



### Past, Present and Future... welcoming 2019

By Sally Lane

Whew! The holidays are officially over! Santa has sent his red suit to the cleaners, we have packed away our "ugly" sweater for another year, and traffic to the mall takes less time. Every year between

Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, time seems to become suspended as our routine takes a break. Now, the house seems so silent as grandchildren wave goodbye, the kids go back to school, or our young adults head back to college.

We needed the holidays to shake up the daily grind. But now it's time to put away the party clothes, take down the decorations and start eating sensibly. Oh, yes, there will be exciting times in 2019, but the month of December usually is over the top in comparison. We have 11 months to prepare!

This issue of the Cortland News, since it is the first one of 2019, will highlight some of the local activities over the holiday season, as well as bring you notices of what is happening in our community now.

November and December were busy months in Cortland. The annual Madrigal Feast led the school season holiday activities, followed by holiday school band and choir concerts. The Cortland Community Band and LOAF Choir presented a concert Dec. 17 and

donated the proceeds to the Lakeview band to boost their funds for replacing their 21-year-old uniforms.

Area residents were generous in supporting Toys for Tots, the Salvation Army with donations and an "Angel Tree," as well as Trumbull Strong "Blessing Bags." The Cortland Rotary sponsored a visit from Santa for children at the Opera House. Churches had cookie sales and gave countless hours to help those in need.

The town held a light decorating contest. Spectacular displays made a drive through our neighborhoods absolutely magical. Tony Caruso, on Corriedale Drive, a perennial favorite decorator year after year even without contests, won the contest.

Now, on to 2019. While January is a time of reflection on the year that just ended, the future rolls just ahead of our present time with every step we take. Everyone has their own personal view of last year. You can dwell on the frustrations, get caught up in political conversations, but the new year, the

future, offers hope and possible solutions. We just need to work in the present to seek solutions.

Some people (me included), make resolutions that are meant to improve our situations. We become frustrated when we fail or it takes longer to see results. Personally, I always found it better to start on my resolutions about a week after New Year's Day. That gives me time to clean out goodies from the refrigerator, settle down after the Rose Bowl and seriously think about what I need to do in the new year.

My favorite inspiration over the years comes from Spencer Johnson, author of "The Present." He says "Be in the Present. Focus on what is right now. Learn from the Past. Do things differently in the Present. Plan for the Future. Put your plan into action in the Present."

May each of you have a blessed, happy, wonderful 2019.

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**Cortland City**

www.cityofcortland.org

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Clerk of Council	330-638-0142	Police - Business	330-638-1000
Service Director	330-637-4637	Fire - Business	330-637-2891

**Meetings**

**City Council** - first and third Monday of each month  
 Tuesday, Jan. 22, 7 p.m.  
 Monday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m.

**Cortland City Council meeting minutes**  
 Read the minutes from Cortland City Council meetings at <http://www.cityofcortland.org/> under City Council Minutes.

**Parks and Recreation** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Jan. 14, 5 p.m.

**Planning & Zoning** - second Monday of each month  
 Monday, Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

Meetings and agenda of Council and Planning meetings area available at [www.cityofcortland.org](http://www.cityofcortland.org)

All meetings are held at City Hall and are open to the public

**Cortland City Council Meetings are now on TV**

Cortland City Council Meetings are now posted on YouTube. The videos are usually posted no later than the next day after the meeting and can be accessed via a link on the city website or by visiting [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and searching "City of Cortland, Ohio"

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www.bazettatwp.org

Admin Building	330-637-8816	<b>Fire - Police - Rescue</b>	911
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Police Department	330-638-5503		

**Bazetta Township Trustees Regular Meetings**

Regular meetings the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 3 p.m. - A 60 minute caucus with department heads preceding.

Meetings are held at the Township Administration Building unless noted

**Lakeview Board of Education Meetings**

Regular meetings the second Monday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Lakeview High School Media Center, unless otherwise noted.

Monday, Jan. 14, 5:45 p.m. - Lakeview High School Media Center

**Area Service Clubs**

<b>Cortland-Bazetta Historical Society and Museum</b> Sally Lane 330-638-2330	<b>Bazetta-Cortland Optimist Club</b> Charlie Harper 330-847-0114
<b>The Opera House</b> Kathy Fleischer 330-219-4884	<b>Cortland Rotary Club</b> Donna Zuga
<b>Cortland Beautification Association</b> Mary Kachurik 330-637-3098	<b>Four Seasons Garden Club</b> Becky Bucco 330-637-9115
<b>Cortland Lions Club</b> Mike Hummell 330-372-7951	<b>Friends of the Cortland Library</b> Di Matijevic 330-637-2717
<b>Moose Lodge #1012</b> 330-637-9957	<b>League of Women Voters of Trumbull County</b> Terri Crabbs 330-637-3845
<b>Warren-Trumbull Branch of AAUW</b> Jennifer Soloman 330-637-3483	<b>SCOPE</b> Darlene Fry / Diane Jordan 330-637-3010
<b>Cortland Masonic Lodge #529</b> Chuck Chagnot 330-307-3405	<b>Cortland Opal Chapter #181, O.E.S.</b> Carla Kahler 330-856-2356
<b>Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF)</b> 330-720-9136	

Please contact the Cortland News if you would like your organization listed here.

**Our Next Issue...Feb. 1, 2019**

Our theme will be Valentine's Day

Article Deadline by Jan. 17 • Display Advertising Deadline is Jan. 22

Email articles to [editor@cortlandnews.net](mailto:editor@cortlandnews.net)

The mission of the Cortland News is to focus on the positive aspects and events of our community. Our goal is to inspire pride and bring the residents of our community closer to one another by providing accurate, timely and useful information. We hold ourselves to high standards of journalism and strive to be a source of trust for our readers.

Based on the policy of the Cortland News to print positive news about our community, we reserve the right to reject contributed material considered inappropriate. We reserve the right to edit information accepted for publication for accuracy, style, length, spelling, grammar, and clarity.

The Cortland News wishes to present a fair and accurate news report. If you have a concern about anything published, please call our office at 330-565-2637 and leave a message for our Manager or Editor.

Death notices and obituaries will be printed in the Cortland News at the request of the family. Arrangement should be made to have information for death notices and obituaries sent directly to the Cortland News from the funeral home. Space restraints may require some editing. Publication dates for the Cortland News may prohibit an obituary from appearing prior to a funeral or memorial service.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newspaper, the Cortland News cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions

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www.cortlandnews.net

We do not keep regular office hours but if you leave us a message, we will return your call as soon as possible.

The Cortland News will no longer be accepting any facsimile "fax" documents. Please direct all communications to the following email addresses.

Article submissions to:  
[editor@cortlandnews.net](mailto:editor@cortlandnews.net)

Display and classified advertising and photographs to:  
[sales@cortlandnews.net](mailto:sales@cortlandnews.net)

The Cortland News is published every three weeks free of charge and mailed via USPS to over 5000 area residents and businesses in Cortland and parts of Bazetta Township.

SCAN TO VISIT CORTLAND NEWS



# Community Events

## Event Calendar January 12-February 2

- Cortland City/Bazetta Township and Lakeview School Board meetings and schedules.** See pg. 2 and 8
- Lakeview Local School activities and sports schedules** visit [www.lakeviewlocal.org](http://www.lakeviewlocal.org).
- American Red Cross blood donations**, various dates. [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or 1-800-733-2767.
- Cortland Branch Library events.** See pg. 14
- "Corvettes of the Valley,"** National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren, through April 14.
- 19th Vintage Motorcycle Exhibit**, National Packard Museum, 1899 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren, through May 18.
- Johnston Senior Center offers hot meals** Monday through Friday at noon.
- Youngstown Nighthawks Soccer League, Cortland League** schedule, visit [www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks](http://www.facebook.com/ytownnighthawks)

### JANUARY

- 12 Western Reserve Masonic Lodge spaghetti and meatball dinner**, 4-6 p.m., Lodge, 216 East Main St./state Route 88, West Farmington. See pg. 16
- 17 Cortland Christian Church Soup and Sandwich Lunch**, Fellowship Hall, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. See pg. 17
- 19 13th Annual Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge**, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Benefits Special Olympics of Ohio. See pg. 16
- 21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- 21 Cortland administrative offices closed.**
- 21 All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations closed.**
- 21 Bristol Public Library closed.**
- 25 St. John Orthodox Church fish dinner**, 4-7 p.m., 2220 Reeves Road NE, Warren. See pg. 18
- 25 7th Annual "Evening of Wine & Chocolate,"** benefiting the Animal Welfare League, Leo's Ristorante, 7042 E. Market St., Howland, 6-9 p.m., [www.awlrescueme.com](http://www.awlrescueme.com), 330-539-5300.

## 5 tips for staying on track in the new year

(Family Features) While many people often wish maintaining good health was as easy as following an equation, health doesn't have a start or end date. Once the allure of the new year wears off, it can be easy to let those resolutions go by the wayside.

