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WEEK OF WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 9, 2015 | WWW.TROYTRIB.COM

## Breakfast With Santa

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

It was another successful year for Rotary's annual Breakfast with Santa. Despite the thick fog at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 5, Jolly Old St. Nicholas arrived on time to St. Patrick's Parish Center to the delight of children and their parents. The 5th annual breakfast featured pancakes and sausage, a candy cane, a stuffed animal, and pictures with everyone's favorite Christmas icon.

Many of the local Rotary chapter's approximately 50 members bought tickets to donate to local, underprivileged families. A member of Rotary, Patrick Titterington, took and printed pictures for the children. Retired Troy educator Jill Wilson was Santa's helper and provided a warm welcome to incoming guests. According to Melissa Kleptz, the coordinator of the event and the Executive Director of the Troy Foundation, the Rotarians have been hugely supportive of this event since its inception 5 years ago. "The mission of Rotary is to serve children of the community," Kleptz said. "Most of the stuff that we do helps to provide scholarships for educational opportunities like Waco or just to provide coats and gloves or shoes. The breakfast is a fun way to bring joy to families and especially children during this time of year." Rotary touches approximately 500 children through various initiatives they instigate and support annually.

The event was staffed not only by Rotarian volunteers but by several sophomore boys with Interact, a junior Rotary Club for high school students. Jake Daniel and Ryan Pour were recruited by upperclassmen at Troy High School to join the

► PAGE 6

## Credit Union Robbers Caught

BY NANCY BOWMAN

Two men were jailed over the weekend in the Dec. 4 robbery of the Abbey Credit Union on Wayne Street.

Justin Higbee, 34, of Brown Township is charged with aggravated robbery while Jeremy Miller, 32, of Huber Heights is charged with complicity to aggravated robbery in the incident, according to Troy police reports.

Business employees told police a man in a black hooded sweatshirt and hat came in with a white paperbag and a note saying he had a gun and wanted money. A gun was not shown.

After leaving the bank, the man headed on foot toward Crescent Drive. A witness said he was seen getting into a brown Honda Civic,



driven by a second man.

Police said Higbee was identified by people who saw the photo from a bank camera on social media.

He was arrested in Butler Twp. Miller was arrested in Huber Heights.

Miller and Higbee were scheduled for arraignments Monday,

Dec. 7, in Miami County Municipal Court. They refused to go to the jail video arraignment so the hearings were rescheduled for Tuesday. Police said the men are half brothers.

They were being held on \$500,000 bail each set over the weekend.



Jeremy Miller



Justin Higbee

## Soup Kitchen Christmas

BY BRITTANY ARLENE JACKSON

The St. Patrick Soup Kitchen is preparing for a busy Christmas this year. Troy Christian Girls basketball coach, Richard Steineman, Deb Grant, and a host of volunteers are coming together to make this season memorable for those who cannot afford to make a traditional Christmas dinner for their family. Generous local businesses and individuals have stepped up to donate food and funds as the soup kitchen gathers resources to provide meal packages full of everyone's favorite seasonal flavors.

27,000 dinners are served annually out of the St. Patrick Soup Kitchen. Last year, they delivered 1,427 of those dinners on Christmas day. The Christmas meals are not served at their Mulberry Street location where food is regularly provided daily from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This year's Christmas dinner will include turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, green beans,



Soup Kitchen Volunteers (L to R) Deb Grant, Dave Steineman (brother of Richard), Curtis Wolf, and Joseph Stewart

cranberry sauce and dessert, delivered at the door of people's homes.

According to volunteer coordinator and self-proclaimed Chief Bottle Washer, Deb Grant, the service the soup kitchen offers on Christmas is intrinsic to the spirit of the day. "Families can stay in their jammies like most of us would want to do on Christmas Day," Grant said. "Then, between noon and four, they can have their dinner delivered to their door and eat around their Christmas tree."

► PAGE 6

## Duchak Joins Sheriff Race

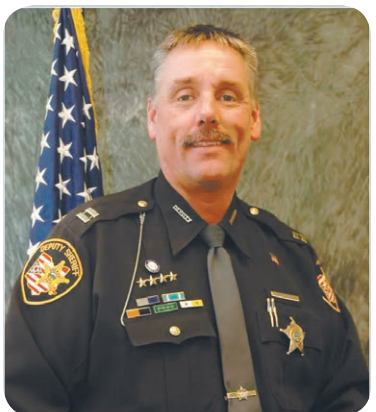
BY NANCY BOWMAN

Miami County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Dave Duchak announced Dec. 3 he would run for sheriff in the March Republican primary.

Duchak made the announcement outside the sheriff's department on the Courthouse Plaza. He has been with the department for 25 years.

"The state of the sheriff's office is very strong and I intend to keep it that way. There is no one more experienced and knowledgeable or better prepared than I am to hit the ground running from day one to be your next Miami County sheriff," Duchak said.

Chris Anderson, a retired Troy police captain, and Steve Cooper, retired sheriff's office captain, previously announced their intentions to see the office held by Charles Cox. He was first elected in 1988 and is retiring at the end of his term in December 2016.



Dave Duchak

The deadline for filing for the primary election is Dec. 16 with the county Board of Elections. As of Dec. 4, Cooper was the only candidate to file nominating petitions.

Cox will serve as Duchak's campaign chairman and Cox's wife, Lynn, as his campaign treasurer.

Duchak is a graduate of Tippecanoe High School, attended the University of Dayton and graduated from the Butler Township Police Academy in 1986.

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## United Way Fund Raising On Track

BY NANCY BOWMAN

The United Way of Troy is on its way to reaching its 2015 goal of \$810,000, campaign leaders told agencies and supporters during the campaign holiday celebration Friday, Dec. 4.

Changes in corporate calendars the past few years means some campaign final reports aren't received

until after the first of the year, Richard Bender, United Way director, told those gathered for the holiday luncheon at the Troy Senior Citizens Center.

With those calendars in mind, the campaign was at 97 percent of goal as of Friday, said Maurice Sadler, 2015 campaign co-chair. He termed that information "excellent news."

"We need to continue to get the word out. We are 3 percent short of goal, but I know in my heart the people, the businesses of Troy will rise to the occasion."

The United Way of Troy provides funding to more than 25 agencies throughout the Troy area. Many of those agencies had representatives at the luncheon. Sadler thanked them, saying

they "work hard and diligently to support people of all ages."

Board member Earl Reives stood in for Mayor Mike Beamish, expressing gratitude to all businesses and other contributors to the United Way. Reives said the campaign does well because of the people gathered for the event and the Troy community.

The organization also recognized four departing board members – Bill Barney, Greg Taylor, Richard Culp and Ed Westmeyer – for their terms of service.

Bender said the board during the past year made a concerted effort to reach out to more possible supporters. The result was meeting with and working with about a dozen new

companies and organizations to talk about the United Way program and what its agencies offer the community and its residents.

He said the work of everyone is appreciated.

"Thank you for making Troy such a great place to live and work," Bender said.

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# Troy Christian Girls Fall To MVS, Boys Win

BY JIM DABBELT

In a battle between two teams expected to battle it out for the league title, Miami Valley used a big run at the end of the first half, and a dominating fourth quarter to knock off the Troy Christian girls' basketball team last week 47-27 at Troy Christian High School.

Both teams were missing key components to their offense, as Troy Christian is still without Meredith Haddad, who is recovering from an injury. Miami Valley was without their leading scorer and college prospect Tia Karras.

"Some of our inexperience showed tonight right before the half," Troy Christian coach Dick Steineman said. "I thought the girls hung in there the best they could, they just had better athletes than we had."

Scoring was at a minimum during the opening four minutes of the game as Miami Valley led early 4-2. Lauren Lavy and Ali Kamentz give the Eagles a slim lead late in the quarter, and a 15-footer from Arden Kamentz gave the hometown squad an 8-7 lead after the

opening period.

Kathryn Lee scored consecutive baskets with just over three minutes left in the half as Troy Christian was in front 16-15 with 3:05 left in the first half.

That is when Miami Valley turned up the heat, and outscored Troy Christian 9-0 over the remainder of the half, to take a 24-16 lead at the half.

They took the lead out to ten early in the third quarter, but the Eagles had one more gasp in them. Lee hit consecutive shots for Troy Christian and with just over four minutes remaining in the third period, they were still within six points, trailing 28-22.

From there, it was all Miami Valley, as they outscored the Eagles 19-5 the rest of the way,

Lee led the Eagles with 14 points and eight rebounds, while scoring four apiece were Lavy, and both of the Kamentz girls. Hailey Peters added nine rebounds.

Troy Christian came back on Saturday, and held Temple Christian without a field goal for the entire game, and earned a 40-2 victory in a non-league contest.



Arden Kamentz brings the ball up the floor for the Eagles.

Troy Christian Boys- Their Metro Buckeye Conference winning streak has reached 40 consecutive games with a 57-36 win over Miami Valley on Friday night. Troy Christian only allowed two field goals in the first half.

"It was another solid effort for our defense," said Troy Christian coach Ray Zawadzki. "We did a great job limiting them on drives to the hoop, and used a full court press to pick up the tempo of the game."

