian. He used to play youth hockey for Noll, and since Troy Christian does not have a team, and Salazer

lives in the Troy district, he is permitted to play for the Trojans.

"He is still learning the game again, but has really progressed from his first practice," Noll said.

The sophomores also return some rising talent. Nate Uhlenbrock returns but is currently out with an injury, and according to Noll, could be out until the first of the year. Shaemus Nevin returns as one of the goalies, and just needs time to refine his game.

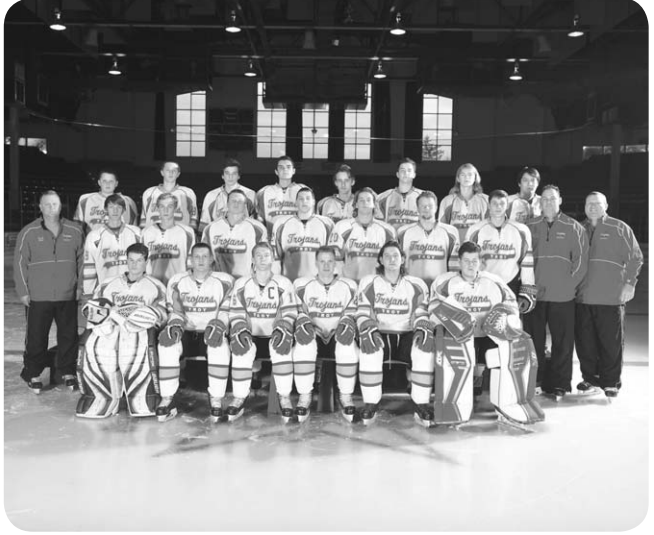
Moving back to the defensive while Uhlenbrock is out will be sophomore John Wehrkamp, who is usually a wing. Other sophomores for the Trojans include Graham Harvey, Michael Hess, Enrique Alejandre and Brendan Binge. Freshman in-

clude Kaleb Nelson, Grant Gareity, Dominic Wenrick, Jack McGuirk and Shane Smith.

The home opener for the Trojans is December 19 against Toledo Whitmer at 4:15, which is also Youth Hockey Night Also the next night, Troy hosts Alter at 5:45, and will also have a food drive.

*Troy lost their first two games of the season last weekend at the Frozen Creek Classic hosted by Beavercreek High School. The event was held at the Kettering Rec Center.

Troy lost to Indian Hill 5-2 in their opener, as Mangas and Alejandre each scored for Troy, while assists went to Noll, Hess and Smith. The next day, Troy lost to Athens 4-3.



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Eagles Win Opener In Last Minute, Girls Sweep

BY JIM DABBELT

With 1:36 left in the season opener, the Troy Christian boys' basketball team trailed by two looking for strong finish. The Eagles then closed the game on a 6-0 run to escape with a hard-fought 40-36 victory over New Bremen to earn their first win of the new season.

"It was a very good team win for us," said Troy Christian coach Ray Zawadzki after the game. "We never really had the lead, and were down the majority of the game and the kids could have broken, but we persevered through the tough times for the win. They just kept pursuing the process and did the job tonight."

In the closing minute, Jacob Brown recorded a steal for Troy Christian with the team trailing by two, and scored to tie the game at 36. The Eagles got the ball back and KC Kamentz hit a 10-footer with 47 seconds left to give the Eagles a two-point lead, their first advantage since the six minute mark of the opening quarter. After another defensive stop, Troy Christian sealed the game when Kamentz hit two more free throws to ice the win. It was the third

consecutive win for Troy Christian over New Bremen.

Kamentz led the way for the Eagles (1-0) with 14 points, while Brown added 10 for the only two players in double figures for the host Eagles. Troy Christian was also with Luke Dillahunt, who was ill.

"We will be playing on a game by game situation," Zawadzki said when asked about improvements needed for the next game. "We are still growing on defense, and had too many fouls tonight. We are just a step away from being a great defensive team. I know we only gave up 36 points, but I am striving for perfection."

Troy Christian hosts Miami Valley on Friday night in their conference opener, and their 39-game league winning streak is on the line, The Eagles have won five consecutive league championships.

Troy Christian Girls- It was a good start for the Troy Christian Lady Eagles, as they won their first two games of the season last week and now prepare for the juggernaut of the league schedule tomorrow night, as they host perennial favorite Miami Valley.

The Eagles opened with a 51-15 victory over Jefferson,



despite being without leader Meredith Haddad and top post player Hailey Peters.

Arden Kamentz led the way for the Eagles with 16 points and five rebounds, while Lauren Lavy added 13 points, six rebounds and six steals. Allie Kamentz added six points and two rebounds.

"We had some balanced scoring, and are a real young team," said Troy Christian coach Dick Steineman. "They are working to become better players. We will be a work in process for the good part of the year, but they are getting better every day in practice and in every game."

On Saturday, the Eagles came back and defeated Mississinawa Valley 42-32, as Arden Kamentz led with 10 points and seven rebounds, Lavy added eight points and 11 rebounds,

with five steals. Lee scored eight points with seven rebounds and 4-4 from the line. Freshman Alli Kamentz added six points.

"We started out slow and it was a sluggish game," Steineman said after his team led 7-5 after the opening quarter, and 23-15 at the half. "We didn't shoot the ball well, we have to do a better job at the foul line (6-14)."

"Megan Haddad ran the point for us tonight, and was steady for us," the coach added. "She is learning being only a sophomore and with kids out, we had to put her there. She really stepped up for us."

The Eagles host Miami Valley tomorrow night, with the JV tip off set for 5:30, followed by varsity at 7 p.m.