When you focus on making small, positive changes, you can move your health goals forward throughout the year, no matter where you are on your health journey. To help stay on track, consider these easy-to-implement ideas from registered dietitian Annessa Chumbley:

**Write it down.** Using a nutrition journal and keeping a record of everything you eat and drink can help track progress and reveal small changes that need to be made. Alternatively, downloading a fitness tracking app can help keep you accountable digitally. With a variety of options available for most operating systems, there is almost certain to be one to meet your needs, whether you're looking for a companion app to track progress or something more in-depth to help guide you through workouts and meal planning.

**Start your day with protein.** A high-quality protein source can set the stage for sustained energy levels throughout the day. Having an on-the-go source of protein on-hand, such as Premier Protein's ready-to-drink chocolate and vanilla shakes featuring 30 grams of protein and 160 calories and 1 gram of sugar, can help ensure you're starting the day with a proper foundation for success.

**Hydrate all day.** Hydration is a foundation of good health. Before bed each night, put a 16-ounce bottle of water in the bathroom then drink it first thing in the

morning for a daily energy boost. For an easy and healthy way to add flavor to your water during the day, consider putting an herbal tea bag of your choice in it. For example, Chumbley recommends ginger as a digestion-helper, mint as a caffeine-free way to awaken and chamomile to calm.

**Make healthy swaps.** Looking for alternatives is an easy way to eat healthy. Consider swapping out heavier carbs for vegetables such as grilled Portobello mushrooms as pizza crust or zucchini noodles instead of pasta. Swap mayo for avocado when eating egg, chicken or tuna salad. You can also use the sweetness of ripe bananas to decrease the need for added sugar in recipes like cookies, muffins and pancakes. For an additional nutrition boost, consider adding a scoop of gluten-free protein powder like Premier Protein's line of 100% Whey Powders, which are available in chocolate or vanilla milkshake flavors and feature 30 grams of protein and 3-4 grams of sugar per scoop, plus no artificial flavors, colors or sweeteners.

**Get moving.** Commit to stepping outside and taking a daily walk. Whether it's 1 mile or a walk around the block, you can burn calories and receive the added benefits of mental clarity, increased energy and improved digestion.

"Use these tips as one small thing that can make a powerful positive impact on your day," Chumbley said. "Choose one of these and do it every day. Keep the strategy simple so you'll be more likely to stick with it. When implementing these health tips, think 'progress' not 'perfection.' If you are progressing, you are successful."

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## Cortland Mower helps feed the needy

Cortland Mower Sales partnered with The Warren Family Mission this Christmas to help feed the needy. They donated a ham for every Lawn & Garden or snow blower purchased for the three weeks before Christmas. A total of 25 hams were donated to help make those families' Christmas a little bit brighter. Pictured is Sam Boyd and Heidi Keller of Cortland Mower.



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## Business News and Notes

By Thom Foley

You can watch all the playoff games, NCAA basketball and much more at the 29 Big Screen TVs **Beef 'O' Brady's** has! Be sure to ask for the game day specials.

**Auntie V's Pizzeria** is taking a well-deserved vacation and will be closed from Jan. 14 through Jan. 29. But they will open back up in time for the Super Bowl. Be sure to check out the great offers they have planned for the big game!

If you need honest insurance advice check out **Mayflower-Wollam Insurance** on Main Street. They have been serving our community for over 95 years.

Did you see all the great bargains at **Centerra's** close out and clearance sale? WOW! If you are looking for a fun night that won't break your budget check out **COSMIC BOWLING** at **Cortland Lanes** every Friday and Saturday night.

**Chrissy's Lake Tavern** has a whole new menu coming out along with some great surprises and changes.

**Furniture Décor and More** is now accepting spring and summer consignments. COME ON SPRING!!!

**Jody Sovo** tells us this is a great time for the real estate market for both buyers and sellers. CALL JODY!

Are you looking for great deal on a new or used vehicle? **Mark Thomas Ford** has been serving our area for decades. Local people taking care of their friends and neighbors.

**Totally Dog** has a new dog grooming service. Kym Stover has 32 year's experience and you can get all your dog's needs along with dog training and sitting in one location!

Are you banged up from the holidays? See **Action Physical Therapy** to get back to feeling great again.

**Atty. Robert Platt** has returned to the full time practice of law after retiring from the bench as judge of the Eastern District County Court. He handles the general practice of law, trusts, estates OVI.

**Campbell Carpet** has a new website. Check it out at [www.campbellcarpet.com](http://www.campbellcarpet.com). **Cortland Mower Sales** is offering FREE pick up and delivery if you schedule before Feb. 28. This is for any riding or walk behind mower.

Did you know we had the wettest December ever? And that means more water to do damage to your home. Check out **Greenwood Insurance's** ad to see all the great tips they have to protect your home from water damage.

I hope you don't get into a fender bender this winter. But if you do **Daffron's Auto Body** is the best "fender UNbender" around.



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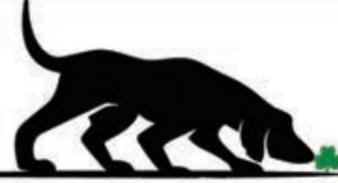
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## Have news you would like to share?

The Cortland News is always looking for news about happenings in our area. Whether it's about an event, a budding college student, club news or business news, we want to hear from you. Simply send it to us at [editor@cortlandnews.com](mailto:editor@cortlandnews.com) and we'll take it from there. The Cortland News... "The Good News Newspaper."



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## Judge Robert Platt retires from the bench

By Thom Foley



Pictured are Central Court Judge Thomas Campbell, retiring Judge Robert Platt and incoming Judge Martin Nosich.

Leaving a job you enjoyed nearly always brings out some mixed feelings. For the last six years Robert Platt, a well-respected Cortland attorney, has served as judge in the Trumbull County Eastern District Court. State mandated laws require retirement from the bench at age 70, so Judge Platt retired at the end of December 2018.

His loyal staff was sad to see him go, and turned his last day as judge into a bright day of thanking him for a job well done and wishing him well.

Over 25 attorneys, judges and other dignitaries attended the event. There were police officers, Trumbull County Prosecutor Dennis Watkins, incoming Eastern District Judge Martin Nosich, Probate Judge James Fredericka, government and other court officials as well as family in attendance. Even Santa Claus came back from the North Pole for the event. His staff (via Santa) gave him a "super-sized" gavel as a thank you for a job well done.

Judge Thomas Campbell of the Central District Court presented Judge Platt with a special plaque honoring his time on the bench. "In my nearly 30 years of legal practice, I have known and worked with hundreds of judges. I can honestly say that Judge Platt is among the most honest, effective and most

honorable judges I have ever worked with or known."

Sometimes the best way to get the feel for an event is to let those in attendance describe it. So I asked some of them to comment on Judge Platt. They were all moved by the occasion and said the following:

"These will be big shoes to fill. I will do my best to live up to the standards he has set," said incoming Judge Martin Nosich.

Bailiff John Bizub said "He is a wonderful boss, very fair. He will be missed," while Bailiff Nick Veri commented "Judge Platt is a gentleman who is humble, charismatic and has empathy for all. He helped change some lives for the better."

The judge's grandchildren, Andrew, Alayna and Carly Orsine were among family members at the party. "We couldn't have asked for a better grandpa. He will always put a smile on your face or have you laughing no matter what kind of day you are having."

His Chief Clerk, Jean McBride, speaking on behalf of all the court employees commented "We couldn't have asked for a better friend and a great boss."

Judge Platt will return to the full-time practice of law at his offices on Main Street in Cortland.

## League of Women Voters of Trumbull County holds brunch

Members of the League of Women Voters of Trumbull County celebrated the Christmas season together with a brunch at the historic Warren Women's Club. The Christmas party replaced the board meeting and the general members meeting combining both to a gathering for all. The brunch was provided by the board.

The League collected breakfast items and food along with canned goods for military families and veterans. All donations were transferred and given to Becky Andres who is head of the USO Distribution Center located in Howland. Plans were also finalized for the League of Women Voters annual "Public Officials" luncheon to be held on Saturday, Jan. 19 at Cafe' 422. Members were asked to donate baskets for this event.

Regular meetings will resume in February. Meetings will be on the fourth Monday of the month at various locations throughout the county. The League of Women Voters of Trumbull County is a nonpartisan organization. A membership drive is now underway. For information on membership contact Kirsten Burkey

at 330-638-7536. The League has a website at [www.orgsites.com/oh/lwvtc](http://www.orgsites.com/oh/lwvtc). The League can be found on Facebook and Twitter at LWV of Trumbull County or call the League at 330-367-4886 for information about the League.

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## A Christmas gem

By Carole Wiley



"Christmas in Cortland" is always a special event in the Cortland area. But this year the concert was perfect in every way from beginning to end!

The performance of the Cortland Community Band, led by Craig Wienczek, was dazzling. Each musical offering was captivating, upbeat and joyous! The high point of the show was a selection of songs from Mannheim Steamroller's album, "A Fresh Aire Christmas." And "A Showstoppin' Christmas" was, well, another showstopper!