"We created a lot of turnovers. Our defense is ahead of schedule, now we need our offense to

catch up."

Troy Christian led 12-1 in the first quarter, and continued to lead at the half, despite shooting 4-18 free throws in the first half and 8-26 for the game.

KC Kamentz led Troy Christian with 19 points, while James Anderson added 15 and Seth Wynne had 10.

"It was good to see those guys get confidence," Zawadzki said.

Troy Christian (2-0, 1-0) travels to Xenia Christian on Friday, and Mississinawa Valley on Saturday.

## Troy Bowling Results

### GIRLS

Troy- 2294 (Jenna Stone 165-210 375, Rachel Darrow 182-177 359, Aleigha Smith 163-179, Kirsten McMullen 178-161, Jennica Funderburg 155-125, Bakers 599)

Tecumseh- 2195 (Adrienne Lutz 173-149= 322, Katie Stamper 126-185= 311, Kaley Thompson 145-158 303. Jessica Perkins 146-137 283, Jennifer Dilley 129-122 251, Bakers 725)

### BOYS

Tecumseh- 2844 (Zach Helm 239-148 387, Jay Woosley 188-247 435, Matt Brown 222-225 447, Caleb Collins 180-257 437, Dillon Terrell 211-201 412, Bakers 726)

Troy- 2621 (Landon Flory 222-230 452, Jason Shiltz 194-150 344, Aaron Stone 190-185 375, Hayden Jackson 232-253 485, AJ Kendall 209-125 334, Bakers 631)

## 2015 Christmas Songbook



# Eagles Hope To Enjoy Continues Success

BY JIM DABBELT

It will be a new look squad this season for Troy Christian wrestling, as they begin what they hope will be another successful year. Two seniors return for coach Steve Goudy, but the mindset is the same with the Eagles... success.

"We will be young with only two seniors, but our expectations never change, we want to get as high on the podium as we possibly can," Goudy said, as his squad opened the season at Centerville. "Realistically, I think we can finish in the top ten. I have seen some great improvements so far with great attitudes."

"We only have eleven kids out this season and that is a challenge for us," he added. "But this is a great group of

kids. They have great work ethic and are excited for the season to start."

The two seniors this year are 170-pounder Jordan Strine, and 195-pound Levi Sims.

"This is Jordan's third year of wrestling, and I have been as pleased with him as anyone in the room," Goudy said. "He will turn a lot of heads this year."

"Levi was a district qualifier last year, and he wants it more this year. He is hungry. "He is a little banged up from football and when he gets to 100 percent, we will see good things."

Another wrestler who is back is 106 pound sophomore Jacob Edwards, who was also named captain this

year.

"This is the first time for a sophomore captain, but this is a kid who did everything in the off season," Goudy said. "He is the complete package, a great student, good work ethic and a leader. He was also a state qualifier last year, and has his sights set higher this year."

At 120 will be Michael Sergeant, who placed fourth in the state two years ago.

"He was an alternate last year, so he is chomping at the bit to get back at it and get to March," Goudy said. "He is a lot stronger, and has great things ahead."

Brandon Swihart also returns at 220, coming off of a district appearance last year.

"I think he can get to Co-



lumbus, and win matches," Goudy said. "He has a lot of raw strength and is working on his technique."

The final key wrestler back is heavyweight Seth Douglas, a junior who went to state last year.

"He came in 20 pounds lighter this year which is a

big deal," said the Eagles coach. "He is ahead of the game compared to where he started last year. He has potential to be a state placer this year."

"The kids are aware of where the bar has been set by the past teams," Goudy said. "My common theme is

that it's good to know where you came from, but we don't look in the rear view mirror. Come March, you will find out who paid the price and who didn't"

Troy Christian will participate in the Ashland Crestview tournament this weekend.

# Troy Girls Drop Pair Of Games

BY JIM DABBELT

After gathering a one-point lead heading to the fourth quarter, the Troy Trojans girls' basketball team could finish off the Shawnee Braves last week, as they fell in a non-conference matchup 45-40.

The Trojans finished 4-13 at the free throw line in the game, and couldn't put it together in the final eight minutes suffering the defeat.

Troy didn't waste any time getting on the board as Bailey Hess buried a three to give the Trojans a quick 3-0 lead, then Kiyha Adkins added a three for the Trojans but the Braves fought back to tie the game at eight. Shawnee connected on consecutive three's to take a 14-10 lead after the open-

ing period.

Shawnee quickly increased their lead to ten before the Trojans put together an 11-0 run over the final 4:50 to get the lead at the half. Alexis Otstot connected on three straight three-point shots to bring the Trojans back into the lead 21-20.

Another strong defensive stand at the end of the third period brought the Trojans back from a 29-26 deficit into a 30-29 lead heading to the fourth.

Alaura Holycross led the Trojans with a team high 11 points, while Otstot added nine points and Sierra Besecker scored eight.

\*Also last week, the Trojans fell short to the Fairmont Firebirds

48-33 dropping their fourth consecutive game to open the season.

The Trojans struggled offensively, trailing 16-3 out of the gate, and continued to struggle at the half, falling behind 30-12.

Troy didn't have anyone in double figures, as Bailey Dornbusch and Otstot each scored six points.

Troy Boys Basketball- Romello Yaqub scored 30 points for the Troy Trojans boys' basketball team, but the Trojans fell short to Fairmont last Friday night 66-59 despite falling behind early and nearly completing the comeback.

Austin Persinger added 12 in the loss, as Fairmont took a 31-23 lead into the half, and survived the Trojans' 23 points fourth quarter



trying to complete the comeback.

The Trojans hosted Fairborn last night, before returning to the court on Friday night at Green-

ville, and heads to Northmont on Saturday night for a varsity doubleheader with the girls, beginning at 6 p.m.

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# Troy Noon Optimists Help Spread Christmas Cheer

Responding to a call for a mission of joy, the Troy Noon Optimist Club trimmed and donated trees to Operation Christmas Cheer, a local project created and managed Lisa Kendall-Maxson. Maxson was the speaker at the last meeting of the Optimists, and after sharing her story, the men and women of the club decorated 2 trees that Lisa and Krissy McKim-Barker of Hospice immediately delivered to the Hospice unit at UVMC.

Our area has many people who need cheer over the holidays due to health issues, lack of mobility, or other personal issues. Lisa Kendall-Maxson was herself hospitalized over the holidays years ago at the James Cancer Hospital, and someone had delivered to her a "Ohio State Buckeye" themed tree. Lights were on the tree, and she reports, "I never turned those lights off until the day I was dismissed," the day she was healthy enough to return to her family in Troy.

Lisa felt a desire to give back by sharing Christmas Cheer with others. Members of the Troy Noon Optimist saw Lisa's plea in a church bulletin gave her a call asking for her to

share her story and project. As a result of her visit, two 3' trees were decorated, and immediately after the speaking event, Lisa and Krissy delivered them to the UVMC Hospice Unit for persons hospitalized there.

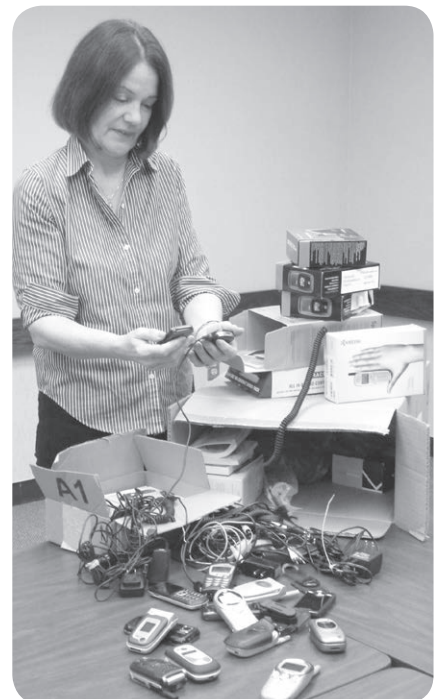
The two speakers stated that their biggest delivery date will be December 14. Last years' goal was 50 trees, and the result of word getting around, more than 100 trees and the accompanying cheer were delivered to recipients.

If your business, church, civic or youth group, or families would like to participate, contact Lisa Kendall Maxson at 937-875-0708, or email TL-Maxson@gmail.com, and she will give you information on how to proceed. You might also 'like' her on Facebook@ Operation Christmas Cheer.

The Troy Noon Optimist Club will celebrate its support in the community of Troy for 60 years this next year 2016. The club motto is "Bringing Out the Best in Kids". Along with many sponsored youth projects and the "Avenue of Flags" program, the club is glad to have supported their pledge to Optimism by participating in the "Operation of Cheer" program.



# Cell Phones Collected at YWCA Piqua



Barb Davis, Public Policy Chairperson, is shown with phones that will be donated to the Miami County Family Abuse Shelter. Phones are programmed to call 911 and have been used to save the lives of women and their children.

Just got a new cell phone? What to do with the old one? Donate it to the YWCA Piqua. The YWCA Piqua has collected over 3100 cell phones for donation to the Miami County Family Abuse Shelter since 2004.