Parks Director Speaks to Rotary Club

Are you an "outdoor experience" type of person? What about "passive leisure" activities? If so, the Miami County Park District (District) may have just what you need, including an award-winning archery program. Troy Rotarians heard all about what is new with the District during their November 24, 2015 meeting. Executive director J. Scott Myers, who is a Rotarian himself, discussed how this separate government entity is overseen by a three-person volunteer board. Their mission statement is "to conserve natural resources and enrich the quality of life for the people of Miami County through stewardship, environmental education, outdoor experiences and passive leisure activities." Area cities and villages in Miami County maintain their own parks, recreation programs and departments, freeing up the District to stay true to their mission. The District manages 18 separate sites and 2,100 acres of parks, preserves, sanctuaries, trails and mitigation sites. Funding

comes from multiple sources including a 10-year, 1.1 mil county-wide property tax levy, donations, grants, fees and other miscellaneous revenues.

Myers shared that the District has something for just about everyone. Their programs include educational seminars, tours, and conservation projects. Two (2) popular annual events are the Banana Slug Fest and the Farm Fest, each drawing thousands of visitors from the area and beyond. Quality of life and related amenities are important to attracting residents, visitors, spenders, and employees for the businesses and industries in the area. In the past five (5) years, the District has been awarded eight (8) Ohio Parks and Recreation Association awards, including one this year for the new four-lane archery range at Garbry Big Woods Sanctuary. The District's programs that focus on the health and wellness of children are drawing attention from Children's Hospital in Dayton through a request that even more programs be promoted.

There is a partnership with Five Rivers MetroParks in Dayton to attract the International Trails Enthusiasts Symposium to the area, thanks to the series of trail runs offered by the District. They continue to work with the cities in Miami County, including the City of Troy. These partnerships have helped the District meet the needs of outdoor enthusiasts even more. Recently, they acquired the Huelskamp property to expand Duke Park and bring baseball/softball back to Troy. If you want more information on available programs, visit their Web site at www.miamicountyparks.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 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.

Winter Sports Coverage Info

Another winter sports season is upon us, and that means a lot of basketball, wrestling, bowling, swimming, gymnastics and hockey being played at area high schools.

That also means a call for your help.

With a very small part-time sports staff (consisting of one) covering seven high schools (Tecumseh, Bethel, Tippecanoe, Greenon, Northwestern, Troy and Troy Christian) for a total of four publications, it always is my goal to give as much coverage as possible. Until they learn to clone me (which nobody wants!), I am at the mercy of area coaches to submit a lot of results to help promote their athletes.

With my full-time job, some events are easier to get to than others such as basketball games and the occasional Troy hockey game on a Sunday. But every coach should have been sent information on how to submit info to me to appear in their local paper. You can email me results, or call the number I sent to you. Hopefully this works out well for everyone with the ultimate goal in mind, promoting your hard-working young athletes.

For the most part, I had some great help from the fall coaches, and I hope to continue letting your communities know how well these kids are doing, and to get out and help support these athletes.

If an assistant coach, or a parent wants to coordinate with their head coach to make sure I get stats and results, that would also be great. If you don't see your result in the paper, it is only because it was not reported.

Best of luck to all of the winter sports athletes.

Jim Dabbelt
Sports Editor
jimdabbelt@aol.com

Troy Rotary Club Hosts Breakfast with Santa

He's not just a lover of cookies and milk. Turns out Santa Claus also enjoys a hearty breakfast. It's a secret that's well-known to Troy Rotarians. On Saturday, December 5, 2015, they will host Santa at their 4th annual "Breakfast with Santa" fundraiser. The doors at St. Patrick's Parish Center, 444 E. Water Street in Troy, will open at 8:30 AM and will stay open until 11:00 AM. Proceeds from the event will be used to support scholarships and community programs through the Troy Rotary Foundation.

Rotarian Melissa Kleptz has been the program leader since its inception. "This event has become one of Rotary's most energizing activities each year," she shared. "The smiles on the faces of the children, the laughter and the excitement all make it a fun day and great way to kick off the holiday season," Kleptz added.

Mark your calendars now to join in on the fun. Tickets will go on sale starting in November and can be purchased from any Troy Rotarian or at the Mayor's Office (2nd floor of City Hall, 100 South Market Street). You may also purchase tickets at the door on December 5th. Ticket price is \$10. Off-street parking is available in the lot adjacent to the Parish Center. Be sure to come hungry. The menu includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, sausage, milk, juice and coffee. All the kids will have a chance to visit with Santa and get a framed 4x6" picture with the Jolly Old Elf himself.

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, scholarships and sponsorships to summer camps at Brukner Nature Center and Waco Air Museum. The Troy Rotary Club is a member-involved, goal-oriented service club focused on socio/economic issues that have an impact both locally and internationally. Follow their activities on Facebook at Troy Rotary Club. To learn more about Rotary and membership, please visit www.troyohiorotary.org.

City Details 2016 Budget Items

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cent to the curb.

"Everybody has traveled it. You know there are pinch points. You know that the lanes are narrow," Titterington said.

"If we are going to have an opportunity to look at that road ... next year is the time to look at that and determine what is feasible and what is not. This is our busiest, biggest road and, if we are going to invest our money, that is really where we need to invest it," he added.

The budget also includes \$800,000 for the annual street paving program; \$300,000 for the sidewalk program in the downtown area; and \$300,000 for the Mulberry Street parking lot project.

In city parks, the budget includes \$90,000 for building restrooms at Archer Park. That project is the top priority for the park board, Titterington said.

Asked if the park department has adequate staffing with this year's purchase of more than 100 acres to add to Duke Park,

he said the parks superintendent "has made very good use of staff" available including temporary help.

A future anticipated project would be changes in the city's trash packer trucks to semi-automatic tipper trucks and purchase of three automated refuse packer trucks for an estimated \$800,000

As part of that project, the city expects to spend more than \$400,000 to buy trash totes for stops on its refuse routes similar to those being used now in the recycling pro-

gram, Titterington said. The new trucks possibly would use compressed natural gas.

Among other changes proposed in budgets were:

- A \$3,000 increase in the law director's budget to go toward more pay for public defenders.