As the Community Choir took the stage, the audience was not aware of what was to come. After "Dream A Dream" came "Gaudete!" "Gaudete" is the Latin word for "Rejoice!" The audience truly rejoiced as the choir's beautiful singing grew louder and louder as a breathtaking crescendo was reached. Unforgettable! Michelle Robbins

Jones really took the singers to new heights! The concert ended with the audience, band, and choir joining together to sing carols of the season. The audience of more than 300 then honored the performers with a standing ovation.

A review of the concert would be unfinished without a statement about the generosity of our community. Lakeview Outreach and Fellowship (LOAF) had decided that donations collected at the concert this year would go to the Lakeview High School Marching Band to assist in their quest to buy new uniforms. Three band members were present, two dressed in the old uniforms and one in the new uniform. They happily and graciously accepted donations. As the patrons entered the school, many could be seen with \$20 bills (and one \$50 bill) in their hands, ready to give to the cause. The generosity was astounding! The final amount will soon be reported and sent to the high school. The LHS Band and LOAF say "thank you" to all who gave!

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## Tips to beat seasonal blues

(SPM Wire) It's easy to feel blue when daylight hours are limited and the weather is chilly. Here are a few ways to stay positive in winter:

### Physical Activity

Exercise is not only great for the body, it's great for the soul, boosting your confidence and offering you a sense of achievement. Plus, when you exercise, your brain releases such feel-good chemicals as endorphins, serotonin, adrenaline and dopamine, making it a totally natural mood booster.

### Socializing

Getting motivated to leave the house and socialize can seem more challenging when you have to bundle up first, but it's especially important to spend time with friends and family during a time of year when you are apt to feel blue.

### Sunshine

Sunlight may be scarce in winter, but it isn't non-existent. Schedule a walk at lunch time; position yourself by a window when you curl up with a book; play outside with the kids --take advantage sunlight whenever you can. Just be sure to dress warmly for the weather, and wear sunscreen on exposed skin.

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Steve Burbach

## Holiday decorating winners



"Cortland Christmas in Lights," holiday decorating contest winners were announced on Dec. 20. Grand prize winner was the Caruso family for their home on Corriedale Drive. Also making the top three were the Haake family on Emerson Circle and the Schwartz family on Cedar Drive.

## Strimbu Memorial Fund distributes over \$148,000 in grants

At its recent 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Gift Giving meeting the Strimbu Memorial Fund Board of Directors voted to disperse grant allocations to local economic development and charitable organizations totaling \$148,087.

On Dec. 20, individuals representing these non-profits, charitable groups and those organizations involved in economic advancement, gathered at Penn-Northwest Development Corp. in Sharon, Pa., to receive their grants distributed by the Strimbu Memorial Fund Board of Directors.

Grants were awarded to the following organizations:

- Brookfield Local Schools (STEAM)
- Brookfield Township
- Community Library of the Shenango Valley (STEAM)
- E-Academy at Linden Pointe
- Guardian Nest
- Homes for Kids
- Inspiring Minds
- Joshua's Haven
- Meals on Wheels Shenango Valley
- Meals on Wheels Trumbull County
- Mercer County Coalition for Drug Awareness
- Mercer County Mentoring
- New Life Baptist Church
- Operation Lighthouse
- Penn-Northwest Development Corp.
- Prince of Peace AWESOME Program
- Shop with a Cop Program—Farrell
- The American Red Cross, Lake to River Chapter
- The Hope Center for Arts & Technology
- The Salvation Army—Sharon
- United Way of Mercer County
- Waterfire Sharon
- West Hill Ministries

"The Strimbu Memorial Fund awarded these grants to assist in these organization's development efforts and provide assistance and programs to those in need," said Bill Strimbu. "Their work is extremely important and beneficial to our surrounding communities."

Also at its Annual Gift Giving meeting, Jim Grasso, president; Gary Hoff, vice president; Frank Krieder, treasurer; and John Matune, secretary; were re-elected to terms ending in 2021. Strimbu Memorial Fund board members Paul O'Brien, Charles Carrier, Bill Strimbu II, John Matune and Steve O'Brien were re-elected for three year terms ending in 2021.

Since its creation in 1990, the Strimbu Memorial Fund has provided over \$3.4 million in donations to local economic development, individuals, scholarships and charitable organizations. Just this past year, the fund awarded more than \$157,000 in such grants and scholarships to local students.

"This 30 year tradition of giving was started by the example set by Nick Strimbu Jr. during his lifetime. We continue to perpetuate his legacy of philanthropic giving to assist with the needs of our community," said President of the Board Jim Grasso.

The 22<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Game Dinner is being planned for Feb. 17, 2019, along with the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Strimbu Memorial BBQ set for May 1, 2019. Funds raised by the two events will enable the SMF to continue its philanthropic support of area charitable initiatives.

More information about the Strimbu Memorial Fund is available at the Memorial Fund's website, [strimbumemorialfund.com](http://strimbumemorialfund.com).

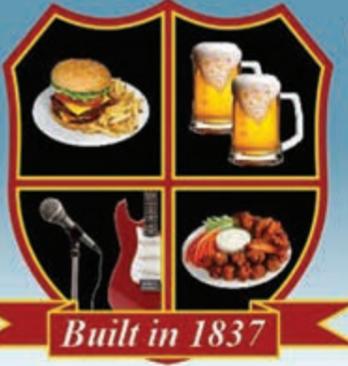
## JDC Dance Company performs with Packard Band

On Dec. 2 the JDC Dance Company, Cortland, had the distinction of being selected to perform at the Packard Band Christmas concert. "It is a privilege to dance to live music," said Jeannette Callahan, owner/artistic director. "It is a great way for JDC to kick off its new dance season, and a

delight to perform for students from the Trumbull/Mahoning county areas. The third concert is a Sunday matinee that is free each year and open to the public." The students love the great response from the audience, and this year, students were singing along to Jingle Bells as the dancers performed.

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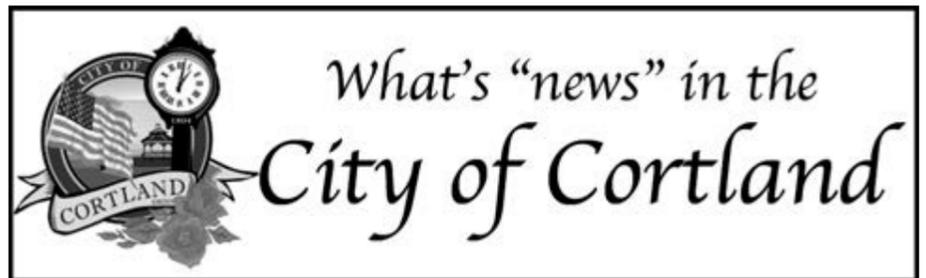
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**GREAT PROCEDES**



Dear Cortland Residents and Businesses,

It has been a very busy 2018 for the city. Many accomplishments have been made such as road resurfacing, new water line upgrades, pickle ball court refurbishing and new playground equipment at Pearl Park. A new ambulance was purchased as well as other fire, police and service vehicle upgrades were made. An approximate total of \$200,000 in grant monies was obtained to help fund all of these projects.

On the administrative side, the city has gone to an open checkbook for transparency that anyone can access by going to [www.OpenCheckbook.com](http://www.OpenCheckbook.com) hosted by the Ohio State Treasurer's office. New city accounting software and utility software has finally been installed replacing a very old outdated system. The new utility billing system enables residents to see their current water/sewer usage and even compare the previous 10 years right from home on their own computers. Residents can now pay their bills online from this website ([www.cortlandoh.authoritypay.com](http://www.cortlandoh.authoritypay.com)).

Two new completed projects located in the city are the Lakeview Schools K-8 building and the Veterans Memorial at Point Park. The memorial project was solely spearheaded by a very dedicated group of hard working citizens. Not only were they in charge of the design, but also raised the entire amount of construction money through state, corporate and private money. The beautiful new state-of-the-art school building was funded through state grant and levy monies. Our police department is now providing two resource officers of which the school provides \$71,000 as a reimbursement for wage expenses.

Some of the major projects for 2019 will include the annual roads resurfacing, Main Street resurfacing, Cedar Drive (phase 2) water line replacement and North Mecca Street waterline replacement. Willow Park tennis courts will be completely refurbished to also include new fencing. The police department will be accepting delivery of new police vehicles and new state-of-the-art communication equipment. The fire department will be taking delivery of another new ambulance, a power lift cot for the ambulance, new state-of-the-art communication equipment and 18 new Scott air packs (SBAs). The finance department will be setting up the ability for the city to accept credit card payments for utility billing as well as other fees the city collects. Most of these projects are being partially funded through outside donations (tennis court project) and grant money.

I'd like to take this time to wish all a very Happy New Year!

Best regards,  
Mayor Jim Woofter

#### Eastlake Park

Once the snow arrives, the sled hill at 422 N. Mecca St. will be ready to be used by all!

#### Snow Removal Reminders

It is the property owner's responsibility to keep sidewalks clear of snow and ice for pedestrians. Please refrain from shoveling snow from driveways into the roadways.

#### HAVE A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

#### Dates to Remember

- Jan. 14 - Parks Board - 5 p.m.
- Jan. 14 - Planning & Zoning Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Jan. 21 - City Administration Offices will be closed.
- Jan. 22 - City Council Meeting - 7 p.m.
- Feb. 4 - City Council Meeting - 7 p.m.