"Phones that are donated can be used for reprogramming to 911 and given to victims of domestic violence. Any damaged or broken phone can be sold and the monies from the sale will be used to benefit the Miami County Family Abuse Shelter," said Barb Holman, Executive Director of the Shelter. "We truly appreciate the work of the YWCA in serving as a collection point for the phones. Victims of domestic violence benefit from the program and have an outlet for help if the situation arises," she added.

Barbara Bollenbacher, a member of the Public Policy Committee, has been delivering the phones to the Shelter since the inception of the program. "I am so happy to be involved with this project," she said. "Part of the mission of the YWCA is to empower women. This program certainly allows women to get help when the need is there."

Phones are collected throughout the year and can be dropped off at the YWCA Piqua at 418 N. Wayne Street. It is suggested that all personal information be cleared from the phone. If possible, phone chargers should be included.

"This is a great way for individuals, businesses and industries to feel good about helping others instead of leaving the phone on the shelves at home or work," said Barb Davis, Public Policy Chairperson.

For more information, stop at the YWCA Piqua at 418 N. Wayne Street or phone 937-773-6626.

# Financial Focus

WITH THRIVENT FINANCIAL

Ten reasons you should add life insurance to your Christmas list

During the season of generosity, consider one of the most generous gifts of all

You can't drive it around the block. You can't wear it for an evening out. You can't watch anything on it. And chances are it won't elicit squeals of delight when opened. But of the many gifts you can give, life insurance might make the biggest difference to those you love.

So, what are ten reasons you should buy yourself a life insurance policy for Christmas? Thrivent Financial suggests the following:

It's a generous thing to do. Purchasing an insurance policy isn't about you at all, because you won't be around to benefit. It will, however, benefit your family, loved ones, and even organizations that are important to you.

Freedom from worry. Knowing that your family is prepared financially if you're no longer around can provide an incredible sense of reassurance. It can help provide your loved ones a measure of security and stability when everything else in their life is being shaken if you're no longer around.

It's a cornerstone of a sound financial strategy. Protecting

yourself against risk is an important part of any financial strategy. People often underestimate the extent to which a premature death affects a family's income and assets. Life insurance helps protect your financial strategy.

It sets a good example. Being financially prepared for an unknown future can speak volumes to those around you -- and as the old saying goes, actions speak louder than words.

It may assist with paying final expenses. It's easy to underestimate the amount of money needed to pay for a funeral and other final expenses. A life insurance policy can help ensure those final expenses don't burden your loved ones.

It may help pay off debt. Funds from a life insurance policy can alleviate debt that might be hard to pay off in the event of an unexpected death. Survivors can use those funds to cover credit cards, car loans and even mortgage payments.

It may help pay for college. Leaving a legacy for your children or spouse through the gift of education might be one of the more meaningful ways benefits could be used. Your gift could open doors for them to build a solid financial future for themselves through a life-long career.

It may help provide for retirement. Depending on the financial circumstances of your loved


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ones, life insurance benefits can be invested in different ways to provide for retirement.

Leave a legacy. Life insurance benefits can help more than family members or loved ones. You can use the benefits to donate to charities or causes you care about and leave a legacy of generosity.

It demonstrates you care about your loved ones. With each bill that is paid, with each gift to charities that were important to you, with each act of financial generosity, those you loved will be reminded of the care you took to help ensure they were left with a healthy financial future.

There are endless possibilities of gifts you could put under the Christmas tree this season. And if someone depends on you financially, you likely need life insurance. It's that simple. So with the iPhone, Xbox or Kindle all wrapped up, consider adding life insurance as one more gift that could wind up being far more meaningful.

This article was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by Matt Buehrer. He has an office

at 29 West Main Street in Tipp City and can also be reached at 667-8270.

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Thrivent Financial is a financial services organization that helps Christians be wise with money and live generously. As a membership organization, it offers its nearly 2.4 million member-owners a broad range of products, services and guidance from financial representatives nationwide. For more than a century it has helped members make wise money choices that reflect their values while providing them opportunities to demonstrate their generosity where they live, work and worship. For more information, visit Thrivent.com/why. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter.

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# Stouder Foundation Announces Grants

The Stouder Memorial Foundation recently awarded \$225,004 for the following grants:

UVMC Foundation \$115,061 for the Emergency Dept. Renovation and Expansion

Miami County Health Partners \$30,000 for general operating

Miami County Dental Clinic \$29,440 for the OSU College of Dentistry Student Internship Partnership

Dayton Children's Hospital \$25,000 for Patient Care Tower

New Creation Counseling \$10,000 Expansion of Psychiatric Services

Miami County Recovery Council \$7,000 for the Reducing the Risk Program

Riverside of Miami County \$6,000 Autism Movement Therapy Program

GIVE Medical Ministry \$1,170

in support of Air quality monitor and medical equipment

Troy City Schools \$733 for Replacement of 6 Infant/Child AED pads and 1 Adult AED pad/battery

Troy Lions Charities \$600 Preschool Vision Screening

Since becoming a component fund of The Troy Foundation in 1998, over \$3 million in grants have been awarded. Members of the 2015 Distribution Committee

are Doug Tremblay, chair, Cam Armstrong, Ann Baird, Rachael Boezi, Sondra Christian, Grant Kerber, Sallie Schoettmer, Soha Shah and Polly Thomas

The Stouder Memorial Foundation is a member fund of The Troy Foundation. If you would like information about how to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation, or how your organization can apply for a grant, please contact Alicia Har-

relson at (937) 339-8935.

The Stouder Memorial Foundation accepts grant requests from charitable organizations providing health care services in Miami County. Requests are reviewed by the Board of Trustees quarterly in January, April, July and October. The next deadline is January 4, 2016. For more information please visit our website at [www.thetroyfoundation.org](http://www.thetroyfoundation.org) or call (937)339-8935

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## Breakfast With Santa

◀ PAGE 1

Interact Club. Interact currently has 5-8 high school boys in the club that meet weekly and participate in local Rotary initiatives, especially those involving elementary school students from Miami County. “We’ve planted flowers at Concord Elementary, helped with a clean-up day, raise money doing lemon shake-ups at the ‘Strawberry Festival,’” Daniel said. “It’s fun. I like it.” According to Pour, Breakfast with Santa is just one more opportunity to do something to give back to the community. “The kids come in and they’re so happy,” Pour said. “This is a great thing to do.” Members of Interact greeted families, helped with odd jobs, and took tickets at the event. Their reward: the smiles of excited children, a Santa hat, a picture with St. Nick, and the warmth and joy of serving during the Christmas season.

John Frigge has been the Interact advisor for over 25 years and a member of Rotary since 1990. When he first joined Rotary, the former advisor for the Interact Club was retiring from his post. Frigge took up the mantle and continues to mentor young leaders in community service and local projects to give back to the children of the city. The Troy Interact Club is the oldest chapter in the nation, beginning in 1961 as an extension of Rotary’s mission. Frigge has personally mentored 4 Valedictorians and 6 Salutatorians during his time as advisor.

“There is nothing more rewarding than seeing these kids grow up and continue to be active in the community,” Frigge said. “Sometimes they will even come back as full members of Rotary.” The current Rotary president Andrew Johnston was a part of Interact in high school. “We didn’t have Breakfast with Santa then but we’re here to give back; we have always found ways to serve,” Frigge said.

According to Frigge and his advisees, they loved seeing the children come dressed up for breakfast and excited to see Santa Claus. “We have the best Santa Claus in all of Miami County. He is the real deal,” Frigge said. “If there’s anyone who knows how to bring Christmas spirit to these kids and their families, it’s him.”

## American Red Cross Offers Free Online Courses

Who knew that trying to add a little festive decor to the home for the holidays could be so hazardous to a person’s health? But it is. Between people stepping on broken ornaments, straining their backs or falling off ladders adding lights to the side of the house or trying to place the star on the top of the tree, two to three people visit the emergency room EVERY HOUR this time of year with holiday decorating-related injuries. So with accidents happening more frequently during this busy time of the year, the Red Cross is offering the gift of safety during December with a number of first aid/CPR courses, including FREE online training courses.

Now through Dec. 31, American Red Cross is making its online first aid and CPR courses available at no cost. These courses cover a variety of first aid, breathing and cardiac emergency topics.

For those interested in more detail and personal training, traditional and blended-learning classes are available for certification and are taught all year long. Check our webpage [www.redcross.org/nmvo](http://www.redcross.org/nmvo) for details.

Be prepared for accidents that could occur during your holiday season. Aunt Susan might not be thinking and grab the pie out of the oven and not think twice about not having her oven mitts on. Be the one who can safely and properly take care of her burn. Maybe Uncle Frank will learn his lesson and not talk while eating, but just in case, you will be the one that can handle the situation if he were to choke on his food. Be the one who is Red Cross prepared.

# OBITUARIES

## Naomi C. Shanesy

Naomi C. Shanesy, age 91, of Troy, passed away on Tuesday, December 1, 2015 at Hospice of Dayton. She was born on July 29, 1924 in Tipp City to the late Walter W. and Naomi (Souders) Campion. On August 5, 1944, she married Thomas R. Shanesy. He preceded her in death on February 2, 2000.