- In the fire department, \$41,000 was requested for added training in rescue situations.

- In the police department, \$9,000 was requested for supervisory training with the promotion this year of new sergeants and captains.

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What to Do in Troy

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 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.

Troy 43 Baseball Spaghetti Dinner

December 5, 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.
Legion Hall, 622 S. Market St.
Dinner will include spaghetti, bread, dessert and drinks. Price is only \$7 for adults and \$4 for children under 13. Proceeds benefit Troy Post 43 Baseball. The public is invited.

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, chil-

dren'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."
To promote your club or non-profit organization's events, e-mail the information at least two weeks in advance to editor@troytrib.com. You can also mail the information to Troy Tribune, P.O. Box 281, New Carlisle OH 45344

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Troy Rotarians Roll Out Designated Driver Campaign

Each year, Miami County residents enjoy holiday parties as they ring out the old and welcome the new. What these celebrations should not do is put drivers and loved ones at risk for accidents on the highways and byways in the community. Troy Rotarians want everyone to enjoy the spirit of the holidays without imbibing too many spirits before getting behind the wheel of a car.

On Tuesday, December 8, 2015, Dr. Michael Pope will kick off Troy Rotary Club's 15th annual "Designated Driver" button campaign. This effort has helped city, county and state officials keep everyone safer during the last few weeks each year. The gold "Designated Driver" buttons will be distributed to area bars, restaurants, banks and drive-thru businesses during the holiday season. The State Liquor store will hand out 1,000 to customers while thousands more will be available in Troy, Tipp City and West Milton establishments, thanks to the support of local Rotary clubs.

According to area law enforcement, there have not been any alcohol-related fatal accidents during the holiday season in Miami County in the past 14 years. It's due, in part, to programs such as this Rotary campaign. The gold buttons are a visual reminder of the need to have a sober, designated driver instead of getting behind the wheel of a car after consuming alcohol at parties or celebrations. The button program is Pope's brainchild. "This is another way to help our friends in Miami County have a safe holiday season," he noted.

The Troy Rotary Club 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. To learn more about Rotary and membership, please visit www.troyohiorotary.org.

Brower's Announces Adult Coloring Contest for the Holidays

Brower Stationers announces their first ever adult coloring contest to celebrate the return of art supplies to their store. Why an adult coloring contest? "Every Spring Brower's holds a children's coloring contest for the Troy Strawberry Festival. Along with our new art supplies we also have adult coloring books. So, we decided to hold a contest for adults only with holiday themed pictures" said Lori Brower, owner.

The prize is a \$25 Gift Certificate to Brower Stationers. This prize will go far considering their many Christmas Specials, including; 25% OFF Art Supplies, 20% OFF Educational Toys & Games, 20% OFF Cross pens, 50% off Christmas cards and Buy 1, Get 1 50% OFF of Yankee Candles. These sales start on 'Black Friday' and are good until New Year's Eve.

How does one enter the coloring contest? Visit Brower's Facebook page to find the rules and the 3 images to choose from. Download one of the images and get started. Any media may be used—paints, colored pencils, art markers, etc. Contest starts Friday, Nov. 27th and ends on Saturday, Dec. 19th @ 2:00 p.m. Original entries must be delivered to the store at 16 S. Market Street in downtown Troy.

Details are on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/BrowerStationers. Anyone not on Facebook may call the store and the images and rules will be emailed to them.

Phone: 937-335-2117.



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Gardening Commentary

BY MEADOWVIEW GROWERS

House Plants for Christmas



Now that winter is here we will be indoors most of the time and house plants improve this environment by helping to purify the air we are breathing and beautifying our surroundings. Consider having one or more of the holiday plants in our home, office or restaurant. There are several varieties that many of us will only see at this time of the year. Here are a few varieties to look for here in the Miami Valley: Christmas Cactus, Cyclamen, Kalanchoe, Amaryllis and the ever popular Poinsettia. These plants brighten not only our homes but churches and shopping malls at this time of the year. They make a fine gift for a friend or a house warming gift for the host that will last for weeks and many times until spring.

Here are some things to consider to keep them growing well so they can be enjoyed where we live and work. They will do well when given adequate light, moderate temperatures and are watered regularly. Proper watering is likely the most challenging aspect of keeping plants healthy in the home or wherever you choose to enjoy them. No need to be concerned about fertilizing for the first 6 weeks or so. In order to keep your plants growing healthy, avoid keeping the soil either too wet or too dry. What we want to do is to try and avoid these extremes by watering well when needed and then waiting a couple of days before watering again. Be sure the plant has good drainage and doesn't sit in water for more than a few minutes, pour excess water out of the saucer or the roots will suffer from staying wet too long and begin to deteriorate. One way to tell if your plants need to be watered is to use the "one knuckle" test. Using your index finger, place it into the soil up to the first knuckle. If the soil feels damp to the touch and the soil tends to stick to your finger, the soil is wet enough and the plant should not be watered. Another way to tell if the plant needs watering is to pick it up, checking the weight. After some experience it becomes rather simple to tell if a plant needs to be watered by how heavy the plant feels and whether it needs to be watered or if it can wait another day or longer.

Normally, there is no problem with insects at this time of the year so no need to be concerned about this now. Enjoy these beauties and remember someone special with a "living" gift that expresses the true meaning of Christmas.

Go to meadowview.com or send an email to info@meadowview.com with your question or comments.

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At Home

BY CONNIE MOORE

Time Passes Oh So Quickly

As I sit this morning, sipping on the first cup of coffee, it seems it was just last week that I looked out this window and enjoyed the rose-colored blooms of fuchsia and greens of grass and trees. Time passes quicker the older we get. That doesn't sound possible, as time flows the same everywhere, for all time.

But, it is true because for generations we humans have said so. It is our perspective. Flowing hours surrounding a child of ten years is a greater part of their life-a solid block if you will, holding them into a now position.