## TCAP Winter Crisis Program accepting applications

The Trumbull Community Action Program, 1230 Palmyra Road SW, will be operating the Winter Crisis Program now through March 31, 2019.

Eligible applicants/households may qualify for WCP:

- If the bulk fuel customer has 25% or less of the tank's fuel capacity on hand, assistance amount up to \$750;
- If the household meets income requirements;
- If either the main heating source and/or secondary heating source is in disconnect status or has been terminated.

(Eligible households with both regulated utility companies are eligible for up to \$175 assistance, and customers with one or both unregulated utility companies are eligible for up to \$550 of assistance.)

For an appointment call 1-866-747-1041. Please wait for confirmation number to secure an appointment.

For anyone who cannot apply at TCAP in Warren, there are satellite sites to make application by appointment only.

- Tuesday - Niles Community Services, 401 Vienna Ave Suite 2 (Tiffany Square), Niles, Ohio 44446, 330-393-2507 ext. 227;
- Wednesday - Newton Falls United Methodist Church, 334 Ridge Road, Newton Falls, Ohio 44444, 330-393-2507 ext. 232;
- Thursday - City of Hubbard Municipal Building, 220 West Liberty St., Hubbard, Ohio 44425, 330-393-2507 ext. 229.

To apply provide:

- Photo ID of applicant
- Proof of U.S. citizenship for everyone in the home (Social Security cards, birth certificates, U.S. passport, voter registration card)
- Fuel oil receipt, electric bill and/or current gas bill, if applicable
- Total household income for the past 30 days (gross earnings)
- Self-employment and odd jobs require 12 month income and IRS tax return or IRS tax transcript for previous year.



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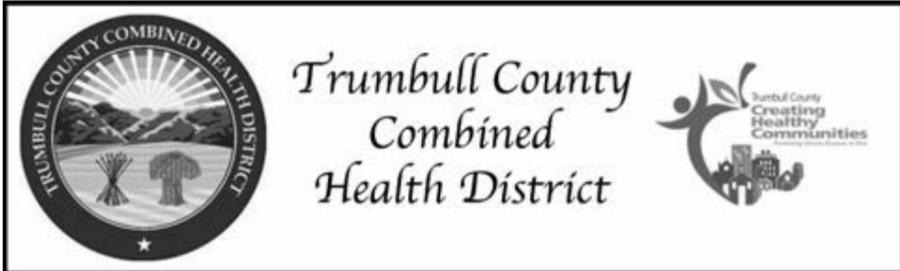
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**Second and third hand smoke in apartments and condos**

**Protecting your identity in 2019**

If you're a property owner or manager, you may have had tenants report that second hand and third hand smoke is drifting into their unit from neighbors who smoke. This is a serious issue to those who have a confirmed health issue with no safe level of exposure. Everyone should have the right to a healthy, safe unit that's free from toxic air.

Exposure to third hand smoke poses health problems, including increasing the risk of respiratory illnesses.

If smoking is allowed in your buildings, you're probably familiar with the stale odor of tobacco smoke that lingers in and around the units of people who smoke indoors, even after they have moved out. The carpets and drapes still smell like smoke, and walls and ceilings may have a yellowish stain from nicotine and tar. The smoke odor may also increase when heaters or air conditioning is turned on. Third hand smoke may seem like only an offensive, stale smell, but it also indicates the presence of tobacco toxins that harms the health of residents.

Tobacco residue also results in costly property damage. Because of third hand smoke contamination, apartment units and condominiums where smoking has taken place require extensive turnover work and repairs at significant cost for you. In addition to being toxic, even someone who smokes probably does not want to move into a unit that smells like stale smoke.

Tobacco smoke is made up of gases and particulates, including carcinogens (cancer causing substances) and heavy metals, like arsenic, lead and cyanide. Sticky, toxic substances, like nicotine and tar, cling to walls and ceilings. Gases are absorbed into carpets, draperies, and other surfaces.

Property owners and managers can and should consider adopting a smoke-free policy for your buildings. A smoke-free policy is legal and easy to implement, reduces tenant complaints, saves you money, reduces fire risk, and is an amenity people are looking for in housing. Renovating and repairing a unit when a smoking tenant moves out can be expensive and time consuming.

Nicotine in third hand smoke forms carcinogens which are then inhaled, absorbed or ingested by tenants.

Several short form policies are available at the Trumbull County Combined Health District for your convenience. Contact us at 330-675-2489 for more information.

You may also contact the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation at no-smoke.org and e-mail your request to them.

++This article was provided by the American Nonsmoker's Rights Foundation. All rights reserved.

By Detective John P. Weston  
Cortland Police Department

As we head into 2019, you or probably someone you know has been a victim of identity fraud. There are many ways to be victimized through identity fraud. A 2015 report from the Bureau of Justice Statistics revealed that 17.6 million residents aged 16 and over experienced identity theft in 2014.

worrying about hidden cost or sites designed to trick you into giving vital information about your identity. Once you obtain your credit report, resist the urge to look at all three credit bureaus at once. Instead space them out every three or four months so that you can monitor your credit for a full year before getting your next free report. You can always purchase your credit reports from one of the three credit reporting bureaus.

The Federal Trade Commission has a section on its website that labels or refers to over 432 different types of scams to steal your identity and money. Protection of your personal information is extremely important in this day and age. It is a good idea not to carry your social security card in your purse or wallet in case they are stolen or misplaced. Your social security number is one of the main forms of identification that is key to stealing your identity for fraudulent and criminal purposes.

If you have been recently affected by identity theft, you can go to [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov) and learn about recovery plans and follow checklists pertaining to your type of identity theft.

The Federal Trade Commission website is [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) and contains a wealth of information on scams along with other pertinent information on identity theft. Contained on the FTC website is a link at the bottom of the first page to obtain a free credit report. This link to [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com) is the only truly free report that you can obtain without

If you need assistance with identity theft, contact your local police to see what assistance they can provide on a case by case basis.

The best advice that we can provide is that if you do not personally know a person or you did not specifically call someone for services, DO NOT give them personal information. And finally, please help older family and friends understand how to protect themselves as they are some of the most targeted among us.

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# AWL Adopt A Pet

ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE



Who doesn't love Waffles? Waffles is a sweet and shy older gal that is looking for her forever family. This is Waffles second time at Animal Welfare League. She was first adopted as a puppy, but recently had to be returned to Animal Welfare League after her owner could no longer care for her. Waffles is a laid-back 7-year old hound mix that would make a great addition to a loving family. Waffles can be a little shy of strangers, but becomes a big love bug once she gets to know you. A portion of her adoption fee is generously sponsored by the Logan Fund. Her adoption fee is now \$75 and includes her spay, vaccinations, heartworm test, microchip with registration, and more. Come visit Waffles at the Animal Welfare League.

Claudette's resolution for New Year's is to find a loving home to call her own. She became a shelter resident in October after she was brought in because her owner could no longer care for her. Claudette is a precious 5-year old Domestic Shorthair with gorgeous torbie markings. She loves to play with her toys before snuggling up for an afternoon nap. Claudette was living in a home with multiple cats, so she's experienced in sharing her human's affection. If you think you can help Claudette keep her resolution, come meet her at Animal Welfare League. Her adoption fee is \$35 and includes her spay, vaccinations, FeLV/FIV testing, microchip with registration, and more.



Shelter hours are Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 6 p.m. Adoptions close at 5:30 p.m. The shelter is closed on Sundays and Mondays. AWL shelter is located at 812 Youngstown Kingsville Road SE in Vienna, across the street from Avalon at Squaw Creek. For more information call 330-539-5300 or visit [www.awlrescueme.com](http://www.awlrescueme.com).

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I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. Since 1990, the Perennial Plant Association has chosen a Plant of the Year. This association consists of plant growers, retailers, landscapers, designers, contractors, educators, etc. People professionally involved in the herbaceous perennial industry. How are these plants selected? PPA members vote for the Perennial Plant of the Year each summer. At that time each member can nominate up to two plants for future consideration. The plant of the year committee then reviews the nominations and chooses three or four perennials to be placed on a ballot.

The Perennial Plant of the Year designation is meant to showcase a standout plant suitable for a wide range of growing conditions, low maintenance requirements, and show pest and disease resistance. It should also have multiple seasonal interest in the garden and be readily available to the buying public during the promotional year.

Stachys "Hummelo" is the Perennial Plant of the Year for 2019. A great edging plant, Hummelo's bloom time is July to September. The showy rose-lavender flowers on wiry stems also make for a great cut flower. Also known as betony, Stachys "Hummelo" spreads slowly by creeping rhizomes and may benefit from division every few years. The strong stems and seed heads add winter interest and the plant is considered deer resistant.

Plant this stachys in well-drained soil, in full to partial sun. It is hardy in USDA growing zones 4 to 8 and is 1.5 to 2 foot tall and wide with bright green trouble free foliage, strong flower production and winter hardiness. It will also be readily available at local garden centers, nurseries and in catalogs this year, enjoy.