Naomi is survived by three sons and daughters-in-law: Timothy and Renee Shanesy, Thomas and Kristi Shanesy, all of Troy, OH and John Shanesy of Apex, NC; three daughters: Linda Brewer of Pawleys Isl, SC, Mary Anne Mader of Webster Groves, MO and Jane Karns of Troy, OH; one sister: Mary Jane Arnold of Troy, OH; nineteen grandchildren; eighteen great grandchildren and two great great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and her husband, Naomi was preceded in death by one son-in-law: David Brewer; and one

sister: Janet Shuler.

Naomi was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Troy, where she sang in the choir. She was also a former member of the Troy Rec Board. Naomi and her husband, Thomas, were owner/operators of the former Shaughnessy’s Television & Appliance of Troy.

Mass of Christian Burial was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 5, 2015 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Troy with Rev. Fr. James Duell as Celebrant. Burial followed in Riverside Cemetery in Troy.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Patrick Catholic Church, 409 East Main Street, Troy, OH 45373 or Hospice of Dayton, 324 Wilmington Avenue, Dayton, OH 45424. Condolences may be expressed to the family at [www.bairdfuneralhome.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhome.com).

## Johnny H. Dulin

Johnny H. Dulin, age 88, of Troy, passed away on Wednesday, December 2, 2015 at Hospice of Miami County Inpatient Unit in Troy. He was born on March 17, 1927 in West Liberty, KY to the late Bazie and Vannie (Price) Dulin. His wife, Thelma Irene (Cantrell) Dulin, survives.

Johnny is also survived by three daughters: LaDonna (Harold) Montgomery of Bay Springs, MS, Deborah Curtis of Troy and Yvonne Noel of Celina; two sons: John (Janice Recher) Dulin of Vandalia, OH and Rick (Cathy) Dulin of Sidney, OH; nine sisters: Dele-na Shaver of West Liberty, KY, Lella (Gerald) Drake of Campton, KY, Louressa (David) Anderson of Piqua, OH, Nola (James) Sargent of Middletown, OH, Lola (James) Johnson of Campton, KY, Earlina (Charles) Ferrell of Troy, OH, Sue (Buel) Cantrell of West Liberty, KY and Shirley (Chris) Long of Elizabethtown, KY; one brother: Bazie Dulin, Jr. of West Liberty, KY; thirteen grandchildren and seventeen great grandchildren. In addition to his parents, Johnny was preceded in death by daughter: Kimberly Duncan, son: Harley Dulin, brother: Jerry

Dulin, sister: Fredah Montgomery and granddaughter: Heather Courtney Dulin.

Johnny attended Peddler Gap Schools and graduated from Morgan County High School. He proudly served his country as a member of the US Army, where he graduated from European Intelligence School and served in the Honor Guard. Johnny was a member of the Masonic Lodge #775 in Elk-fort, KY. Johnny was employed by TWA as a Lead Ramp Serviceman before retiring in 1984. He formerly owned Dulin’s Construction Company and Dulin’s Restaurant. Johnny enjoyed his family and wood-carving.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday December 5, 2015 at Baird Funeral Home in Troy with Pastor Den-ny Cantrell, his nephew, officiating. Burial followed in Riverside Cemetery in Troy with Full Military Honors. Masonic Services were held at 7:45 p.m. on Friday December 5, 2015 at the funeral home.

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

## Bertha Elizabeth Vanchure

Bertha Elizabeth Vanchure, age, 91, of Troy, passed away on Sunday, December 6, 2015 at Genesis/Troy Care & Rehabilitation Center in Troy. She was born on September 14, 1924 in Martins Ferry, OH to the late George and Beulah (French) Vickers. Her husband, Charles Vanchure, preceded her in death in 2007.

Bertha is survived by two sons: Charles (Dixie) Vanchure and Thomas (Sharon) Vanchure, both of Troy; Two daughters: Pamela (Larry) Par-tin and Brenda (Companion, Dave Clegg) Vanchure, both of Troy; one sister: Reva Huppen-tal of Cadiz; one half-brother: Billie Vickers of Martins Ferry; one step brother: Bobby Hertig of FL; ten grandchil-dren: Charles G. Vanchure, Jr., Charlene McAdams, Charlotte DeBoard, Carlon Vanchure, Penny Vanchure, Tom S. Vanchure, Tony Vanchure, Tammy Vanchure and Scot and Chad

Partin; twenty great grand-children and nine great great grandchildren. In addition to her parents and husband, Bertha was preceded in death by three sisters: Geneva Meadows, Alice Davis and Janet Cram-er; one brother: Chuck Vickers; one daughter: Sandra Marie in infancy; and one great grand-daughter: Brook.

Bertha was employed by the Troy School System in the cafeteria for 10 years before retir-ing. She had been a resident of Troy since 1950.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 AM on Thursday, De-cember 10, 2015 at Baird Fu-neral Home in Troy with Paul Napier officiating. Burial will follow in Miami Memorial Park in Covington. Friends may call from 5-8 PM on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at the funer-al home.

Condolences may be ex-pressed to the family at [www.bairdfuneralhome.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhome.com).

## Larry D. Linker

Larry D. Linker, age 81 of Troy passed away on Satur-day, November 28, 2015 in the Hospice Unit of Upper Valley Medical Center. He was born on January 10, 1934 in Anna, Ohio to the late Eugene and Lorma Linker. Survivors in-clude three step daughters and step sons-in-law Linda and James Fricke of Bay St. Lou-is, Mississippi, Peggy and Steve Leadingham of Spring Val-ley, and Mary Eismann of Ra-leigh, North Carolina. Larry was also survived by five step grandchildren, Sherry Per-anich, Leonard Rojas, Adam Leadingham, Ryan Callahan, and Kelly Cornette. Nine step great grandchildren also sur-vive, Lindsay, Kelsey, Ethan, Peyton, Kirsten, Nicholas, Ri-ley, Dani, and Dylann. Also survived by brother and sister-in-law Jack and Linda Linker of Cincinnati. He was pre-ceded in death by his wife of 40 years Norma Linker, who passed away on November 25, 2005, stepson Dwight Dabney of Dayton, step granddaughter

Christa Muirhead, and broth-er Tommy Linker. He graduat-ed from Harrison High School and also graduated from Mi-ami Jacobs College with an As-sociate’s Degree in Accounting. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Troy. Mr. Linker was a veteran of the United States Navy, serv-ing during the Korean War on the Destroyer USS Phillip. He was a member of the American Legion Post 43 in Troy, and former member of the VFW in Huber Heights, and Loy-al Order of the Moose in Troy. Mr. Linker was employed at the Sinclair Refining Company for 8 years and B.F. Goodrich Corp for 29 years and was an avid Cincinnati Reds baseball fan. A funeral service was held 12p.m. Thursday, December 3, 2015 at Fisher-Cheney Funeral Home, Troy with Pastor David Leckrone officiating. Interment was in Forest Hills Memori-al Garden, Tipp City. Mili-tary service at the graveside by the Veterans Memorial Honor Guard of Troy.

# WWW.TROYTRIB.COM

# Soup Kitchen Christmas

◀ PAGE 1

Grant also said, when they receive a call or an email requesting meals at a home, they “don’t ask questions. We just have to know where to go and how many meals you need,” Grant said. They are only delivering Christmas dinner to Miami County residents this year.

Richard Steineman opened the soup kitchen in Troy in 1996 and St. Joseph’s house for homeless men in 2004. His desire to serve the community came out of his experience with international travel for sports at the age of 25. “It was at that time I saw people who were less fortunate and realized that people often have im-me-

diate needs,” Steineman said. “I decided I had to do something.” He ran a soup kitchen and homeless shelter for 10 years in Cin-cinnati before returning home to Troy. The St. Patrick Soup Kitchen is supported by a board of directors, the United Way, and a base of generous donors who also feel a pas-sion for the vision Steineman began.

Right now, the Soup Kitchen is still in the throes of enlisting and coordinating volun-tee drivers and meal packers for Christmas Day. They have the resources but many hands and drivers are still required to fill the needs this Christmas Day. “We would like to do everything via email this year,”

Grant said. “Last year, the phones were ringing off the hook with requests for meals and volunteers.” Those ordering meals call the soup kitchen at 335-7939. Those who are interested in helping to serve on Christ-mas Day are being asked to contact board member, Greg Taylor, via email at [greg@soupkitchen.org](mailto:greg@soupkitchen.org).

“We are so grateful to all of the generous men and women who contribute their time and resources to make this possible,” Grant said. “We count it a privilege to serve those who are in need in our community this Christmas.”