For a person of sixty-five years, a day is but a fragment of their lives. It flows away quickly like an autumn leaf hitting the stream below its tree. An older person has a sense of before the leaf turned yellow, as the leaf started to fall and when it touched the flowing water, all together as a fleeting moment.

Now, through this window we watch the annual murmurations of grackles and starlings. Black dots swirl in the deep blue of a cold morning sky. As their one body of many bodies moves through from

Green Beans & Mushrooms

- One quart green beans or two 15 oz. cans
- One can small or large mushrooms, whole or pieces
- One jar Prego or Ragu Alfredo sauce

In 1 ½ quart casserole, mix beans and mushrooms, both of which have been drained. Mix in a cup of the sauce. Toss together till all is coated. Use more sauce if necessary. Bake in 350 degree oven for 30-45 minutes or until hot and bubbly. If desired, a crumbled cracker topping or crushed potato chip topping or crumbled fried onion topping can be added.

west to east, they fly together, almost joyously it seems, from night's roost to morning field of breakfast.

Members are added at a moment's notice. Flocks from afar find their way into the center of the murmuration even as it moves up, down, around for miles. For these creatures, time has no speed. Whether it goes slow or fast, their days are centered on food, water and a place of safety come nightfall.

Really, that's what every person in the world is looking for: food, water and a place of safety come nightfall. It puts all humans in the same boat. When everything else is stripped away-the arguments,

Marinated Salad Vegetables

- One large red onion
- One medium cucumber
- One avocado
- One or two medium tomatoes
- One bell pepper, any color
- One bottle 16 oz. Wishbone or Kraft Zesty Italian salad dressing
- Fresh raw spinach leaves or romaine lettuce

Yes this is more than three ingredients. You can choose three or use whichever you have on hand. Peel, seed and cube veggies. Place in large bowl. Pour dressing over all and toss to coat well. Cover and chill a couple of hours. Wash, drain and chop spinach leaves or romaine lettuce. Place in individual serving bowls. Top with marinated vegetables. Fresh broccoli flowerets or cauliflower, shredded cabbage or drained cans of chick peas or cooked lentils will work too.

the stresses of life, the outcries for everything one thinks one does not have and yet is owed, the wants and the must-haves plastered all over social media-it boils down to just three basic things.

So with that thought, here are a couple of recipes with just three ingredients. Less ingredients means more free time, time that perhaps will not seem to fly by, oh so quickly.

Baked Barbecue Chicken & Onions

- One bottle favorite barbecue sauce
- Four sweet onions such as Vidalia
- Fresh, cut chicken pieces, bone-in

In 13 x 9-inch casserole dish, place onions that have been peeled and sliced. Spread evenly over bottom of dish. Place chicken pieces which have been washed and patted dry with paper towels on top of onions. Pour barbecue sauce over all. Cover with foil and bake 350 degrees for one hour.

Fried Sweet Potatoes

- Two medium size sweet potatoes
- Butter
- Sugar and cinnamon mixed together

Wash potatoes and then peel them. Slice into long ¼ inch slab slices or ¼ inch round slices, whichever is easy. Melt a generous amount of butter in large non-stick skillet. Fry potatoes until soft and browned. Immediately sprinkle with sugar/cinnamon mix. Serve hot. The sugar/cinnamon mix is up to you whether you like more sweet or more spice in it.

Contact Connie at mooredcr@Juno.com or via this newspaper.

Mrs. Greengate's Almanac

December, 2015

Modern Moons

December holds more weather forecasts than any other month. Not that there are more days and nights; there are just more possibilities that change each hour. Forecasting or outlooks are issued as a result of a number of variables. These formally issued statements have been seen since the late 1800s with the invention of the telegraph.

While today's outlooks have a computerized basis, early on barometric pressure, sky conditions, wind and moisture conditions were what was looked to for weather changes. Before that it was wind, water, animal behavior and achy bones.

Accurate forecasts are valuable for industry, farming, utility safety, and of utmost importance-human safety. While "pattern recognition" had its place in early forecasting, today's electronic age makes it possible for practically everyone on the earth to see what is on the scientist's computer screens and take heed.

So far, December is shaping up to be a bit warmer than normal because of El Nino's holding pattern. Color-coded United States

maps show Ohio in the orange range for just above normal temperatures and in the pale green range for slightly above normal precipitation.

For Native Americans, December full moon was the Big Winter Moon or the Big Hard Face Moon. Leni Lenape Indians called it the Moon When Cold Makes Trees Crack. Winter brought much suffering as it resulted in skeletons of trees, barren woods where berries and nuts had been available, fields bare of corn and beans and difficulty in hunting.

Today the December full moon might be called Many Lights Moon as outside ornamental lighting goes to astounding proportions. Or perhaps we could call it the Hearthside Moon, for early darkness draws families into home and hearth early.

Fishing /Gardening

Ground cover each morning is a glaze of frost. A forlorn look is the only way to describe what a few months ago was green and colorful with flowers. It would almost be better to see only a cover of white snow. At least then the ground would be insulated and

watered. The trees are not cracking but do have that skeletal look against the blue and cloud spotted sky.

No talk of fishing breaks silence at breakfast. No activity in the garage; it is too damp to work outside. Not until noon or after does the master begin a slow attempt to "work at something". Odd projects always surface in December. Also odd dishes as the cook attempts to liven up meals with combinations not seen since last winter. Both parties declare that these days are long and will not be missed come the new year.

Outside the Yard

Ohio holds a plethora of winter activities. Outside there is sledding, skiing, hiking, ice skating, snow shoeing in numerous state parks and private endeavors. Just Google your favorite activity and find a spot near you to get out in the cold weather for a day of fun.

If inside is your preference, think about visiting the open-year-round PNC 2nd Street Public Market at 600 East 2nd Street, Dayton, Ohio. Located in Montgomery County, the market is a lively, colorful change of pace

with vendors of all manner. Email marketinginfo@metroparks.org for more information.