The International Herb Association's Herb of the Year for 2019 is Anise Hyssop, (Agastache Foeniculum), a bee friendly, easy to grow herb with a light anise flavor for recipes. Their Horticultural Committee evaluates possible choices based on them being outstanding in at least two of the three major categories: medicinal, culinary or decorative. They announced the first Herb of the Year in 1995.

Anise hyssop is a hardy short-lived perennial growing 3 to 5 foot high in USDA hardiness Zone 4 preferring cool summers, full to part sun in moist but not wet soil with 7pH. A great ornamental perennial in the garden, anise hyssop attracts bees and is good for honey production. The leaves and flowers make good additions to potpourri.

Despite its common name, Anise

Hyssop is not closely related to hyssop, a European plant traditionally used as a healing herb, or anise, a completely different plant in the carrot family.

A member of the mint family, anise hyssop has an upright form 2 to 4 feet high and about 1 to 3 feet wide growing from a tap root with spreading rhizomes and remains nice looking throughout the season. The aromatic leaves have a licorice like scent and can be used in herbal teas, jellies or salads.

The Hosta of the Year for 2019 is Lakeside Paisley Print. Since 1996, a Hosta of the Year has been selected by a vote of American Hosta Grower Association members. These special hostas are considered good garden plants for all regions of the country, are available in the marketplace in sufficient quantities and are priced under \$20 in their selection year.

A small hosta cultivar, Lakeside Paisley Print thrives in shade and can compete with tree roots. Growing 10 inches tall and 20 inches wide with cupped and rippled leaves, it is considered slug resistant. The leaves develop distinctive markings that resemble white feathers on the center rib of the wavy edged deep green leaves. Lavender flowers appear in mid-summer.

And for the fun of it, The Culinary Vegetable Institute at the Chef's Garden in Milan, Ohio has named Mixed Carrots as the 2019 Vegetable of the Year. Reasons include the earthy sweet flavor of the carrot, the gorgeous hues and unique shapes.

Even in January, Happy Gardening!

*Kathleen Ferris is a Trumbull County Ohio State Extension Master Gardener and a Cortland resident.*

## Santa visits Opera House

By Sally Lane



Thanks to the Cortland Rotary Club and transportation by the city's Fire Department, Santa's arrival at the Opera House was welcomed by an enthusiastic crowd of children and their parents Dec. 17. Rotary members treated the children to crafts, cookies, hot chocolate and coloring books during their visit with the holiday's favorite personality.

Little Gloria Pauley had her very first visit with Santa, and seems to be asking her parents to tell Santa, "I've been good, right?"

Santa's visit to the community sponsored by our Rotary in December has become a favorite tradition over the years.



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## New school pantry helps students and families

*Chevy All Stars & Wollam Chevrolet donate \$10,000*

By Sally Lane

People who work in our schools care about our children. Not only are they concerned about students' educational growth, they are concerned with their physical and mental health. They notice when a child is cold, too warm, hungry, happy or sad. They notice when the child needs socks, boots, mittens or coats. They worry about how much food is in the homes of their free or reduced-price lunch students on the weekends or school breaks.

When the new Pre-K to 8 school opened this fall, there was finally enough space to think about a solution for these needs. As the idea of a pantry grew, teacher-assistant, Mrs. Margie Petrunia, collected the money raised through the sale of pop and water in the teachers' workrooms, and, with teacher Kara Kasula, purchased food to start the pantry. "We sent 10 bags of food home on Oct. 5 to help some of our students get through the weekend," said Mrs. Kasula. "We also sent food home over Thanksgiving break and sent boxes of food home for over Christmas break." Mrs. Petrunia also set up an "Angel Tree" for students needing some help at Christmas. "There were 154 students who received gifts," she said.

It did not take long for the community to get involved in the pantry. Businesses and organizations all over Cortland and Bazetta, as well as many individuals made significant, generous donations to the pantry. The school has also partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank to help stock the pantry. "We brought close to a ton of food back from Second Harvest before Christmas break. Students will also be able to get toiletries at our pantry," said Mrs. Kasula.

The largest donation came in the form of a sponsorship by the Chevy All - Stars and Wollam Chevrolet. Tom Fye from Wollam's, presented a check for \$10,000 to the school. This donation makes it possible to fill two large rooms with food at the new Pre-K to 8 building on Wakefield Drive, plus another room that will contain needed clothing for students. "We were glad to be able to help this project," said Fye. "Nothing is more important than our children." Mrs. Kasula added that any child can visit the pantry with an adult at any time.

Not only has the community rallied behind the creation of this food pantry, but so have the students. The 8<sup>th</sup> grade student council held a bake sale at the middle school dodge ball tournament on Friday, Nov. 16. They raised \$180 and donated it all to the pantry fund. Mr. Scott Chronister's 8<sup>th</sup> grade advisory class created a slideshow presentation and pitched an idea to Middle School Principal Ashley Handrych to sell t-shirts to raise money. That effort raised almost \$300. Middle school students held a food drive, and brought in about 1,300 food items. "Our students are amazing!" added Mrs. Kasula.

Pictured from left: Mrs. Margie Petrunia, Mrs. Kara Kasula, pantry coordinators; Middle School Principal Ashley Handrych; and Cortland Wollam Chevrolet's Tom Fye, who presented a \$10,000 check to the Bulldog Pantry located at the new Pre-K to 8 building on Wakefield Drive.



## Brewer awarded Student of the Month honors for December

Thiel College announces Phillip Brewer '19, of Cortland, has earned Student of the Month honors for December. The Student of the Month is awarded to seniors. It is among the most prestigious student awards at Thiel College, with only about six students each semester earning the honor.

Brewer is earning a dual major in religion and theology/youth ministry with a minor in equine studies. He is a member of the Thiel Tomcats Marching Pride, the equestrian team, David Johnson Memorial Chapel staff, the Thiel Student Support Network, and the Lutheran Student Movement. He is a member of Chi Alpha Epsilon national honor society, Theta Alpha Kappa national religion honor society and Pi Nu Epsilon national music honor society. He has earned Dean's List recognition for six consecutive semesters.

After graduation, Brewer intends to attend graduate school and earn a master's degree in religious studies.



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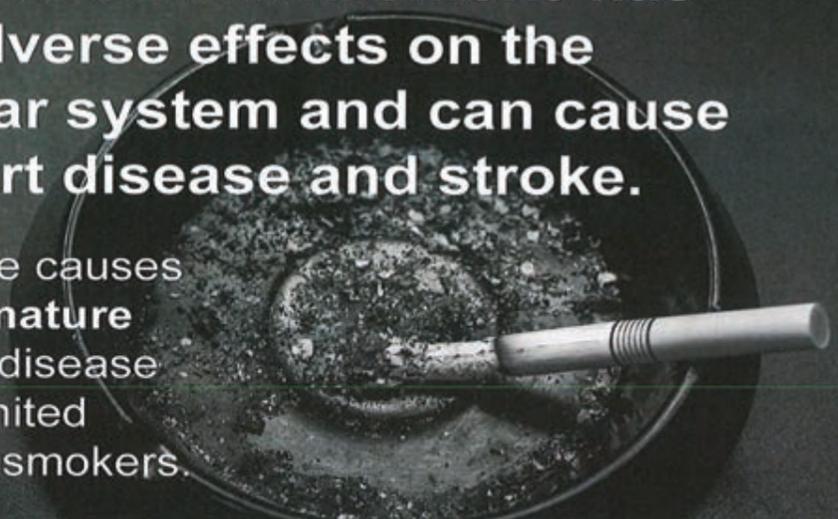
## Cortland Playroom children celebrate new year



The children of The Cortland Playroom got to celebrate New Year with their friends on Dec. 31 with hats, horns and noise makers. A pizza party helped finish out the day! Happy New Year from the children and staff!

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## Lakeview Middle School team wins 'JA Innovation Challenge' with Pizza Joe's

Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley hosted 43 teams of fifth and sixth grade students from Champion, Howland, Lakeview and Niles schools to participate in an entrepreneurship workshop that was held on Dec. 14, 2018 at Kent State University at Trumbull. One hundred fifty-two students learned how to do market research, develop a new product and how to market that product. Volunteer mentors from FactSet Research, Kent State University at Trumbull and other local businesses guided the students through the workshops.

The groups were coached on their pitch by students from YSU's Pi Sigma Epsilon, a professional fraternal organization for sales, marketing and management. After a morning of training, eight teams were chosen as semi-finalists to present before Pizza Joe corporate judges Joe Seminara, president/founder; Katie Seminara-DeToro, CMO; and Tom Colangelo, head of franchise relations and owner of Salem Pizza Joe's. Also on hand from Pizza Joe's corporate was Jessica Seminara-Tomczyk, COO.

The winning team from Lakeview consisted of Ava Bacon, Lucas Easton, Isabella Isenberg and Will Kirila. They sold the panel of judges on "The Italian Philly" pizza, with the tagline, "It's not just made in Philly."