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**Tenderloin!**

**Smoked Ham!**  
**\$3.49 Per Pound**

**Sliced**  
**Spiral Ham!**  
**\$3.79 Per Pound**



## Word Search

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

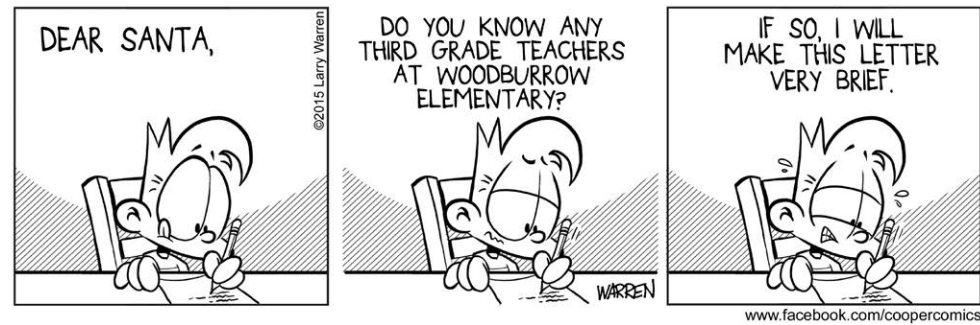
#124



|               |             |         |          |        |
|---------------|-------------|---------|----------|--------|
| Advertisement | Dollars     | Leaves  | Ranch    | Tart   |
| Ally          | Drive       | Lent    | Reed     | Task   |
| Aloud         | Drum        | Lets    | Rely     | Taxes  |
| Already       | Elements    | Lion    | Ribs     | Tell   |
| Also          | Enabled     | List    | Rise     | Term   |
| Approximately | Engineering | Matters | Robes    | Than   |
| Arts          | Evil        | Meets   | Rose     | That   |
| Barking       | Eyes        | Metre   | Sands    | Thin   |
| Base          | Fact        | Neck    | Says     | Tone   |
| Boil          | Felt        | Night   | Scenes   | Used   |
| Cage          | Gran        | Oasis   | Seal     | Uses   |
| Care          | Harbor      | Oiled   | Seeds    | Vain   |
| Cash          | Hell        | Pence   | Seek     | Verb   |
| Child         | Idea        | Pencil  | Seen     | Votes  |
| Clocks        | Injury      | Pepper  | Show     | Wash   |
| Color         | Kept        | Plays   | Sideways | Wasted |
| Comes         | Kindly      | Plus    | Smoked   | West   |
| Crew          | Knotted     | Pussy   | Stay     | Wish   |
| Cuts          | Land        | Raft    | Steal    | Yawn   |
| Dense         | Leap        | Rags    | Symbols  | Zinc   |

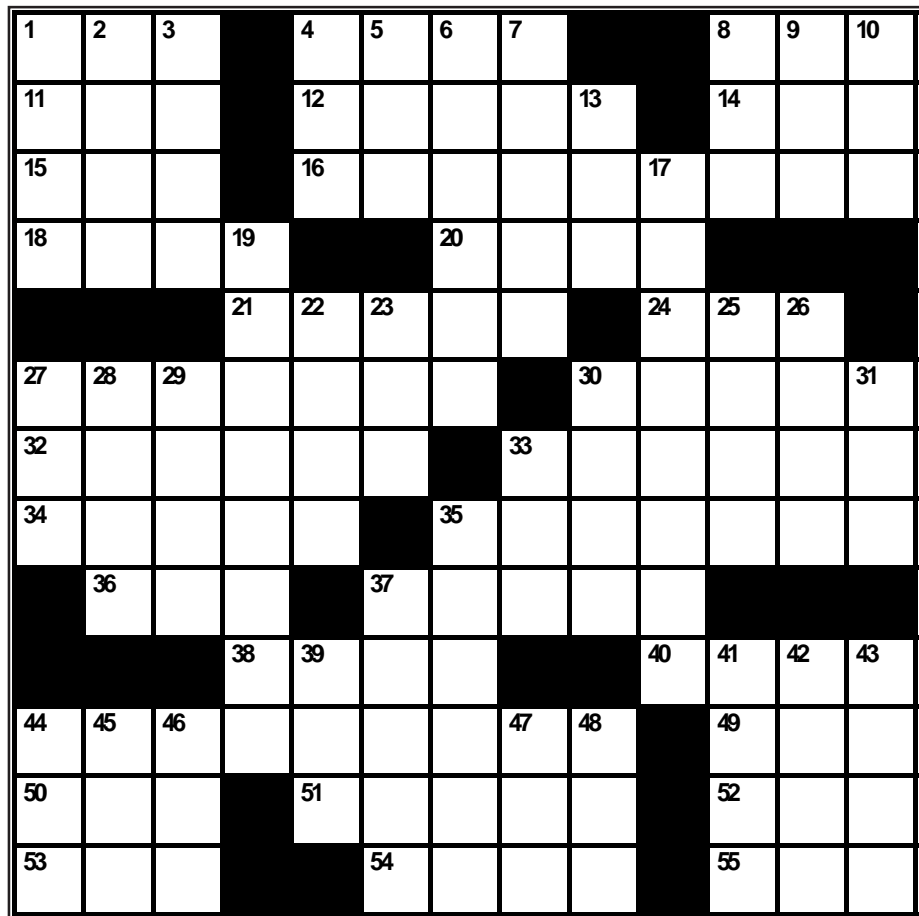
## Cooper

BY LARRY WARREN



# Crossword Puzzle

#209



## ACROSS

1. Cousin of reggae
4. Soothing substance
8. Scold
11. Parker part
12. Going to the dogs, e.g.
14. Cocktail addition
15. Flabbergast
16. Response to a thank you
18. Hummus holder
20. Unfortunate
21. Quite the expert
24. Mozart's "L'\_\_\_ del Cairo"
27. Shone
30. Young fowl
32. Off shore driller
33. Start liking
34. Ancient Celtic priest
35. Domain of a noble
36. Everyone
37. Having a dense coat
38. Place to hibernate
40. Spring tide

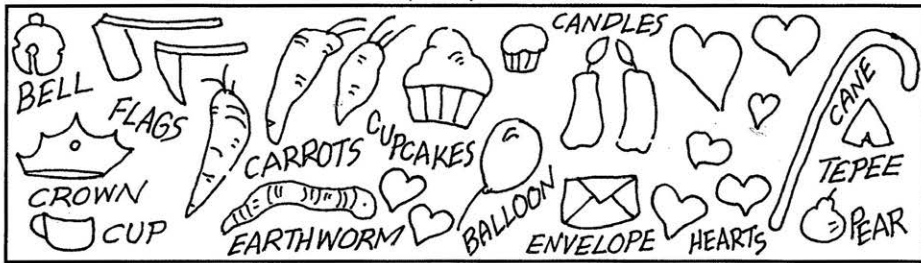
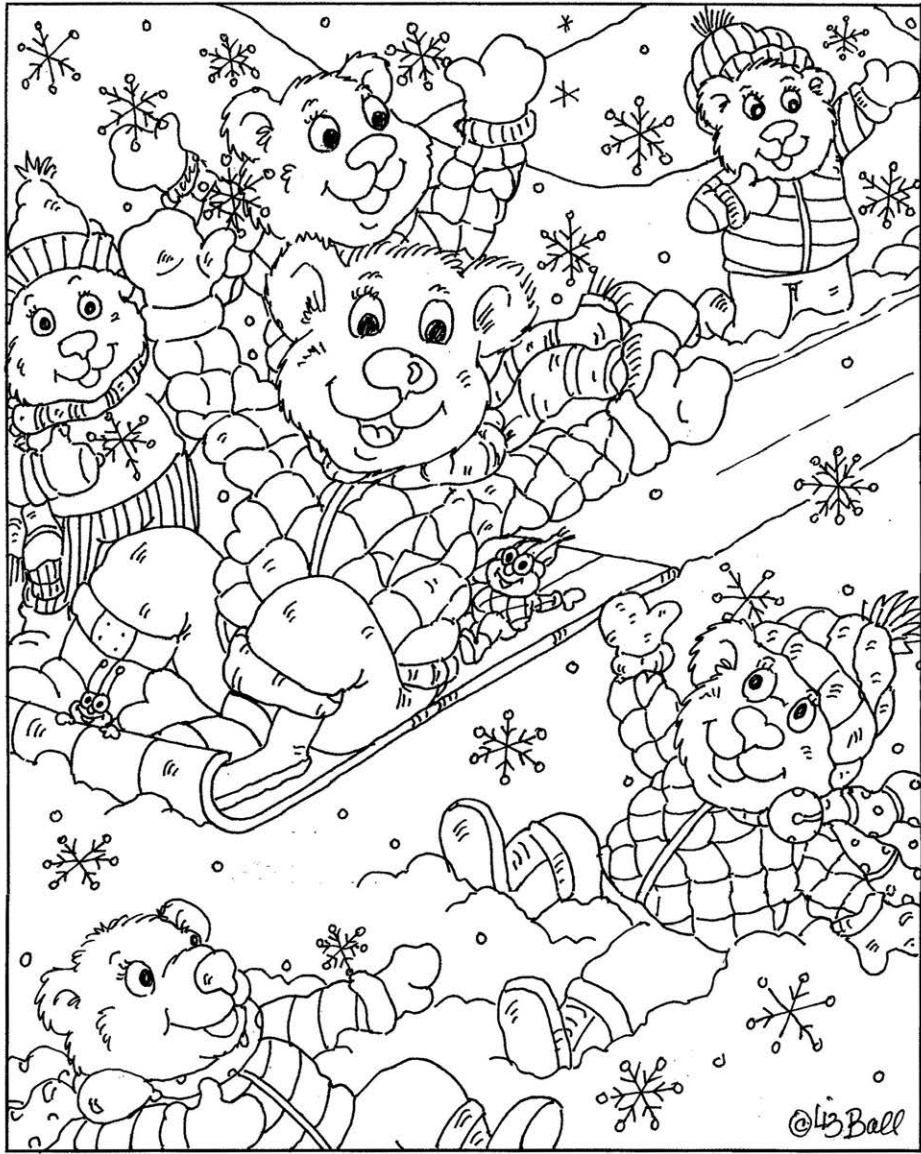
44. Spaghetti dish  
49. Like  
50. Poem of praise  
51. In tune  
52. Special effects abbreviation  
53. Tally (up)  
54. Fill beyond full  
55. Suffered from