Beginning every Thursday in December at 7:00p.m. there are ice carving demonstrations at the Toledo Zoo. The Wilds, a 10,000 acre wildlife conservation runs winter safari tours. Contact them at 740-638-5030 for more info or go to their webpage.

A unique activity that takes place on December 20, early at 7:30 am, is the Winter Solstice Sunrise at Fort Ancient. Watch the 2000-year old earthen walls as the sun rises against them. Free to the public, meet in front of the museum at Fort Ancient. For more info, visit Fort Ancient's website= fortancient.org.

Word of the Month

NOWCASTING: The forecasting of weather within the next six hours, which is usually very accurate. Humans are far better at this than computers.

Quote of the Month
"How did it get so late so soon? It's night before it's afternoon. December is here before it's June." Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel, 1904-1991)

Tip of the Week

BY SGT. JJ MAURO

Tipp City Police Retired

Speeding Part 2

In Speeding Part 1 we discussed the Ohio Revised Code Section 4511.21(a) Speeding/Assured Clear Distance. In Part 2 we will discuss the posted speed limits. Since the ORC is quite explicit on the subject of speeding, I will touch on the most common violations. 4511.21 describes in detail what constitutes a school zone, a business district, a residential district and so on. When dealing with this matter, a posted speed limit is determined by engineer's using geometric calculation, stopping distances and what is called prima facie evidence which is a Latin term meaning "On the face of it."

Prima facie evidence may indicate a reasonable and safe speed may be higher or lower than the posted limit. In one case I had the driver of a Corvette argued that a stretch of roadway was so straight and flat, the 93 mph speed he was doing

was a reasonable speed. The judge decided differently since the road had residential driveways emptying onto it, was only two lanes and was not "New" pavement. The man was found guilty of going 93 in a 55 zone.

The ORC sets posted limits at 15 mph in alleys, 20 mph in school zones during restricted times, 25 mph in residential and business districts and 35 to 50 mph in urban areas not covered by the lower limits.

All roads outside of urban areas are 55 mph, some may be 60 when posted. Interstate freeways can range from 55 to 70 mph except in construction zones where posted. Speeding penalties in construction zones can be doubled.

For those who love to read law, following is the section of 4511.21 dealing with the speed limits. In Part 3 we will discuss the penalties and fines for speeding. And yes you can get jail time for speeding.

(1)(a) Twenty miles per hour in school zones during school recess and while children are going to or

leaving school during the opening or closing hours, and when twenty miles per hour school speed limit signs are erected; except that, on controlled-access highways and expressways, if the right-of-way line fence has been erected without pedestrian opening, the speed shall be governed by division (B)(4) of this section and on freeways, if the right-of-way line fence has been erected without pedestrian opening, the speed shall be governed by divisions (B)(9) and (10) of this section. The end of every school zone may be marked by a sign indicating the end of the zone. Nothing in this section or in the manual and specifications for a uniform system of traffic control devices shall be construed to require school zones to be indicated by signs equipped with flashing or other lights, or giving other special notice of the hours in which the school zone speed limit is in effect.

(2) Twenty-five miles per hour in all other portions of a municipal corporation, except on state routes outside business districts, through highways outside business districts,

and alleys;

(3) Thirty-five miles per hour on all state routes or through highways within municipal corporations outside business districts, except as provided in divisions (B)(4) and (6) of this section;

(4) Fifty miles per hour on controlled-access highways and expressways within municipal corporations;

(5) Fifty-five miles per hour on highways outside municipal corporations, other than highways within island jurisdictions as provided in division (B)(8) of this section, highways as provided in division (B)(9) of this section, and highways, expressways, and freeways as provided in divisions (B)(12), (13), (14), and (16) of this section;

(6) Fifty miles per hour on state routes within municipal corporations outside urban districts unless a lower prima-facie speed is established as further provided in this section;

(7) Fifteen miles per hour on all alleys within the municipal corporation;

(8) Thirty-five miles per hour on highways outside municipal corporations that are within an island jurisdiction;

(9) Sixty miles per hour on two-lane state routes outside municipal corporations as established by the director under division (H) (2) of this section.

(10) Fifty-five miles per hour at all times on freeways with paved shoulders inside municipal corporations, other than freeways as provided in divisions (B) (14) and (16) of this section;

(11) Fifty-five miles per hour at all times on freeways outside municipal corporations, other than freeways as provided in divisions (B) (14) and (16) of this section;

(12) Sixty miles per hour for operators of any motor vehicle at all times on all portions of rural divided highways;

(13) Sixty-five miles per hour for operators of any motor vehicle at all times on all rural expressways without traffic control signals;

Word Search

Locate all the words below in the word search. #123
They may be across, down or diagonally in any direction.



- | | | | | |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| Adventurous | Dirty | Jolly | Plenty | Sung |
| Beaks | Down | Knee | Pools | Swan |
| Beds | Ever | Lesson | Pots | Sweden |
| Beef | Exit | Lids | Puzzle | Swim |
| Bees | Eyed | Like | Quiet | Their |
| Blew | Eyes | Manufacturers | Rage | Tide |
| Blows | Feed | Metre | Reds | Tied |
| Body | Fern | Monkey | Responded | Tire |
| Boxer | Fits | Nets | Roar | Title |
| Circumstances | Focus | Next | Robs | Tumbled |
| Coil | Fork | Noises | Rung | Uncover |
| Consideration | Friday | Noun | Sees | Unit |
| Continental | Fury | Oats | Sets | Value |
| Cows | Grasp | Obey | Seventies | Voices |
| Crust | Hides | Omit | Sewed | Ways |
| Curb | Honored | Ours | Shop | Wild |
| Dark | Hurled | Oxen | Sits | Worm |
| Demanded | Improving | Pence | Station | Yarn |
| Deny | Irish | Perch | Stone | Zoos |
| Deserted | Jazz | Pits | Such | |