Pizza Joe's was impressed by all the teams. "We were extremely pleased with the attention to detail in the

itches, which made it very difficult for us to select three finalists. We based our final decisions on cohesive presentation, the ability to answer our questions on the fly and, of course, flavor concept," said Katie Seminara-DeToro. "This program was an awesome way for us to mentor young entrepreneurs and all participating schools can be proud of the care and thought their students put into their concepts."

Joe Seminara added, "There's some of you I'd hire tomorrow to go out and sell pizza for me."

The second place concept was "The Sweet Tooth Pizza" by Niles Middle School students Savanna Court, Ryan Lanham, Vincent McCullough and Sammi Wells, and the third place concept was "Breakfast Boss" by Niles Middle School Students Jacob Holloway, Brian Jones, Addison Odille and Elizabeth Rossi.

"The Italian Philly" pizza will be put into a limited time production at Pizza Joe's in Ohio next year. A portion of the proceeds will go to future Junior Achievement programming and innovation challenges.

Junior Achievement entrepreneurship programs are underwritten in part by the Burton D. Morgan Foundation of Northeast Ohio, which champions the entrepreneurial spirit, contributes to a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem and leads in the burgeoning field of entrepreneurship education.



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## A fresh approach to the winter freeze

(Family Features) Winter means snowfall, cold days and time spent near a fireplace seeking warmth and comfort.

While planning for chilly days and frozen nights, it's important to prepare for the seasonal weather so you and your family can stay comfortable and warm.

**Dodge cold drafts.** According to the U.S. Department of Energy, drafts can waste 5-30 percent of energy use in your home. To help avoid energy loss, consider switching out lighter, airier summer curtains for heavier winter drapes. You can also add additional rugs around the house for extra insulation and to help prevent drafts in wood floors.

### Freshen up sweaters and blankets.

Sweaters and blankets are must-haves during the winter season for staying cozy indoors. To help keep them fresh, use a gentle and effective detergent that's easy on skin that can become dry during the winter season. For example, all free clear Odor Relief provides a powerful clean and attacks odors while being gentle for sensitive skin. Its hypoallergenic formula that's 100 percent free of perfumes and dyes keeps sweaters and blankets clean and fresh. For added convenience, try an option like all free clear mighty pacs, which are also gentle on skin, free of irritating residues and can be easily tossed in the washer when you need to do a quick load of laundry before heading out the door into the wintry weather.

**Invest in a humidifier.** Humidifiers can help keep your home warmer in cold winter months and also help eliminate dry indoor air that can irritate your skin. You can also easily move the humidifier around your home so that no matter which room you are in, you can stay comfortable all winter long.

**Layer blankets and covers.** While making beds, it's important to keep the right layering process in mind. Layer the thinnest and densest covers on top of lighter, fluffier blankets, which can help reduce heat that can escape, keeping you and your loved ones warm and snug throughout the winter months. Also be sure to opt for cozy blankets made from materials such as cotton or wool.

For more information on laundry detergent for sensitive winter skin, visit [all-laundry.com](http://all-laundry.com).



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## Four Seasons Garden Club still growing strong

By Debbie Williams

Four Seasons Garden Club celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a multitude of yearlong activities throughout 2018. Several activities were planned that were reminiscent of the early years and brought back fond memories by club members and the community. We resurrected the "Light up the City" event with luminaries last Christmas and created an old fashioned cookbook with a treasure trove of family recipes and gardening tips. Along the way we welcomed new members, started some fresh traditions and continued to grow our knowledge of gardening.



We are fortunate to have one of our founding members, Jan Stocz still actively participating in the club. Mrs. Stocz has held all officer positions several times each over the years. She has witnessed the transformation of the club from the beginning and shared that to stay current and attract new members the club has to grow with the times.

Mrs. Stocz said "The first 20 years or so we would hold gardening and flower shows complete with official judges. It was hard work and it was competitive. Crafting and making arrangements were big in the early 70s so that's what the members focused on. And large arrangements were in so the bigger the better. Over the years the membership has grown so meeting in individual homes is not practical anymore. Meetings start much earlier as many members work and in 1968 few women worked outside the home."

When asked what has kept her involved for 50 years, she said, "All through the years I've learned so much about gardening and have truly enjoyed the friendships I've made. As the club diversifies, I'm still enthusiastic about the activities and enjoy watching the club progress with the times. I look forward to another exciting year."

As January begins our 51<sup>st</sup> year, our creative and talented members look forward to continue to beautify our gardens and enrich our community with programs and activities that will allow us to work together to honor our past and cultivate our future. We are optimistic that the next 50 years will be exceptional also!

Pictured are past presidents front row, from left: Micki Semroc, Kathleen Ferris, Mary Lou Jarrett, Jeanine Brantingham. Back row: Jan Stocz, Louise List, Devery Governor, Jeanne Clements, Becky Bucco. Missing from photo is Debbie Moore.

## Junior Achievement turns 100 in 2019

JA will hold several events as part of centennial celebration

Junior Achievement (JA) will be celebrating its centennial throughout 2019. JA was started in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts by Strathmore Paper Founder Horace Moses, AT&T Chairman Theodore Vail and U.S. Senator from Massachusetts Murray Crane. JA's founding was in response to families moving from farms to the growing industrial cities. The goal was to provide young people with the skills they would need to be successful adults in their new communities.

During the course of the past 100 years, JA has evolved from an organization operating primarily in the Northeastern United States and teaching teens how to start a business into a multinational organization reaching more than 10 million students in 100 countries with programs that promote entrepreneurship, career and work readiness and financial literacy. In the United States, JA reaches nearly 5 million students in grades K-12.

Locally, Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley has been in the community 67 years, since 1952.

"Very few organizations make it to 100 years, much less continue to grow and thrive like Junior Achievement has," said President Michele Merkel. "We are taking this opportunity to celebrate and honor what's come before, but also look toward the future as we work to inspire and prepare our young people to succeed in our ever-changing world."

As part of the JA Centennial Celebration, several events are planned

throughout 2019. On a national level, in January Junior Achievement will kick off its "100 Years.100% Read" awareness campaign, which was developed by ad agency Publicis Hawkeye. In February of 2019, a JA documentary will be available on PBS. In March of 2019, Junior Achievement will be ringing the bell at the New York Stock Exchange. And in September of 2019, there will be a Junior Achievement Day at the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) in Springfield, Massachusetts, where JA was started.

Locally, Junior Achievement of Mahoning Valley received prestigious platinum recognition from GuideStar USA and the 2018 Top-Rated Nonprofit award from Great Nonprofits.

JAMV will have an exhibit at the Tyler History Center to coincide with receiving the JA USA Time Capsule. JA alumni are encouraged to loan or donate historical JA items for both the exhibit and the time capsule. Centennial sponsorships are available.

The JA Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser theme will be "All that Jazz" to commemorate 100 years of both jazz music and JA. Ballet Western Reserve assisted in announcing the theme to the JAMV Board, fresh off their Jazzy Nutcracker performance. Teams are encouraged to dress in jazz era clothing and celebrate the timelessness of both Junior Achievement and jazz. Bowl-A-Thon dates are Feb. 9 at Wedgewood Lanes and May 7 at Camelot Lanes.

To participate in any of the centennial events, contact Kim Urig at the 330-539-5268 or kim.urig@ja.org for additional information.



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<p><b>2015 Ford Escape</b> #A7915</p>  <p><b>BUY FOR \$17,300 OR \$277 /72 MO.</b> @ 5.49% ALL CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED REQUIRED APPROVED CREDIT W/TAX, TITLE AND FEES DUE AT DELIVERY</p>	<p><b>2017 Hyundai Accent</b> #A7930</p>  <p><b>BUY FOR \$13,495 OR \$219 /78 MO.</b> @ 5.24% PLUS TAX W/ TAX, TITLE &amp; FEES DUE @DELIVERY</p>	<p><b>2015 Ford Focus Titanium</b> #8030</p>  <p><b>BUY FOR \$205 /78 MO.</b> @ 5.24% PLUS TAX W/ TAX, TITLE &amp; FEES DUE @DELIVERY</p>

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## Cortland Branch Library events in January

The following programs take place at the Cortland Branch Library, 578 Lakeview Drive, Cortland. For registration call 330-638-6335. All library events are free and open to the public. No reservations are required unless noted.

### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Martin Luther King Jr. Day-All Warren-Trumbull County Public Library locations will be closed Monday, Jan. 21.

### FOR CHILDREN

#### Preschool Storytime

**Mondays at 6 p.m.: Jan. 14, 28**

**Tuesdays at 11 a.m.: every week through Feb. 1**

Preschool Storytime features stories and a craft related to a weekly theme and reinforces the development of early literacy skills. Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write, and mastering these skills now helps children grow up to be good readers! For children ages 3 - 5.

#### Lib-ratory

**Friday, Jan. 25 at 1 p.m.**

NEW! Early afternoon programs created with our homeschool community in mind! Themed activities are designed to promote collaboration, literacy, and critical thinking. For children in grades K - 6. Registration is required.

#### Babytime

**Wednesdays at 10 a.m.: every week through Feb. 6**

Laugh and learn with your baby! For infants 6 - 18 months old with a parent or caregiver. Short stories, fingerplays, and simple songs. Registration is required.