## DOWN

1. Center's pass
2. New Zealander
3. Support
4. Trash receptacle
5. Bother
6. Tight- ----
7. Numbskull
8. Nothing
9. Perfect tennis serve
10. Diamond, e.g.
13. Farm call
17. NYC borough
19. City in Texas
35. I found it!
37. Finland natives
39. Back then
41. Respectively
42. Aquatic plant
43. Gave the cash for
44. Feathered stole
45. Offbeat
46. Came first
47. Undertake, with "out"
48. "Red \_\_\_" thriller, starring Rachel McAdams

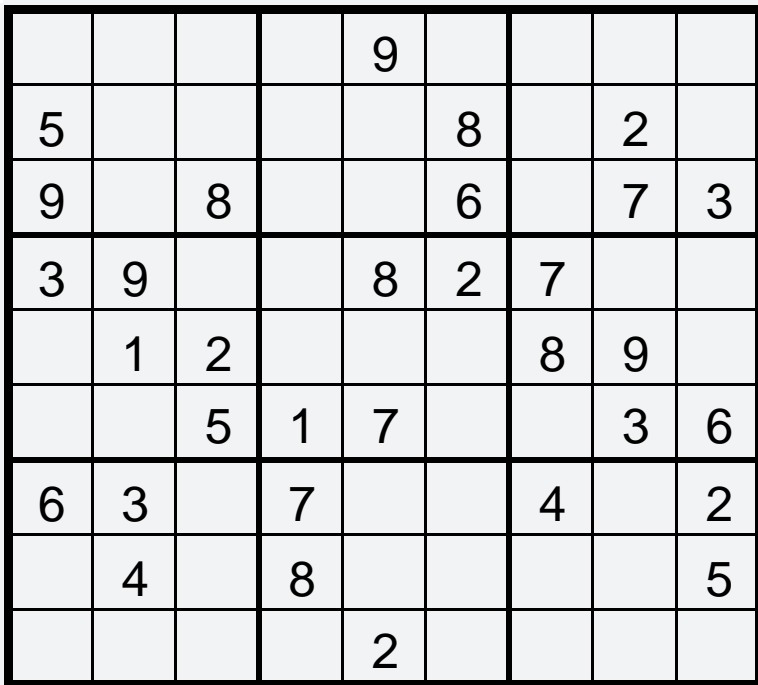
# Hidden Treasures

BY LIZ BALL



## Sudoku

#205



## Trivia Challenge

## October 2015 Current Events Quiz

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

## 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.

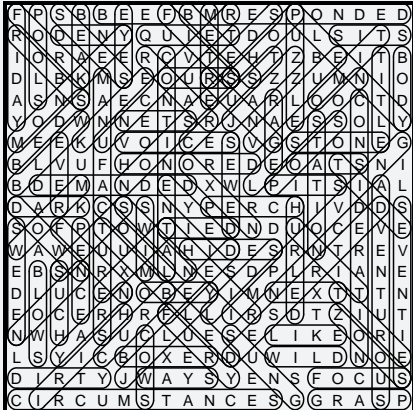
12) Pickles - Elizabeth Daily was the voice for Tommy Pickles.

13) Caitlin - Jude was working at the hockey rink as the Zamboni driver.

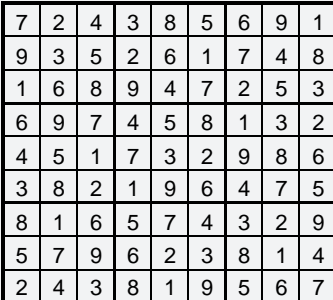
14) Sharon Spitz - The voice was provided by Alicia Silverstone.

15) He is missing his arms and legs - The Oblongs is a family that has been deformed by toxic waste.

## Word Search



## Sudoku



## Crossword





# At Home

BY CONNIE MOORE

## Outside the Box Fruitcakes

When more than one request for an item comes from a request in a matter of days, I can take a hint. Yes, December seems to be the month for all things baked, including that illusively tantalizing fruitcake. Because the following recipes are long, there will be no history or stories of fruitcake legends recorded for posterity herein. Just fruitcakes, but not just any fruitcake. Chocolate using mashed potatoes, a no-bake using a baked cake and a pioneer sausage cake that defies all explanation, reprinted here for your consideration. These recipes have been baked and found to be delicious.

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

### Chocolate Potato Fruitcake

- 1 cup butter, room temp.
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 6 eggs, yolks and whites separated
- 1 cup cold mashed potatoes
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 6 squares (1 oz. each) semi-sweet chocolate, melted
- 2 ½ cups flour
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ cup apricot brandy
- 1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 ½ cups candied pineapple and cherries, snipped or chopped

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Grease a 10-inch tube pan. In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar. Beat in egg yolks, potatoes, vanilla, and melted chocolate. Sift together flour, spices, salt and baking powder. Add to creamed mixture alternately with the brandy. Fold in nuts, raisins and candied fruit.

Beat egg whites with clean beaters until stiff but not dry. Fold gently into cake batter. Spoon batter into prepared pan. Put a circle of greased brown paper or parchment paper on top of pan greased side down. Place a pan of hot water on the lower rack of the oven. Bake cake on middle rack for about 2 hours or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool completely. Remove cake from pan and cool completely. Wrap in plastic wrap-store in a tin in a cool place such as refrigerator. Cake is best left to ripen for a few days up to a few weeks.

### Pioneer Sausage Fruitcake w/ Hard Sauce

- 1 box (16 oz.) raisins
  - Water
  - 1 pound mild bulk sausage (we use Bob Evans)
  - 2 cups sugar
  - 4 cups flour
  - 1 teaspoon baking soda
  - 1 cup chopped walnuts or pecans
  - 1 teaspoon cinnamon
  - Dash of nutmeg, optional
- Hard Sauce-recipe follows

In a saucepan, place raisins and enough water to cover them. Cook until tender, drain and keep one cup of the raisin water. In the raisin water, dissolve baking soda.

In large creaming bowl, using electric mixer, cream the sausage and sugar. This will take at least five minutes. Keep scraping the meat off the beaters and down the bowl sides. You need to break it up thoroughly and beat in sugar thoroughly. (The sausage acts as the shortening in this recipe.) When the meat and sugar are thoroughly blended, add the raisins and raisin/baking soda water. Beat in the flour, nuts and spices.

Spoon into greased and floured Bundt pan or tube pan. Bake at 350 degrees for about an hour. Test with toothpick for doneness. Do not over bake. Cool in pan about 10 minutes. Remove from pan and cool completely. Serve with Hard Sauce.

### Hard Sauce:

Cream ¼ cup butter with 1 cup confectioners' sugar. Add ½ teaspoon vanilla and 1 tablespoon bourbon. Beat well and chill before serving. Can be warmed enough to pour over cake slice but tradition is a spoonful of the cold sauce on top of the cake.

### Refrigerator Fruitcake

- 1 pkg. yellow cake mix (regular size)
- 1 pkg. fluffy white frosting mix (refers to Pillsbury\*\*-see note)
- 4 cups candied mixed fruit (sometimes referred to as citron)
- ½ cup whole red candied cherries
- ½ cup whole green candied cherries
- 1 ½ cups seedless raisins
- 1 cup pitted dates, cut up
- 1 pound pecan halves

Make the cake according to package directions but bake 5 minutes longer than directed on box. When cool, allow air to for an hour or two. This cools and dries it.

Crumble the cake into a very large mixing bowl. Add the fruits and nuts and toss to mix well.

Line 2 loaf pans (9x5x3) with foil. Smooth out all the wrinkles.

Now for the "secret" to the cake. Make the frosting mix according to package directions. Originally the recipe called for the Pillsbury frosting MIX but it is no longer made. Instead use 2 packages of Jiffy white frosting mix. After the frosting is made: Blend it thoroughly with the cake/fruit/nut mix. It is a sticky job but there is no substitute for your hands.

When all is mixed well, pack into the two prepared pans. Again, use your hands to get it into the corners and packed down well. Cover with foil and refrigerate for at least 24 hours.

Unmold and test—it should slice like a solid loaf of fruitcake. If too moist, store uncovered in refrigerator for another 24 hours. When desired consistency is reached, wrap in foil, keep refrigerated until needed.