Hidden Treasures

By LIZ BALL



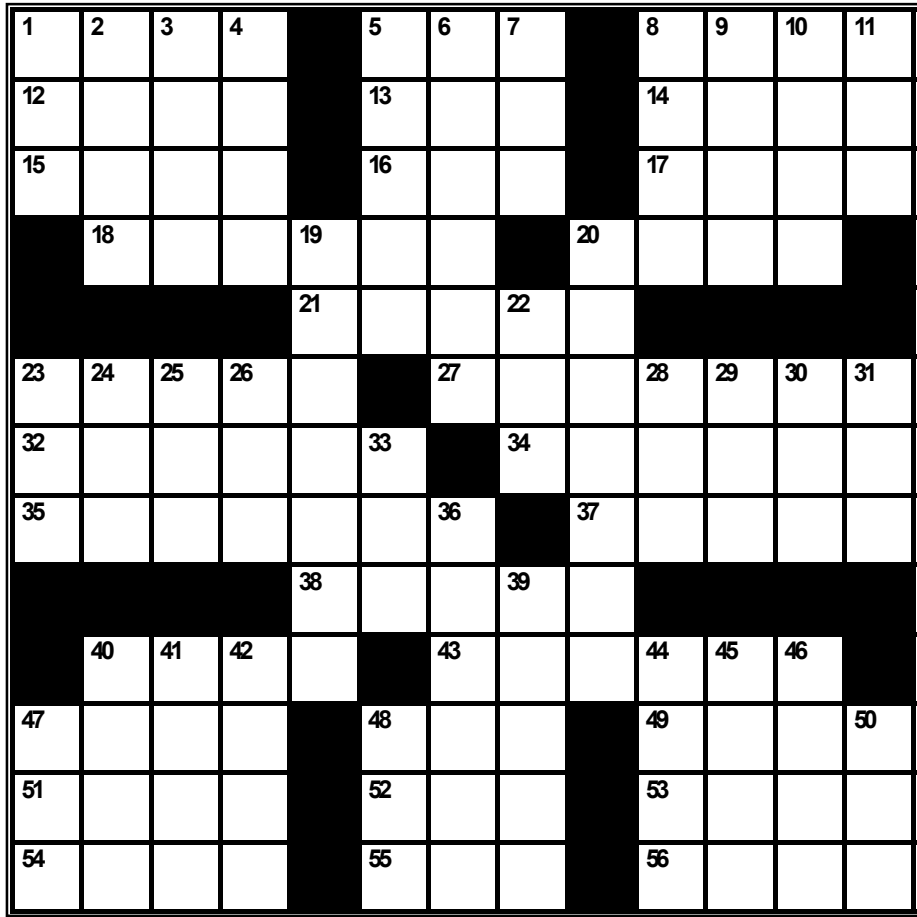
Cooper

By LARRY WARREN



Crossword Puzzle

#208



ACROSS

1. ____ party
5. Frequently
8. Bubbly drink
12. The euro replaced it
13. Parent's order
14. Rachel Ray equipment
15. Consumer
16. Buzzing about
17. Remove
18. Unvarnished
20. Charitable handout
21. Set up
23. Volume expression
27. Fancy desk
32. Having no tension, in the muscles
34. Oddball
35. Chair type
37. To date
38. Character of a culture
40. Varizon product
43. Degree
47. Excellent

DOWN

48. Absorbed, as a cost
49. Female deer
51. ____ you care!
52. A filthy place
53. Computer expert
54. Whip mark
55. Shed item
56. Looking like certain trees
1. Viral disease
2. Type of CPU (abbr.)
3. ____ code
4. Mountain pool
5. Transmitting
6. Silo contents
7. Wee hour
8. Refrigerate
9. Egg
10. Not as many
11. Queen, maybe
19. Measurement of sound intensity
20. No less than

22. Bull's mate
23. Metered transport
24. Sport ____ (all-purpose vehicle)
25. Slithery creature
26. Country stop-over
28. Sue Grafton's "____ for Lawless"
29. Give it a whirl
30. Poem
31. Container
33. Bebopper
36. Poor area of the city
39. Wild flower
40. Law suit
41. Bad to the bone
42. Hit the road
44. Halftime lead, e.g.
45. Winter air
46. Abound
47. Not cooked
48. ____ Wednesday
50. "Vanilla ____"

Trivia Challenge

October 2015 Current Events Quiz

- 1> A study in which country revealed that one third of all men would die early due to a nationwide smoking epidemic?
 - a. France
 - b. Russia
 - c. England
 - d. China
- 2> A TV version of which popular 80s movie was announced in October of 2015?
 - a. Rocky
 - b. Dirty Dancing
 - c. Lethal Weapon
 - d. Back to the Future
- 3> Ebola made a return to the city of Calabr in October of 2015. Where is Calabr?
 - a. Sierra Leone
 - b. Laos
 - c. Chad
 - d. Nigeria
- 4> Which pop star was diagnosed with lupus in October of 2015?
 - a. Selena Gomez
 - b. Taylor Swift
 - c. Chris Martin
 - d. Beyonce
- 5> What was the name of Twitter's new channel that was launched in October of 2015?
 - a. Days
 - b. Weeks
 - c. Moments
 - d. Times
- 6> Who did Brock Lesnar defeat in Madison Square Garden in October 2015?
 - a. Undertaker
 - b. Rusev
 - c. John Cena
 - d. Big Show
- 7> Who had a hit in October 2015 with the song "Hotline Bling"?
 - a. Drake
 - b. Beyonce
 - c. Rudimental
 - d. Jay Z