#### Toddler Tales

**Wednesdays at 11 a.m.: every week through Feb. 6**

Storytime for toddlers 19 - 35 months old with a parent or caregiver. Registration is required.

### FOR TEENS

#### #TeenMidweek

**Every Wednesday at 3 p.m.**

Teens in grades 7 - 12 can stop by the library every Wednesday after school for different activities!

#### Teen Advisory Board

**Tuesdays at 3 p.m.: Jan. 15; Feb. 12**

For teens in grades 7 - 12.

#### Tuesday Crafternoons

**Tuesdays at 3 p.m.: Jan. 15; Feb. 12**

Teens in grades 7 - 12 can spend the afternoon snacking and crafting at the library! Registration is required. Free.

### FOR ADULTS

#### Book Discussion

**Thursday, Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m.**

Read "The Snow Child" by Eowyn Ivey and then join in the discussion!

#### Spectacular English Gardens

**Thursday, Jan. 24 at 10 a.m.**

Enjoy a pictorial visit to several spectacular gardens in England. We'll view stunning images of Hampton Court Historical Palace and Gardens, Kew Gardens, Holehird Gardens, Hilltop Gardens (home of Beatrix Potter), and Sizergh Castle. You'll also see scenes from the 2015 Chelsea Flower Show. Presenter Ellen Speicher is a horticulturist who has worked at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Penn., and Fellows Riverside Gardens in Mill Creek MetroParks, Youngstown. Free admission.



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**Choosing a new credit card? Read this first**

A quick glance at television commercials or online pop-up ads shows that reward programs are the name of the game for many credit cards. If you have a high credit score and pay your bills on time and in full, chances are you can benefit from choosing cards with attractive incentives. Are you getting the most bang for your buck when you pull out the plastic? Here are four tips to consider as you look for a more rewarding approach to using credit cards:

**Tip #1 - Review your current cards**

Many investors hold the same cards for years - even decades. While this is often a responsible approach, now may be the time to review the cards you own. Your credit worthiness (as determined by your income, credit history and other factors) can change over time, along with your financial situation. This means the right cards for you today may be different than the ones in your wallet. Opening and closing accounts may negatively impact your credit score, so proceed carefully.

**Tip #2 - Identify cards that offer your best opportunities**

Determine the type of rewards that matter most to you. Are you looking for airline miles, the chance to earn points toward concert tickets, bikes and other items, or would you prefer cash back? Do your favorite retailers offer cards with appealing rewards? Consider your financial goals and how credit card benefits

could help get you closer to achieving them. For example, earning airline miles could reduce the cost of your annual vacation, or extra cash could be invested in your IRA. Be selective and don't fall into the trap of spending money just to earn points.

**Tip #3 - Find common ground**

If you are single, decisions about which credit cards to hold are up to you. But for couples who share financial responsibilities, it's important to align on which cards to apply for and whether to have joint or separate accounts. Lay out your spending strategy, such as determining who will pay the bills each month or a dollar amount that requires a conversation with your spouse before purchase. Align on how to allocate your reward points so you're working toward a common goal.

**Tip #4 - Be stingy about fees**

Many attractive credit cards have no annual fee or waive fees for an introductory period. Check the fine print, particularly if you have plans to travel abroad, as foreign transaction fees may also apply. Minimizing fees can help you maximize the value of your reward points.

Credit cards these days can be rewarding, especially if you use them wisely. Consult with a financial professional if you'd like help reviewing your finances.

*Column provided by Guidelight Financial Group offered through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA & SIPC.*

**Kids learn best when having fun**

(StatePoint) A child's education begins the moment he or she is born. Little ones have a lot to learn, but you can help them to reach all their important milestones by making learning fun.

To encourage and enhance learning for infants, toddlers and preschoolers, consider the following:

**Change Scenes**

A change of scenery can trigger critical thinking skills. So, keep your little ones active, engaged and occupied by taking them places that will inspire curiosity, such as the library, children's museums, musical performances, the park, zoo and more. Take the time to point out letters, shapes, animals and whatever else you see, to help build vocabulary.

**Be Prepared**

Take advantage of downtime when you are moving from place to place. Make sure your car and day bag are packed with fun and educational distractions for kids: crayons, construction paper and books, as well as toys designed specifically for on-the-go learning, such as LeapFrog's Go-with-Me ABC Backpack. Giving kids a fun way to explore letters, spelling, phonics, writing, animals and art skills, it is carried just like a backpack and includes games and music, a drawing board and interactive LCD screen.

**Squeeze in Learning**

Whether it's bath time or dinnertime, there are always opportunities for fun and learning at home. During these daily activities, tell stories and jokes, sing songs and practice counting. Plus, there are plenty of waterproof books and toys that can withstand bathtub and highchair playtime.

**Transition Wisely**

Select versatile learning toys that

will transition as your child learns, grows and reaches milestones. For example, the Safari Learning Station is a fun activity center that transforms from the sitting stage to the crawling stage to standing, allowing children to explore first words, numbers, shapes, colors, animals and music. Likewise, Scout's Get Up & Go Walker transforms from a baby gym to a detachable floor play panel to a walker. With three play modes for listening to music, playing learning games and getting active, it's a great way to introduce colors, shapes, letters and numbers and encourages children to reach out, sit up and stand.

For more early education ideas, visit [leapfrog.com/learningtoys](http://leapfrog.com/learningtoys). There's an entire world kids will want to explore when you make learning fun.

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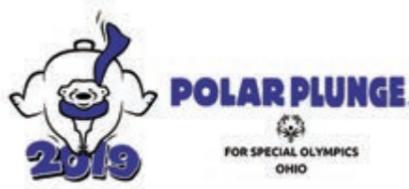
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## Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Ohio Athletes

On Jan. 19, Special Olympics Ohio will encourage the public to do some Freezin' for a Reason at the 13th annual Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge. Warm-hearted participants will take a chilly dip to raise money for Special Olympics Ohio at the first event in Special Olympics Ohio's 2019 Polar Plunge season.



For their Polar Plunge experience, participants raise money to earn the privilege of jumping into the frigid waters of Mosquito Lake. But first Plungers are encouraged to enter the annual Polar Plunge Costume Contest in which prizes are awarded for creativity and overall wackiness.

Anyone afraid to jump into the icy water is invited to register as Too Chicken to Plunge. Chickens are awarded a t-shirt and official permission to not Plunge.

The Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge is a family-friendly event and spectators are welcome to come and witness it all, free of charge. There is more information and participants can register at [MosquitoLakePolarPlunge.org](http://MosquitoLakePolarPlunge.org).

A Post-Plunge Party will be held at the Cortland Moose Family Center and will feature awards for top fundraising teams and individuals as well as food and beverages for all Plunge participants, those Too Chicken to Plunge, and paid guests. Here is the complete schedule for the 2019 Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge:

### Friday, Jan. 18

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.: Early Check-In/Registration at Cortland Moose Family Center 1012 (6400 SR 46, Cortland, OH 44410)

### Saturday, Jan. 19

11:00 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.: Plunge Day Check-in/Registration at Mosquito Lake beach (1439 Ohio 305, Cortland, OH 44410)

1 - 1:20 p.m.: Polar Plunge Costume Contest

1:30 - 2 p.m.: Plunge!

2 - 4 p.m.: Post-Plunge Party and Awards at Cortland Moose Family Center 1012

(6400 SR 46, Cortland, OH 44410)

At the 2018 Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge, more than 120 BRR-ave participants raised nearly \$16,000. The 2019 Mosquito Lake Polar Plunge is presented by Special Olympics Ohio, the Ohio State Moose Association, and the Ohio Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

The mission of Special Olympics Ohio is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for 23,000 children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes, and the community.



## Installment sales: A viable option for transferring assets

Are you considering transferring real estate, a family business or other assets you expect to appreciate dramatically in the future? If so, an installment sale may be a viable option. Its benefits include the ability to freeze asset values for estate tax purposes and remove future appreciation from your taxable estate.

### Giving away vs. selling

From an estate planning perspective, if you have a taxable estate it's usually more advantageous to give property to your children than to sell it to them. By gifting the asset you'll be depleting your estate and thereby reducing potential estate tax liability, whereas in a sale the proceeds generally will be included in your taxable estate.

But an installment sale may be desirable if you've already used up your \$11.18 million (for 2018) lifetime gift tax exemption or if your cash flow needs preclude you from giving the property away outright. When you sell property at fair market value to your children or other loved ones rather than gifting it, you avoid gift taxes on the transfer and freeze the property's value for estate tax purposes as of the sale date. All future appreciation benefits the buyer and won't be included in your taxable estate.

Because the transaction is structured as a sale rather than a gift,

your buyer must have the financial resources to buy the property. But by using an installment note, the buyer can make the payments over time. Ideally, the purchased property will generate enough income to fund these payments.

### Advantages and disadvantages

An advantage of an installment sale is that it gives you the flexibility to design a payment schedule that corresponds with the property's cash flow, as well as with your and your buyer's financial needs. You can arrange for the payments to increase or decrease over time, or even provide for interest-only payments with an end-of-term balloon payment of the principal.