This recipe is original as posted on Cooks.com.

When I tested this, the candied citron and cherries were not used. We don't like them. I used the same total amount of fruits but substituted Craisins, golden raisins, currants, coconut and dates along with pecans. Still worked fine.

# Tip of the Week

BY SGT. JJ MAURO

TIPP CITY POLICE RETIRED

## Speeding Part 3

In Speeding Parts 1 and 2 we discussed the traffic offense of speeding in Ohio. Dealing with speed during the operation of a motor vehicle as well as the maximum posted limits on certain streets in various zones. Part 3 will be a discussion of the penalties and points assigned to the speeding convictions.

Ohio law requires any Mayor's Court, Municipal Court or Federal Court with jurisdiction in the state must report all convictions to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles. A conviction also includes the forfeiture of bond for the violation.

When a police officer issues a citation for speeding, it is actually only a summons to appear in court for the alleged offense. The only person who can declare offender is when a judge finds the offender is guilty of the offense. A trial by judge is always a right a person has before any punishment can be given.

When a citation is written the officer will assign a court date and time for the offender to appear to begin the process of a trial. Should the offender decide not to go to trial, the court has a bond schedule for all offenses. The offender can sign the back of the citation and deliver it to the court with the bond amount and this is called forfeiture of the bond and the person

is found guilty and the bond includes the fine and court costs.

The penalty for every violation has a degree of offense. A non-moving or first time offense for moving violations is usually minor misdemeanors. As a MM, the offense carries no jail time possible. Running a traffic control device, minor speeding, equipment violations are in the MM category. The fine or bond is the most one can be assessed.

As each offense progressively becomes more serious, the degree of the offense increases. Not only does the offense carry a monetary fine, actual jail time can be given by the judge. For instance a 3rd speeding offense within a twelve month period becomes a fourth degree misdemeanor. Along with the fine the judge can give up to 30 days in jail. A fourth offense of being found guilty within 12 months becomes a third degree misdemeanor punishable by a higher fine and 180 days in the county jail.

The Ohio Revised Code also makes the speeding violations fourth degree misdemeanors when the offense is for going faster than 35 mph in a business district, 50 mph in residential districts and 35 mph in a school zone with children present.

When the offense is a fourth degree misdemeanor or higher, punishable by jail time a bond cannot be forfeited. The offender must appear in court on the assigned court date.

Over the years violator's who had experience in appearing in court multiple times would ask the issuing officer to maybe write the ticket for less than what the actual speed was so they could just post bond and not have to appear. To me this was asking the officer to lie and sign a court affidavit to facts that were not true. The idea behind a fine and possible jail time is to act a deterrent not to commit the offense again, not make money for the court.

People who claim the City has the officer go out and write speeding tickets for revenue are simply wrong. A city or government entity paying a trained police officer, driving very expensive police vehicles is not even coming close to breaking even let alone making a profit with a \$9 fine, which is the amount that comes back to the city on a \$100 plus fine/court costs.

When found guilty or bond is forfeited, the court of jurisdiction then submits the record to the BMV who must keep the court transcript on file. The BMV then assigns points to the offender's driving record.

A minor misdemeanor speeding ticket will put two points on your record. When convicted of going more than 30 mph over the speed limit, four points are attached. The points always stay on your record just as does the conviction. What the point system does is to catch the frequent offenders and allow for

their driving privileges to be suspended.

Within a 24 month period a person who accrues 12 points is now going to have their driver's license suspended. So let's take a person who just does not care about spending money on fines and has no intention of driving safely. Two speeding tickets, a red light violation, stop sign and a speeding for 37 mph in a school zone adds up to 12 points and an automatic State Suspension of driving privileges.

Take away half of those 12 points and a person convicted of an OVI being assessed six points and again they have reached 12 points and a suspension over and above the OVI suspensions.

Now here is where the true cost of speeding comes into play. Every insurance company in the State of Ohio has access to your BMV driving transcript and a person with high points will be paying high risk insurance just to keep their license. I have a friend who sells only high risk insurance out of his business. He has made a very nice living off people who care nothing about how they drive.

Read the Ohio Revised Code sections dealing with speeding penalties and points being assessed. It actually is worth the read to evaluate what kind of driver you are by totaling the number of points you have accrued over two years or even longer.

# Gardening Commentary

BY MEADOWVIEW GROWERS

## Why Some Poinsettias Can Be Short Lived

Poinsettias and many other plants purchased at the big box stores are many times weakened before they are purchased by the consumer. Shipping long distances and the lack of good care the plants receive day after day stresses the plants. Remember most box store employees are not plant people and are busy with other chores. This weakened condition of the plants is caused by the days that they are in transit and many times in cartons en route to the stores. The plant's roots tend to dry out while they are in transit. After the plants arrive at the stores, many times it can be a day or so before they receive much attention and the plants are further weakened. Poinsettias are a sturdy plant when they have enough daylight but in many of the stores they are on carts in the aisles and down hill they go.

Further damage occurs when the plants leave the store on the way to the customer's car, no protection is provided. The weather in Ohio can be very



Spoiled Poinsettias

cold in December and tropical plants need protection from winter temperatures. By the time this poor poinsettia or house plant gets home with the consumer the plant is really struggling. The next thing you know, the customer begins to feel like they do not know how to take care of plants because their new poinsettia, or other house plant, that they just purchased, starts to look very poor in a few days.

There is no comparison to a plant purchased from a local greenhouse or garden center where the plant is grown locally and kept in a bright, warm greenhouse. These local plants are not shipped hundreds of miles or ever put in dark boxes for days. The plants in the local greenhouse are fertilized



Healthy Poinsettias

and watered properly and do not get blasts of cold air. When the plant leaves the greenhouse the poinsettia is "sleeved" with a plastic or paper cover to protect it from damage due to breakage and also protection from cold temperatures. When plants are cared for in this way and the customer follows the directions for plant care in the home, poinsettia plants will do well throughout the winter and many times until Easter and beyond.

If you have not purchased a poinsettia or other house plant from a local greenhouse or garden center because you have had some bad experiences with plants in the past, this is the year to give these local plants a try. I'm sure you will see a huge difference in the quality and

how easy it can be to take care of a good, healthy plant.

House plants and poinsettias, in particular, are getting a bad rap this time of the year because of the abuse these plants receive in the box stores. Many times the public feels like they cannot care for their plant purchases very well so they eventually give up, and that is a real shame. Plants improve the indoor environment where we live. Find a good local greenhouse and enjoy some good plants for the holiday and beyond.

Go to meadowview.com or send an email to info@meadowview.com if you have a question or comment.

*31 years of growing  
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www.meadowview.com*

# Tax Tips

WITH ARROWHEAD TAX SERVICE

## Seven Tips to Protect Your Computer Online

Scammers, hackers and identity thieves are looking to steal your personal information – and your money. But there are simple steps you can take to help protect yourself, like keeping your computer software up-to-date and giving out your personal information only when you have a good reason.

We all have a role to play to protect your tax account. There are just a few easy and practical steps you can take to protect yourself as you conduct your personal business online.

Here are some best practices you can follow to protect your

tax and financial information:

1. Understand and Use Security Software. Security software helps protect your computer against the digital threats which are prevalent online. Generally, your operating system will include security software or you can access free security software from well-known companies or Internet providers. Other options may have an annual licensing fee and offer more features. Essential tools include a firewall, virus/malware protection and file encryption if you keep sensitive financial/tax documents on your computer. Security suites often come with firewall, anti-virus and anti-spam, parental controls and privacy protection. File encryption to protect your saved documents may have to be purchased separately. Do not buy security software offered as an unexpected pop-up ad on your computer or email! It's likely from a scammer.
2. Allow Security Software to Update Automatically. Set your security software to update automatically. Malware – malicious software – evolves constantly and your security software suite is updated routinely to keep pace.
3. Look for the "S" for encrypted "https" websites. When shopping or banking online, always look to see that the site uses encryption to protect your information.

Look for https at the beginning of the web address. The "s" is for secure. Unencrypted sites begin with an http address. Additionally, make sure the https carries through on all pages, not just the sign-on page.

4. Use Strong Passwords. Use passwords of at least 10 to 12 characters, mixing letters, numbers and special characters. Don't use your name, birthdate or common words. Don't use the same password for several accounts. Keep your password list in a secure place or use a password manager. Don't share your password with anyone. Calls, texts or emails pretending to be from legitimate companies or the IRS asking you to update your accounts or seeking personal financial information are generally scams.

5. Secure your wireless network. A wireless network sends a signal through the air that allows you to connect to the Internet. If your home or business wi-fi is unsecured it also allows any computer within range to access your wireless and steal information from your computer. Criminals also can use your wireless to send spam or commit crimes that would be traced back to your account. Always encrypt your wireless. Generally, you must turn on this feature and create a password.

6. Be cautious when using public wireless networks. Public wi-fi hotspots are convenient but often not secure. Tax or financial information you send through websites or mobile apps may be accessed by someone else. If a public Wi-Fi hotspot does not require a password, it probably is not secure. If you are transmitting sensitive information, look for the "s" in https in the website address to ensure that the information will be secure.