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

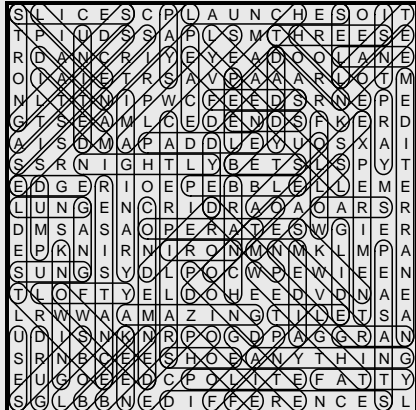
Trivia

- Scrappy.
- 9) Zany - The Animaniacs aired between 1993 and 1998.
- 10) Roger - Klaus is the name of their talking fish.
- 11) Dee Dee - Dexter is a boy genius that performs various experiments in his secret lab.
- 12) Pickles - Elizabeth Daily was the voice for Tommy Pickles.
- 13) Caitlin - Jude was working at the hockey rink as the Zamboni driver.
- 14) Sharon Spitz - The voice was provided by Alicia Silverstone.
- 15) He is missing his arms and legs - The Oblongs is a family that has been deformed by toxic waste.

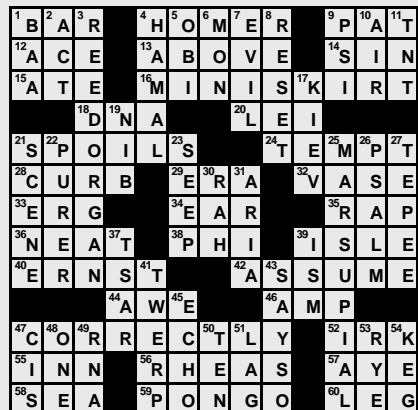
Sudoku

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

Word Search



Crossword



Classifieds & Marketplace

Classified rates are \$8.00 for the first 30 words and \$5.00 for each 10 additional words. Subscribers receive a \$3.00 discount. Phone numbers, street addresses, and e-mail addresses count as one word. Area Codes are a separate word. Zip codes are free. Send your ad with check made out to New Carlisle News to P.O. Box 281, New Carlisle; come to our office at 114 S. Main St.; or e-mail your ad to classified@newcarlislenews.net. The deadline for Wednesday's paper is 12 Noon Monday.

EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISING SALES positions open. Must have some outside sales experience, be outgoing and likeable. Help a young company grow. E-mail resume to publisher@newcarlislenews.net.	FULL TIME AUTO MECHANIC NEEDED Must have more than 5 years experience in a retail automotive repair facility. Great working environment with a very relaxed work place. Compensation: Pay based on experience. Must be honest & dependable. Hours will be Mon-Fri 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 937-603-8428 if interested. If no answer, call 937-339-1801.	SNOWBLOWER & WOOD CHIPPER Call 937-864-5355 YAN-MAR DIESEL TRACTOR with snow blade; Pacer pump with hoses, 30 gallon lawn sprayer, thatcher & aerator for sale. Call 845-2381	ODD JOBS HOME IMPROVEMENT Fast and efficient. No job too big, too small. FREE ESTIMATES! Reasonable pricing. Call David Young, (937) 831-3575.	NEW CARLISLE Apt. for rent. Nice 2 bedroom, 1 bath upper unit in 4-unit bldg. Stove, refrigerator and a/c. Coin-laundry in building. Off-street parking. \$495/mo. includes water and trash. Tenant pays gas and electric. \$25/mo early pay discount when rent is paid on time. Call leasing agent Red Sky Realty, LLC 937-845-9218
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Elections Board Introduces Candidate Checklist, Electronic Poll Books

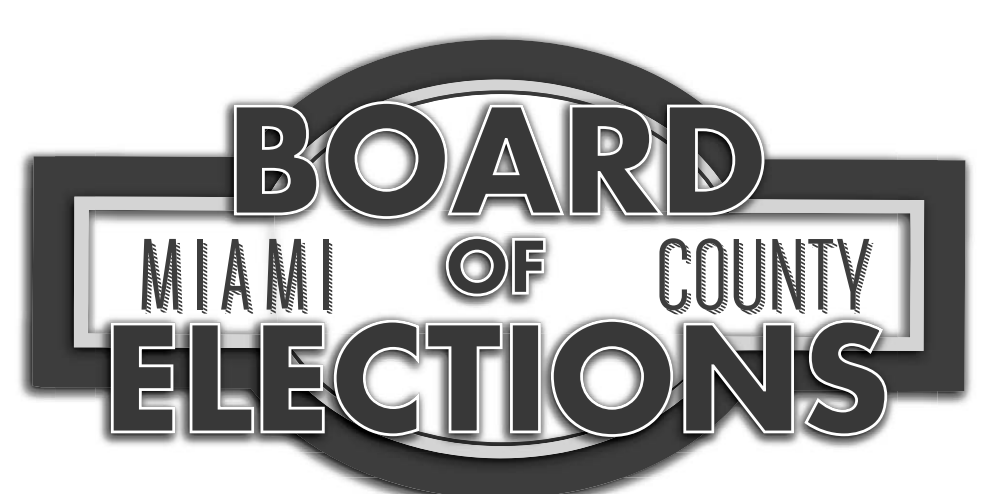
◀ PAGE 1

The checklist “strongly” encourages candidates to check details of petition areas such as statement of candidacy, nominating petition section, signatures, dates and circulator statement. These are petition areas were errors were encountered in August

The checklist reminds candidates in bold print that it is the candidate’s sole responsibility to ensure that the petition satisfies legal requirements.

Elections office representatives also met last week with the county commission to discuss the county paying a portion of the bill to purchase electronic poll books.

The elections board voted in October to buy the poll books from Election Systems and Software.



ware. The state notified the board it would pay up to \$119,000 for the poll books, which will cost \$169,000 including three years of licensing costs.

Eric Morgan, deputy elections director, said the electronic poll books would be “way more efficient” and would quickly update voter lists following each election. The

elections board plans to use the poll books for the first time during the March primary election.