One disadvantage of an installment sale over strategies that involve gifted property is that you'll be subject to tax on any capital gains you recognize from the sale. Fortunately, you can spread this tax liability over the term of the installment note. As of this writing, the long-term capital gains rates are 0%, 15% or 20%, depending on the amount of your net long-term capital gains plus your ordinary income.

Also, you'll have to charge interest on the note and pay ordinary income tax on the interest payments. IRS guidelines provide for a minimum rate of interest that must be paid on the note. On the bright side, any capital gains and ordinary income tax you pay further reduces the size of your taxable estate.

### Simple technique, big benefits

An installment sale is an approach worth exploring for business owners, real estate investors and others who have gathered high-value assets. It can help keep a family-owned business in the family or otherwise play an important role in your estate plan.

Bear in mind, however, that this simple technique isn't right for everyone. Our firm can review your situation and help you determine whether an installment sale is a wise move for you.

Jennifer J. Slywczak, CPA, is the owner of Integrated Accounting and Tax Solutions LLC, located at 3378 State Route 5, Cortland. You can reach her at 330-638-2727 or by email at [jennifer@jenjlycpa.com](mailto:jennifer@jenjlycpa.com). To sign up for monthly newsletters you can visit her website at [www.jenjlycpa.com](http://www.jenjlycpa.com).

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## WR Masonic Lodge spaghetti dinner Jan. 12

The Western Reserve Masonic Lodge is having a spaghetti and meatball dinner on Saturday, Jan. 12 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Lodge, 216 East Main St./state Route 88, West Farmington. The dinner will also include salad, bread, pie, coffee and juice. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$4.50 for those aged 5-12 and free for those under 5. Carry-outs are available for \$7.50.

## WJWL Champagne Luncheon benefits Children with Courage Fund

GFWC Ohio Warren Junior Women's recently held its 49th annual Champagne luncheon "Christmas in Paradise." Proceeds from the event benefited the Courage Fund at the Children's Rehabilitation Center in Howland. A donation of \$17,500 will be used for funding therapy sessions so no child is turned away for their inability to pay.



Front row from left are star models: Adalyn Estes, Malaki Cain, Devan Regan, Madison Antal and her dog Derby, Christian Allen and Paisley Hale. Back row: Fashion Coordinator Esther Gartland; Renee Maiorca, president, board of directors, Children's Rehabilitation; Champagne Luncheon Chairman Jonnah Hetzel; Michael Crogan, executive director, Children's Rehabilitation Center; Sharon Drummond Warren Junior Women's League president; and Stephanie Furano, Star Models assistant liaison and publicity.



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## Cortland Christian soup and sandwich luncheon

Start off the new year right by attending the soup and sandwich lunch at Cortland Christian Church on Thursday, Jan. 17 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu offers chicken noodle soup, beef vegetable soup or bean soup; sloppy joes; and the best chicken salad in town. There is always a wide variety of homemade pies to choose from.



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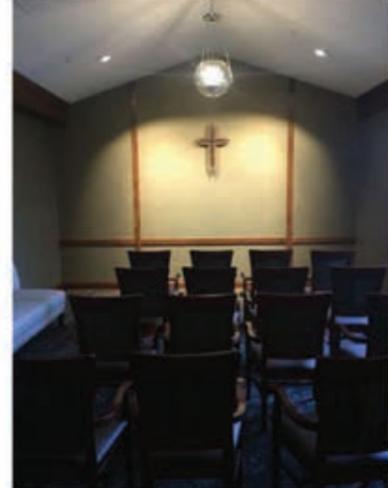
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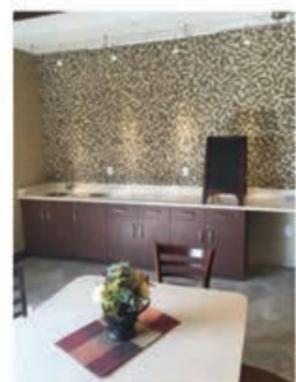
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# Something to Think About

By Rev. Donald P. Barnes  
Corporate Chaplain, Shepherd of the Valley-Howland and Niles

Unstring the lights - pack the tinsel away - off come the ornaments - the Koresh resumes its place in the attic - Christmas knickknacks are stored away for the season - the blue spruce is uprooted from its stand - and an Oreck vacuum sweeper disposes of the loose needles. Lorra and I have a tradition at our house. She does the decorating and I do the undecorating. Both exercises are founded on solid theological principles. Lorra's efforts put us in the proper mental and spiritual attitude to receive a King - my task disposes us to go about the practical work of living for a King.

It's the post-Christmas season and Christ lives among us. Hallelujah! Praise God! In all respects, the season of celebration has been grand. My question: will there be any lasting impact? Has the arrival of our King been transformative in real terms? Are you ready to do the hard work of ministry? Are you bent on leading a Christ-centered life, practically-speaking? You know what I mean, don't you?

There's a wonderful story recorded in the Synoptic Gospels. It seems that Jesus leads his three closest disciples (Peter, James, and John) to a mountaintop. He is transfigured before them, clothed in the shimmering light of his divinity. Rather than falling to his knees in fear and worship, our brother, Peter, chooses to put his

"foot" in his mouth: "Please Jesus. Let's set permanent camp in this place and capture this moment forever."

You remember well, don't you? God speaks from the clouds: "This is my son, the beloved. Listen to him." Shortly thereafter, the three fall in step behind Jesus as he leads them from the majesty of the mountaintop to the shadows of the valley below. Mountaintop experiences are transformative, but the real work of ministry commences in the valley. Practically-speaking, are you ready to set the celebration aside and follow Jesus into the world? Are you ready to go to work?

According to Indira Gandhi, her grandfather told her "there are two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was less competition there." Where are you at today, spiritually-speaking? Celebrations are great and mountaintop experiences have their place, but God's initiative to join us calls us to do likewise. How long will you hold onto the "wonder" of Christmas, while ignoring the call to join in the grand proclamation that "God is with us?" I pray you and yours had a wonderful Christmas. I also ask that your time of worship and reflection has been transformative, compelling you to move into the valley and make a difference for Christ's sake.

# The Good Message from a Friend

By Rev. Casey R. Chapman  
Cortland Christian Church

## 'A New Year, A New Start'

Genesis 6:18, "Noah was now 601 years old. On the first day of the new year, ten and a half months after the flood began, the floodwaters had almost dried up from the earth. Noah lifted back the covering of the boat and saw that the surface of the ground was drying" (NLT-SE).

Each day many people depart the privacy of their homes and enter into public living. They interact with co-workers, friends, neighbors, and strangers. In living our lives in public places, we often conceal our true emotions, hurt, guilt, and even anger. I had time to reflect in December after the passing of one whom was my brother in Christ and I recall sitting in the Cortland McDonalds trying to hold back tears and attempting my best to conceal my emotion from the rest of the dinners. If we had time to sit with the people we encounter on a daily basis, I believe that we would be taken back at the pain, hurt, and sorrow that many are experiencing.

With this "new year" remember the passage from Genesis 6:18 and sit for a moment and ponder. On the first day of the new year, the world began again. A new beginning was taking place. The old world and all its follies had been wiped away, destroyed by a global flood. All that remained was Noah, his family, and what they



had brought with them on the ark. There is no doubt that Noah and his family experienced hurt and sorrow as they watched all that they knew be destroyed. They lost many friends and distant relatives to the flood which was met to wipe out the unrighteous, but Noah did not curse God, instead he looked to God and was obedient to Him. After going through ten and a half months of tragedy a new year dawned, and with that new year came new hopes. Hopes of rebuilding their lives. Hopes of prosperity. Hopes of the unknown all while know that God would be with them, leading them.

This new year I encourage you to hope for something, someone. Hope in a better tomorrow, a better year. The year 2019 will bring its own struggles but let us not pile on those that which came in 2018. Let us put 2018 to bed for last year has passed on, and let us experience this new year together with the added sensitivity that each of us could use a little love and encouragement. Above all I encourage you to begin this new year with Jesus Christ guiding you. Let Him pull back the waters and reveal to you, dry land to walk on and for your hopes to prosper on. Happy New Year!

## St. John offers fish dinners

St. John Orthodox Church, 2220 Reeves Road NE, Warren, will be holding fish dinners on Jan. 25, Feb. 8 and 22 and March 8. Dinner will be served from 4 to 7 p.m. with baked or fried fish, fried shrimp, macaroni and cheese, French fries, cole slaw or applesauce, dessert and drink, all for only \$11. Call ahead for take-out orders at 330-372-3895.

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\*Payment example as of 8/21/18: 4.625% note rate, 4.678% Annual Percentage Rate. Interest rates based on \$165,000 loan with 5% down. 30-year mortgage would be paid in 360 monthly principal and interest installments of \$848.33 each. The payment example does not include amounts for taxes, homeowner's and mortgage insurance. Your total payment will be higher with taxes and insurance. Rates subject to change without notice. Other rates and terms available. Additional terms and conditions apply. Certain criteria must be met to qualify for 5% down payment. Property insurance required. Must be a single-family, owner-occupied residence. Payment example is for illustrative purposes only; your rate and payment may be different.

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