7. Avoid phishing attempts. Never reply to emails, texts or pop-up messages asking for your personal, tax or financial information. One common trick by criminals is to impersonate a business such as your financial institution, tax software provider or the IRS, asking you to update your account and providing a link. Never click on links even if they seem to be from organizations you trust. Go directly to the organization's website. Legitimate businesses don't ask you to send sensitive information through unsecured channels.

To learn additional steps you can take to protect your personal and financial data, visit Taxes. Security. Together. Also read Publication 4524, Security Awareness for Taxpayers.

This information is provided to you by Arrowhead Tax Service at 113 W. Jefferson St. New Carlisle, Ohio. We take every effort to provide honest and accurate tax information. Please use your discretion before making any decisions based on the information provided. Every tax situation is different. If you have any questions please visit our office or call us at 937-543-5770.



# Classifieds & Marketplace

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## Staunton Township Trustees Approve Road Resurfacing Payment

BY BONNIE L. MCHENRY

Staunton Township Trustees, the trustees approved the final payment to the Miami County Engineer for the resurfacing of roads in 2015 for \$108,980.21. The contract included the cost of the asphalt, aggregate, berm, butt joints, and driveway paving.

Trustee Bill Gearhart requested that the fiscal officer provide information to the trustees concerning income and expense statements to allow the trustees to more easily monitor the township budget. Fiscal Officer Sarah Fine indicated that the information is available, but agreed to provide it to the trustees in a more user-friendly form.

The next meeting of the Staunton Township Trustees is scheduled for is scheduled for December 22, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Staunton Township Building.

## Concord Township Trustees Pass Resolution for Traffic Study

◀ PAGE 2

creased from \$8.00 to 10.00 per hour.

Pat Quillen, Fiscal Officer, reported that the township received notification from the Ohio Department of Transportation Highway Safety Improvement Program that the township received a MORE Grant. The MORE grant provides funding to townships throughout the state to upgrade safety signage on township roads. The grant allows townships to purchase and install safety signage along with related posts and hardware across their township. This is the third year that Concord Township has received the grant.

Neil Rhoades, Road Superintendent, reported that the road crew has almost completed leaf pickup. He

said, "It took a couple of extra days because of the volume of leaves in the Merri-mont subdivision. I would like to pick up brush piles throughout the township."

Pence replied, "In doing so, we are enabling residents to take advantage of our services despite the announcement that brush pickup ended."

Tom Mercer, Trustee, added, "Compliments go to the road crew for the great job they did on leaf pickup."

Dave Duchak, Chief Deputy, provided the trustees with an update on the junk car complaint. He reported, "The junk vehicle complaint was investigated by Zoning and Planning and there were no violations. The vehicle is registered and tagged and is operable.

The vehicle is parked on a hard surface in compliance with the city ordinance." The residents have been notified that the vehicle in question does not meet the junk vehicle requirements.

In addition, Duchak noted that the trustees need to revise their junk car resolution to grant to the Sheriff's Department the capacity to enforce the junk vehicle ordinance.

Last, the trustees recommended that the rent for Larry Morrow's lease of township property for agricultural production remain the same for 2016 because crop prices have dropped.

The next meeting of the Concord Township Trustees is scheduled for December 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Township.





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# Attorney General Issues Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative Update for December

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine released a status update on the progress of DNA testing being conducted as part of the Ohio Attorney General's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative.

As of December 1, 2015, 240 law enforcement agencies have submitted 11,665 kits to be tested as part of Attorney General DeWine's Sexual Assault Kit (SAK) Testing Initiative. Of those, 2,331 kits were submitted after Senate Bill 316 took effect.

Forensic scientists with the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) have completed testing on a total of 9,230 of the kits, resulting in 3,377 hits in the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS).

In Cuyahoga County alone, 420 defendants have been indicted following DNA testing conducted as part of the effort.

Background on Attorney General DeWine's Sexual Assault Kit Testing Initiative:

Attorney General DeWine launched the initiative in 2011 after learning that dozens of law enforcement agencies across the state were in possession of rape kits, some of which were decades old that had never been sent to a DNA lab for testing. Attorney General DeWine then made an open call to law enforcement to send their kits to BCI for DNA testing at no cost to them.

To ensure the timely analysis of the thousands of kits submitted as part of the SAK Testing Initiative, DeWine hired 10 additional forensic scientists. By hiring this additional staff, the older kits are tested as quickly as possible, without slowing down the testing of the more than 8,913 rape kits associated with recent crimes tested by BCI as part of their regular casework since 2011.

Senate Bill 316, which went into effect on March 23, 2015, now requires Ohio law enforcement agencies to submit any remaining previously untested sexual assault kits associated with a past crime to a crime laboratory within one year. The law also requires that all newly collected rape kits be submitted to a crime lab within 30 days after law enforcement determines a crime has been committed.

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

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

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

The Ohio Attorney General's Office currently is aware of 22 unresolved complaints against the company, and reported losses total about \$5,300. Many of the consumers are elderly.

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

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

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

- Understand your cancellation rights. In Ohio, you generally have three days to cancel a contract that results from a door-to-door sale. The seller must notify you about your right to cancel.
- Research a company's reputation before signing a contract or providing any payment information. Check for complaints on file with the Ohio Attorney General's Office and conduct a basic Internet search with the company's name and words like "reviews" and "complaints."
- Talk to your neighbors. If a salesperson claims to have sold products to someone in your neighborhood, ask your neighbors whether the claims are true and find out about their experiences with the seller.
- Get information in writing. Before signing an agreement, ask for detailed written information about your cancellation rights, the refund policy, and the payment schedule.
- Trust your instincts. If an offer seems too good to be true, or if you feel uncomfortable, don't sign the agreement.
- Consumers who suspect unfair or deceptive practices should contact the Ohio Attorney General's Office at [www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov](http://www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov) or 800-282-0515.

# Secretary Husted Announces December 2015 as Family-Centered Businesses Month

Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted today announced "Family" as the December 2015 theme in the Ohio Business Profile Program. With the holiday season in full swing, this designation highlights businesses that are run by and those that offer support to Ohio families.

"One of the great things about family owned businesses is that the people who run them really are part of the community. They give back through volunteer and charitable work all the time, they aren't just focused on this quarter's earnings, they're focused on the tested values that help make businesses and families strong for the long run," Secretary Husted said.

Companies profiled this month include:

Reitter Stucco and Supply Co. Inc. (Columbus, Ohio) is a fourth-generation family owned company serving the residential and commercial building markets of Central Ohio since 1915. The company is a leader in the industry and has completed projects on Central Ohio landmarks and family oriented institutions like Nationwide Children's Hospital, the Columbus Zoo, COSI and the Columbus Convention Center.

Feasel's Garden Center and Gift Shoppe (Findlay, Ohio) is a family owned and operated full-service garden center and gift shoppe that also specializes in landscaping and grounds maintenance. As a family owned business, they are dedicated to giving back to the community by hosting free family activities each season such as Christmas train rides, visits with Santa and live reindeer and children's crafts.

The Homeless Families Foundation (Columbus, Ohio) provided community support to 254 families and children facing homelessness last year. The foundation educates children through after-school and summer programming while also empowering families to achieve stable housing and self-sufficiency.

Newlon Tire, Inc. (New Lexington, Ohio) has served Southeastern Ohio in the automotive and farm service industry since 1979. The Newlon family has worked in the automotive industry together since 1914 and takes pride in doing business with multiple generations of families in their community, giving back to veterans and sponsoring local family events.

PatchWorks House (Tiffin, Ohio) connects families in conflict or crisis situations with services to create and encourage safe and cooperative parenting and family interactions. The staff at PatchWorks House understands that family life can be challenging, their parenting coordination, mediation and education services seek to strengthen families experiencing difficulties.

In fall 2015, Secretary Husted announced two new initiatives to propel small business growth in Ohio including the reduction of costs associated with filing a new business in the state. Secretary Husted is also now a Google "Let's Put Our Cities on the Map" partner, giving new and existing Ohio businesses easy access to free tools through the web giant such as free web hosting and placement on Google's map and search tools. Ohio is now the least costly state in the region to start and maintain a new business. Learn more by reading Secretary Husted's guest column in the Cincinnati Enquirer here.

Launched in June 2011, Ohio Business Profile has helped raise awareness about companies registered and doing business in Ohio that are creating interesting products, offering outstanding service, contributing to their local communities and employing Ohioans in the process. Each month, a handful of diverse businesses linked together by a common theme are featured on the Secretary of State's website, where Ohioans are encouraged to submit companies they feel are deserving of recognition in future months.

The Secretary of State's office also releases a monthly report of new business filings in Ohio and recent data shows Ohio is on track for another record year for the number of newly-registered businesses. One reason for the growth has been the launch of online services. In October 2013, Secretary Husted launched Ohio Business Central allowing businesses to file some of the most commonly used forms online and services continue to be expanded. Since January 2011, more than 397,000 filings have been submitted and half of all new companies are now started online in Ohio.



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