“This is going to be the future because it cuts down on errors ... on lines (at the polls),” said Kelly Gillis, elections board chairman.

Although the state said it would pay 85 percent of the cost, the \$119,000 is

the maximum the board will receive, board member Dean Tamplin told the commission. The commissioners asked elections staff to visit other counties using the poll books already to learn about their processes and any difficulties encountered.

Election Results Certified

◀ PAGE 1

expired term)

Thomas Kleptz, 5,974

Troy Hayner Cultural Center Levy

Yes, 6,082 (68.47 percent); No, 2,801 (31.53 percent)

Troy Referendum (Firefighters)

Yes, 3,096 (46.41 percent); no, 3,575 (53.59 percent)

Concord Township Referendum (Trafalgar)

Yes, 622 (32.32 percent); no, 1,386 (67.68 percent)

Miami County Bridge Levy

Yes, 20,995 (66.07 percent); no, 10,780 (33.93 percent)

Miami County Board of Development Disabilities (Riverside)

Yes, 22,263 (69.90 percent); no, 9587 (30.10 percent)

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS MIAMI COUNTY, OHIO
CALIBER HOME LOANS, INC. Plaintiff
vs.
JASON BURKS, et al. Defendants
CASE NO. 15 CV 00333
JUDGE: JEANNINE N. PRATT
LEGAL NOTICE FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION <p>To: Jason Burks and Unknown Spouse, if any, of Jason Burks, Name Unknown, you will take notice that on the 3rd day of August, 2015, Plaintiff, filed a Complaint for foreclosure in the Miami County Court of Common Pleas, 201 W. Main St., Safety Bldg., 3rd floor, Troy, OH 45373, being Case No. 15 CV 00333, alleging that there is due to the Plaintiff the sum of \$54,310.59, plus accrued interest of \$1,154.10, plus interest at 4.25% per annum from January 1, 2015, plus late charges and attorney fees applicable to the terms of a Promissory Note secured by a Mortgage on the real property, which has a street address of 507 South 3rd Street, Tipp City, OH 45371-1729, being permanent parcel number Parcel Number G15-006460</p> <p>Plaintiff further alleges that by reason of a default in payment of said Promissory Note, the conditions of said Mortgage have been broken and the same has become absolute.</p> <p>Plaintiff prays that the Defendant named above be required to answer and assert any interest in said real property or be forever barred from asserting any interest therein, for foreclosure of said mortgage, marshalling of liens, and the sale of said real property, and that the proceeds of said sale be applied according to law.</p> <p>Said Defendant is required to file an Answer on or before the 15th day of January, 2016.</p> <p>By Tina Woods Attorney for Plaintiff Caliber Home Loans, Inc. c/o Weltman, Weinberg & Reis Co., L.P.A. 525 Vine Street, Suite 800 Cincinnati, Ohio 45202</p>




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Minutolo Captures Beauty in His Photography

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

Thomas Minutolo is a New Carlisle man of many talents. Not only has he been an X-Ray technician with Good Samaritan Premier Healthcare for almost 50 years but on Friday, November 27, Minutolo's photography was prominently displayed and made available for sale at David Fair on the square in downtown Troy, Ohio.

With an affinity for landscapes and bold contrast, Minutolo captures ordinary New Carlisle life with extraordinary flair. Many of his scenery pieces are incredible still shots of wildlife movement. His floral photographs are vibrant bursts of striking color. "By day I look at the inside of the body and at night, I take pictures of other things," Minutolo said.

As a young man growing up in New York City, Minutolo was fascinated by the history of local architecture and scenery. His father was a builder. He acquired his first Instamatic in high school and learned to look at the world through the frame of a camera lens. "That was really the beginning for me," Minutolo said. Landscapes became his passion as he developed an eye for composition.

Following high school, Minutolo enlisted in the United State Air Force and was stationed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base. He received a teaching degree from

Wright State and had the opportunity to pick up photography again more seriously, with access to a 35mm camera and the university's dark room.

Marriage and children brought about the need for more lucrative employment and photography was "on the backburner for many years," according to Minutolo. When he lost his wife to cancer a couple of years ago, he found a renewed sense of purpose in photography. "I needed something to do as a hobby to occupy my time," Minutolo said. He had always vowed he would get a nice camera. He is now a passionate naturalist armed with a Canon DSL and an exceptional perspective of unexpected beauty. He particularly gravitates toward scenes of every day life that he claims may seem boring to the casual observer but will likely be viewed differently in the future.

Much of Minutolo's photography is already finding an audience, not only in Miami County but around the world. His Facebook fan base extends to countries of Europe. "A couple days ago, a guy who grew up in New Carlisle but now lives in Europe posted a message to me on Facebook," Minutolo said. "He told me it meant so much to him to see pictures of home." Minutolo could not recall the name of the gentleman due to the volume

of responses he receives over social media.

"I set forth to document the landscape in a historical sense, trying to capture living, breathing history as things change over time," Minutolo said. "Sometimes the simplest things become important years later." He frequently takes long drives in the country with his daughter's dog, Jesse, looking for balanced landscape compositions to capture.

The other unique aspect to Minutolo's work is his capacity for carpentry, specifically that of carving his own hardwood frames. He and his friend Janice Boehner Wise were asked to redecorate Dayview Health Care Center on N Dayton-Lakeview Road in the coming year. According to Minutolo, "This would not happen without her believing in me and helping to promote and organize my work." Wise has been the driving force behind Minutolo's involvement at places like David Fair during the November 27 Christmas Tree Lighting event in Troy, Ohio. His heartwarming images greeted guests of the city as they walked the square enjoy the nostalgia of the incoming Christmas season. During this time of the year, Minutolo's desire is that his craft would encourage people and inspire a more magical outlook on ordinary life. "I'm all about giving



back," Minutolo said. "It makes me feel so good when people enjoy my pictures and find a sense of serenity in the scenes I've captured. That makes it all worth it for me."





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